



MUNICIPALITY IS OURS

8 STEPS TO UNDERSTAND MUNICIPALISM

la-commune-est-a-nous.commonspolis.org

**LA COMMUNE
EST A NOUS!**



WHERE IS DEMOCRACY ?

Subprimes crisis, austerity, social inequalities, refugees crisis, far right party victories, discrimination, sanitary scandals, corruption, shrinking space for civil society, opacity, ecological collapse, democratic breakdown...

At the international, national and local levels, the context of the last years urges us to address:

► **The Political representation dead-end/crisis** : We must practice democracy beyond elections and consider people at the center of the decision processes.

► **The Ecological, social and democratic urgency** : we must propose a cooperative, feminist and ecological approach in building our villages and cities, and implement public policies in response to urgent needs.



« **Municipality is ours** » is a Massive Open Online Citizen Course (MOOC), a tool to freely and largely disseminate experiences, tools and analysis on the diversity of municipalism in the world and how it can be a possible and concrete political alternative at the local level in France.

The MOOC intends to meet 2 main goals :

► **A better understanding of municipalism in public debate.** A campaign in the public debate in France towards the next local elections (2020) to better know municipalism as a concrete political alternative.

► **To strengthen local municipalist dynamics in emergence.** Resources for citizens, activists and experts to seize experiences, tools, alternative public policies coming from International, European, Spanish and French municipalist initiatives to inspire and kick off similar dynamics in their own contexts.





CONTENT

The courses will deal with several key questions organized around 8 modules :

- **Module 1** : MOOCC presentation: how does it work?
- **Module 2** : What is municipalism, history and definition?
- **Module 3** : What kind of sparks, fertile ground and mobilization strategies?
- **Module 4** : From mobilization to electoral campaigning : how to move from the fragmentation of practices and actors to the confluence; and from the social sphere to the political arena?
- **Module 5** : What are the principles, values and process to rebuild confidence in people, in democracy and in institutions at the municipal level?
- **Module 6** : What does it mean to organize a democratic system FROM, FOR and WITH the people?
- **Module 7** : What kind of alternative public policies and results to answer to the urgents social, ecological and democratic issues?
- **Module 8** : How to find solutions and strategies to influence supra-local scales?

EACH MODULE WILL CONTAIN :

- **1 pedagogical video** to clarify the topic and stakes
- **3 testimony videos** each about International, European and/or French experiences
- **A "Toolkit space"** to share methodological or practical tools and/or to connect to network of actors, activists and experts on the theme
- **Additional "video capsules"** will be edited on controversy issues

STEPS

**October 2018 –
March 2019**

Conception and pedagogical engineering

March-June

Gathering European and French contributions from municipalist activists, elected people, experts, citizens. After the shooting, videos will be edited, then translated into French, English and, as much as possible, in Spanish.

June-December

MOOCC promotion into a wide and common communication campaign that will be launched with a diversity of actors working on alternatives for next local elections in France. The registration to the MOOCC will start the 17th of June.

**9th of September to
20th of October**

Participants will be invited to follow 6 weeks of courses, i.e. 8 modules, more than 30 videos, 2 public webinars in France and 1 FundAction webinar, local groups and a wide access to resources (pedagogical, experimental, methodological, practical tools, glossary,...) and networks (municipalist, commons, transition, democratic innovators).

November

A national meeting in Marseille to conclude the training with the MOOCC community

December

In order to promote a wide access to the experiences and resources still after the end of the MOOCC, videos will be shared online from the CommonsPolis website.

**Next steps
until 2020**

To capitalize on those contents, especially on International and European contributions, a version 2 of the MOOCC with an international perspective will be prepared and launched in 2020.





VALUES



DIVERSITY

Diversity of experiences : rejecting the idea of a copy-paste model to reproduce, we promote a wide large diversity of municipalist experiences or with similar sensibility

Diversity of contents : preserving a good balance between analytical and practical contents, and between different medium (videos, practical guide, webinars, etc.)

#INSPIRATION

Motivation : offering a set of practices of change experimented by citizens in France and in Europe

Inspiration : giving the opportunity for the people to change their "democratic software" and collectively invent solutions for their own contexts

#OPENING

A collective project : this project is initiated by several organizations and individuals from different backgrounds and contributions to the democratic change

An open source project : the project will be developed promoting open source tools and the contents will be largely accessible at the end of the training

WE ARE

activists, inhabitants, members of social organizations gathered around a common goal : «Confronted with democratic, social and ecological issues, we want to support, to contribute and to **promote the municipalist movement emergence as a radical political alternative at the local level** ».

Mouvement Utopia is a French social organization, cooperative of popular education, publishing house and Think Tank. It is a bridge between the social movements, civil society, the political, intellectual, cultural worlds and citizens. The Movement promotes a society project based on solidarity, political ecology and "buen vivir".



CommonsPolis is a Spanish social organization and a Think and Do tank, set up after a participatory process, involving Spanish municipalist platforms and French transition actors. It aims at reinforcing citizen initiatives which are constitutive to alternatives to the systemic crisis and promote diversity, radical democracy, the commons and respect of human and nature rights.



Since 2016, **Mouvement Utopia** in partnership with **CommonsPolis** has been working to develop a municipalist network between Spain and France and to develop the municipalist ecosystem in France, with the support of the **Charles Léopod Mayer Foundation (FPH)**. The MOOC « Municipalism for dummies » is a priority of their partnership for 2019.



The FundAction, as a new participatory fund organized around a community of activists based in Europe to support social movements working towards a transition to a just and equitable world, also supports the MOOC production and translation in English thanks to a Rethink Grant.

