



**#CITIES4EUROPE**

# Cities4Europe - Europe for citizens

CO-CREATING A BETTER EUROPE



# What is it about?

At a time when Europe is striving to retain its legitimacy and relevance in the face of growing disillusionment and Euroscepticism, cities can provide a critical link with citizens. Cities are crucial in shaping the future of Europe, as EUROCITIES already demonstrated in the successful 'Mayors' summit on the future of Europe' in March 2017.

By mobilising our network of over 140 Europe's largest cities, that between them govern 130 million citizens across 39 countries, we now want to take the next step and actively demonstrate what citizens and cities can do and are already doing at local level to co-create our future.

Throughout May 2018, 'Cities4Europe - Europe for citizens' will showcase successful local initiatives that engage citizens, present ideas for new forms of democracy and map out a positive, common future. By looking at answers together with their citizens, cities will have the opportunity to show their commitment to co-creating societies where people come first, and where trust between citizens and public authorities is strengthened.

“ A more positive future for Europe starts with its citizens. As local leaders and members of EUROCITIES, we are committed to engaging our citizens in a dialogue about our future.

Daniel Termont, Ghent

# What are we planning?

Our campaign will come alive through various activities in our member cities - from art exhibitions to youth assemblies, from (social) media campaigns to public debates. 'Cities4Europe - Europe for citizens' will kick-off in early May 2018 with a series of actions in all participating cities. The campaign's website features interviews with leading European personalities, news linked to the campaign and showcases local and transnational activities.

'Cities4Europe - Europe for citizens' wants to inspire cities and other levels of government, including the EU institutions, to pursue mechanisms and tools that engage citizens in policy making, strengthening new forms of democracy across Europe.

## EXAMPLES OF PLANNED INITIATIVES

- **launch event in Brussels**  
(high-level public debate + vernissage art exhibition)
- **art exhibition**  
(‘my Europe 2050’)
- **concerts/festival/street shows**
- **mayors' speeches**
- **dedicate physical space for political debates and citizens' initiatives**
- **guided cycle tours**
- **online, media and social media campaigns**
- **publication on 'new forms of democracy in Europe'**  
for November 2018, EUROCITIES annual conference in Edinburgh

## TIMELINE

Nov. 2017

launch of the campaign website

16 Nov.  
2017

political moment at EUROCITIES  
2017 Ljubljana

early May  
2018

kick-off event for 'Cities4Europe -  
Europe for citizens' in Brussels

May 2018

events and activities throughout  
the EUROCITIES membership

Nov. 2018

presenting recommendations  
on new forms of democracy to  
EUROCITIES 2018 Edinburgh

Mar. 2019

second EUROCITIES mayors  
summit, presenting the  
recommendations to the EU level

## What is EUROCITIES?

EUROCITIES is the network of major European cities, with over 140 members across 39 countries, representing more than 130 million people. We work in all areas of interest for cities, from culture to mobility, environment to social affairs, economic development to smart cities. We facilitate learning experiences between cities, and represent cities' interests towards the European Union. EUROCITIES is committed to working towards a common vision of a democratic, sustainable future in which all citizens can enjoy a good quality of life.

### CONTACT



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November 2017