



## **REGULATION FOR THE CHOICE OF THE IOPD PRESIDENCY AND HOST OF THE 2026 CONFERENCE**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this document is to regulate the choice of the host city for the conference organised on an annual basis by the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy (IOPD).

The IOPD is an open space for all cities, local and regional governments, and organisations aiming to learn about, exchange, and apply experiences in participatory democracy at the local level. This main objective is materialised by holding an annual conference. This international event enables progress through debates on participation in local democracies and facilitates access to learning about projects from the involved cities.

The IOPD is part of the World Organisation of United Cities and Local Governments, and the IOPD Conference should be framed within the global agenda of this organisation.

### **2. PARTICIPANTS**

Any local or regional government member of the IOPD may submit a bid. A local or regional government non-member of the network can submit a membership application and then apply to host the conference.

Under the principle of alternation in the cities where the conference is held, each year the host city should be from another continent. As the host of the 2025 International Conference will be a South American city (Córdoba, Argentina), the host of the 2026 Conference should preferably be from another region.

### **3. BID SUBMISSION**

Local and regional governments wishing to submit a bid must send the following documentation to the Technical Secretariat of the IOPD via email to [oidp@uclg.org](mailto:oidp@uclg.org):

- A letter from the political head of the local government presenting the bid.
- General description of the proposed contents of the Conference (maximum two pages).
- General description of the technical and financial resources of the local government submitting the bid (maximum two pages).

**The deadline to submit the applications is 1 October 2024.**



#### **4. CHOICE OF THE 2026 HOST**

The election of the host city for the 2026 IOPD Conference will take place during the General Assembly, which will be held at the 2024 General Assembly. Candidate cities will have the opportunity to present their candidacies.

The choice shall be made by consensus; if this consensus is not achieved, there shall be a vote. The electors will be the local and regional government members of the IOPD accredited to the Assembly and may cast only one vote per local/regional government.

*\* If no nominations are received by the deadline, the Assembly will discuss how and when to open a new call for nominations.*

#### **5. ACCEPTANCE**

The city that agrees to host the annual conference will also be appointed President of the IOPD for 2026 and Co-President in 2027. Concerning the organisation of the conference, it undertakes to defray all the financial costs and prepare the contents and logistics of the event, in cooperation with the IOPD Technical Secretariat, which reports to the UCLG World Secretariat, and the city of Barcelona. It will also participate in IOPD activities that require the presence of the presidency of the network.

It is recommended to read the terms of reference where the requirements for organising the conference are detailed.

It is recommended that you read the IOPD Internal Regulation, where you will find a specific section on the chair's duties.