



# **Candidature of the city of Granollers to host**

**the XVIII  
International Congress  
of Educating Cities  
in 2026**



**Granollers**  
CIUTAT  
EDUCADORA



Ajuntament de Granollers





Granollers,  
30th January  
2024

SUECIA  
SWEDEN  
SVERIGE



Candidature of the city  
of **Granollers** to host the  
XVIII International Congress  
of Educating Cities in 2026

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INTRODUCTION

# Our history





## INTRODUCTION

***A city spurs us. And makes us decide to present the candidacy to organise the 18th Congress of the International Association of Educating Cities to be held in 2026.***

***We do this with responsibility and commitment. With the job done. Having carried out the corresponding feasibility studies. And with the support of other administrations, cities and institutions in the country.***

In your hands, you have a proposal. The candidacy proposal of the city of Granollers. But this is not just a formal proposal. And in no case has it been the result of a couple of weeks of political reflection, a calculation of opportunities, or a city “branding” strategy.

Everything you will read from here to the last word. It is the result of hard work, of many complications, of a determined and stubborn commitment to some priorities and not others and striving for the transformation of the city by applying certain values. It has been constant and tenacious work, often not very visible, of many people convinced of the utopia they are striving for.

This text is steeped in dreams and desires. It is full of intentions but also of commitments. The result of work that started a long time ago. From a mature city project.

It is written with great enthusiasm but with its feet on the ground. Fully aware of who we are, what we represent, what we can offer and how we can do it.

The words that follow will, hopefully, precisely explain all of this:



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**The city’s trajectory within the Educating Cities Movement, from its origins.**

---

**The involvement of the municipal organization and especially of citizens (we already have volunteers who have expressed their desire to participate).**

---

**The participation and support of the other cities that make up the urban area of Granollers and the towns and cities of the Vallès Oriental region.**

---

**The spaces that will host the Congress so that it can be held in maximum comfort and in a friendly, welcoming environment with the necessary technology.**

---

**The sustainability model of the Congress.**

---

**Communications with the city and its hotel offer.**

---

**And all the other requirements established in the rules.**

---





.....

*It is the fruit, the product of long work, of many joint projects, of a determined and tenacious commitment to certain priorities and not others, and of a view towards the transformation of the city based on certain values.*

.....



---

You will also read about the city's experience in organising national and international events and the characteristics of a city that for many years has been calling itself:

**“GRANOLLERS, OPEN TOWN, EDUCATING CITY”.**

---

And we hope that the words in each section will also reveal the emotions accompanying them, and that you will be able to perceive them. Words that we write conveying the desire of many citizens of Granollers who have placed their confidence in us.







Let's put words to their dreams. The dreams of a small city. As small as most of the members of our International Association of Educating Cities. We believe that it is good and healthy for any organization to know and care for the diversity of its members. And we think, allow us the audacity, that Granollers can, modestly, represent this majority.

We know that if this proposal were to win the confidence of the Executive Committee, we would be the first "small" city to organize



an International Congress. It may seem presumptuous, an act of courage, perhaps a chimaera. However, we must say that we are doing this for the following reasons:

---

**Because we have a long and fully proven history of work, commitment and responsibility in the Association.**

---

**Because we assume the responsibilities derived from it, and we have the support of other administrations that share the project, the will and the ideas as well as wanting to share the necessary resources to make it possible.**

---

**Because we have a proposal for a theme, axes and contents that address some of the most significant challenges facing our cities. And because these questions, these challenges are being worked on in a thematic network of the RECE (Spanish network) that we coordinate and in which 32 other cities in the country participate.**

---

**Because the theme for the Congress and the contents that we propose have been worked on with a scientific team made up of people of great intellectual value and academic recognition who are at the same time closely linked to the Educating Cities movement.**

---

**Because we feel spurred by the whole city, which is telling us we are ready, that the time has come.**

---

**Because we are sure that with the experience accumulated, WE CAN DO IT WELL, AND WE WILL DO IT WELL.**

---

**Because diversity counts. And maybe NOW is the time for a small city to host the 2026 International Congress of Educating Cities.**

---

**And because we are a city that belongs to the RECE, the Spanish Network of Educating Cities, the most numerous in the AICE. But despite being the most numerous, it has only organized one International Congress, specifically the 13th, in 2014 in Barcelona. And we think the question of alternation and representativeness also needs to be considered. Perhaps now is the time.**

---



***In Granollers we want to organise a congress with SOUL.***











In Granollers, we wish to organise a congress with a SOUL. And we want to do it, as always, with the city's inhabitants. In fact, and as we have mentioned, we are already doing it because in the preparation of this dossier, as you will see, citizens from all the city neighbourhoods, various cultural communities, and several generations are collaborating. All eager to contribute to the success of this candidature.

And, of course, we also have the entire municipal organisation that transversally addresses the different areas promoted by this candidacy. It is with their knowledge and skill that we have written some of these pages.

.....

***This text is full of with dreams and desires. It is full of will, but also of commitments.***

.....

As you read, you will find some objectives that are repeated in each section and constitute the model on which we build the entire proposal:

---

**The desire to create well-thought-out spaces to make the meeting a pleasant one.**

---

**A model of dialogue with participants that goes beyond the exclusive days the Congress is to be held (proposed for May 2026) and extends to the months before and after. We would like guests to come thoughtfully and full of questions.**

---

**A desire to especially promote the participation of young people and children.**

---

**A concern to rigorously address relevant aspects of the life of our cities and their future, in the contents we propose.**

---

**And the desire to create a climate in the entire city and the guests' spirit so everyone will enjoy a memorable experience.**

---







## “No man is an island”

This is the title of the last work published by the late Nuccio Ordine. The book is a collection of several stories that follow the thread of this idea inspired by a verse from the Irish poet John Donne: “No man is an island”

We agree on the image it offers us, but at the same time we also think that **cities are not islands, either**. We know more and more about the interdependencies and the necessary networks to learn, share and establish support and efficiency mechanisms. From networks such as the IAEC, which comprise more than 500 cities worldwide, we come together with the desire to work along the lines set out in our Charter.

Congresses are precisely the event, the time, and the space where we become more aware of who we are and the importance of building knowledge, sharing experiences, and walking TOGETHER.

Do not think this is an anecdote. On the contrary, we believe that when, as is our case, a city wishes to organise an International Congress, it must put it on the table and reflect on **who we are, what unites us and above all, what values and ideas move us**.

And the city must keep this in mind when formulating its proposal. We, as you will see, are not going to forget this.





For our organisation, congresses are a time to face new or old challenges and to define new strategies. They are moments for knowledge and dialogue. To share ideas, projects, and programmes. Moments of connection to identify with principles and values. To feel that we are part of an organisation and to know and recognise that together, we can improve.

Congresses express and show the world who we are, what we want and what moves us - a magnificent space for meeting and exchanging ideas.

Granollers has a long experience preparing meetings and exchanges. In fact, the most popular encounter began almost a thousand years ago and is repeated every week of the year: Our market, which has been documented since 1040. Every Thursday (with very few exceptions), the squares and streets of Granollers are a space that welcomes buyers and sellers. People who came from all over, bringing their merchandise to sell, and buyers who come every week to Granollers.



.....

***This is part of our spirit, what the Romans called “genius loci”. Our SPIRIT, “the spirit of the place”, as the Romans said. Today, perhaps we could call it our DNA.***

.....

In 2026, we will be ready to organise a large market - a market of knowledge, ideas, words, experiences and projects. We will be prepared to host the 18th International Congress of Educating Cities.

We have the support of other administrations, other cities and many institutions in our country. We also have the necessary spaces and conditions, desire and enthusiasm to do it. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone to Granollers.



But above all we have, you can believe us, a city that urges us to present this proposal. I hope we deserve your confidence.



## Raimon Raga

Teacher at the Salvador Llobet Municipal School



*This is an open, dynamic and enterprising city. A LIVELY city that likes to host and invite people in.*

*We love to host meetings, sports championships, congresses and festivals.*

*In fact, what we do starts and ends with a party (at least). We are sharing people who like to make the journey together, learning and teaching.*

*This is nothing new. It comes from far back in history. We have always been a MEETING place for many people. And to do many things.*

*Convinced that education is KEY in transforming cities, I am sure that the hosting the 18<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Educating Cities in Granollers will significantly boost the city's own projects.*

*And thanks to the work we do together, we can obtain new tools to address the challenges of the future.*

*Our city is small, but we have already done great things.*

*We are ready and eager to do things well.*

*Trust in us.*



**Pietat Sanjuàn**  
Former Councillor for  
Education in Granollers  
(2003-2015)

**Josep Pujadas**  
Former Mayor of  
Granollers  
(1986-1992)  
(1996-1998)  
(1999-2004)

**Conce Acedo**  
Former Councillor for  
Education in Granollers  
(1991-2003)

**Josep Mayoral**  
Former Mayor of  
Granollers  
(2004-2022)

**Francesc Arolas**  
Former Councillor for  
Education in Granollers  
(2015-2023)







01

HISTORY AS AN EDUCATING CITY

**This goes back  
a long way**



# 01

## HISTORY AS AN EDUCATING CITY

*For a long time, many people have been building a city model where the educational process is totally relevant. Together, they have generated a culture, a trustworthy way of doing things. The point of view of an educating city is present today in practically all political, social, cultural, and economic spheres of the city and, naturally, in the design of its public spaces. And this point of view is the heritage of the whole city.*

This city strategy focused on education manifested itself in a rich and diverse network of institutions of all kinds. In most cases, the educational function was their main reason to be.

In 1973, Edgar Faure, in the UNESCO report: "Learning to be" conceptualised the idea of an educating city. Like many others, our city had already created entities, associations and projects that worked in this direction, following this idea.

**1877**



Thus the Asociación Coral Amics de la Unió was founded in 1877. This association was born not only to entertain young people, but also with a deep educational vocation.

**1920**



Faced with the need for well-trained technical personnel, a group of businessmen from the city created the Escola Municipal de Treball, a vocational training school.

**1928**



The Agrupació Excursionista was created. Its founders understood the organization as a space for knowledge, for science, for scientific research, for the esteem of the territory and the knowledge of its traditions and customs.

The Municipal School of Music, the embryo of today's Conservatory, was also created in 1928.



As for the trajectory of Granollers within the movement of educating cities, it must be said that it starts at the very beginning.

From 2007 to 2011 we coordinated the thematic network: "Educating City and Culture of Peace" of the Spanish network.

In 2007 we were chosen by the Assembly of the Spanish Network (RECE) to coordinate it and to host the ninth meeting to be held in 2009.



IX TROBADA DE LA XARXA ESTATAL DE CIUTATS EDUCADORES  
IX ENCUENTRO DE LA RED ESTATAL DE CIUDADES EDUCADORAS  
HIRI HEZITZAILEEN ESTATUKO SAREAREN 9. TOPIKAKETA  
IX ENCONTRO DA REDE ESTATAL DE CIUDADES EDUCADORAS  
granollers2009

We organised the IX state meeting of RECE.



1990

Granollers actively participated in the first Congress held in Barcelona with the presentation of various experiences.

1994

In 1994, when the International Association was created, Granollers formalised its adhesion as an active and responsible member.

Since then, Granollers has actively participated in international congresses, national meetings, and also in various networks of the national Spanish network.

2007

2008

In 2008 we were elected at the Sao Paulo Congress as members of the Executive Committee. And we have been renewing the confidence of this Assembly successively in 2012, 2016 and 2022.

2009







In 2017 Granollers hosted the Assembly of the Association. Representatives from 75 cities from 12 different countries participated.



We took part in the Andong Congress.



We organised a meeting of the RECE Follow-up Commission in July.

2010

In 2010 the second Strategic Plan of the city defined its vision of the future with these three words:

“Granollers, educating city”

2017

2021

We assume responsibility for the Association's Treasury.

2022

2023

Since October we coordinated a thematic network of the Spanish network: **“Education and culture: strategies for the construction of city/community and the development of critical and creative citizenship”.**

30 cities



**Barcelona**  
**València**  
**Bilbao-Bilbo**  
**Saragossa**  
**Avilés**  
**Vitòria-Gasteiz**  
**San Sebastián-Donosti**  
**Tarragona**  
**Lleida**  
**Girona**

**Quart de Poblet**  
**Castelldefels**  
**Xàtiva**  
**Prat de Llobregat**  
**Illescas**  
**Olot**  
**Tomelloso**  
**Vila-Real**  
**Maó**  
**Silla**

**Barakaldo**  
**Castell d'Aro, Platja d'Aro, S'agaró**  
**Viladecans**  
**Ibi**  
**Sant Cugat del Vallès**  
**El Prat de Llobregat**  
**Sant Feliu de Llobregat**  
**Manlleu**  
**Gijón**  
**Santa Perpètua de la Mogoda**

And on 30 January 2024 we presented our candidature for the organisation of the XVIII Congress of the IAEC in 2026.

As you can see, this has been an intense and committed trajectory. We would like to be able to add the organisation and holding of an International Congress to our trajectory.



Other publications

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ESPAI OBERT

Rosa Serra i Soler

### GRANOLLERS, CIUTAT EDUCADORA

La ciutat és arquitectura, història, urbanisme, art, comerç, sociologia, moda, espectacle. La ciutat és també els barris, els jardins, els museus o els centres del lleure, d'esport, de cultura o d'intervenció. Per als estudiant, l'espai obert és per als nens i per als joves, tota la ciutat és una bona escola.

Amb aquestes paraules es presenta el I Congrés Internacional de Ciutats Educadores celebrat enguany, els dies 26 al 30 de novembre, al Palau de Congressos de Montjuïc de Barcelona.

Ha estat organitzat per l'Ajuntament de Barcelona i presidit pel seu alcalde, Pasqual Maragall, en "tota intimitat i en el silenci. A més, s'hi comptà amb la presència de Maria Mata, regidora d'Educació de l'Ajuntament de Barcelona i els representants de la UNESCO, del Consell d'Europa, del Ministeri d'Educació i Ciència i de la Generalitat de Catalunya.

L'objectiu principal del Congrés ha consistit en la presentació i el debat d'experiències educatives realitzades en diverses ciutats de tot el món. Aquestes realitzacions educatives provenien fonamentalment dels àmbits formal i no formal (escola i fora escola), i eren presentades per les ciutats en forma de vídeo, en el si de quatre comissions que agrupaven els temes següents:


- "Escola, Treball, Societat"
- "L'Espai, l'Acció, Participació"
- "Canviament de la ciutat"
- "Vells i nous llenguatges"

L'aportació teòrica sobre el concepte de la Ciutat Educadora en el Congrés ve essent manlles tades a través de quatre conferències:

- "Per que parlem de ciutats educadores?", a càrrec de Pasqual Maragall, alcalde de Barcelona.
- "La ciutat com a escenari", a càrrec de la senyora Sarra, professora d'urbanisme de la Universitat de Colúmbia.
- "Recursos educatius de la ciutat", a càrrec del professor Affierri de la Universitat del Turí.
- "El multiculturalisme en la ciutat", a càrrec del senyor Rosalind Castro, professor de l'Escola de Belles Arts de París.

A l'acte hi van participar 63 ciutats perennants a 21 estats. Els interlocutors han estat persones

vinculades a les administracions locals o envia- des per aquestes administracions.



**I CONGRÉS INTERNACIONAL DE CIUTATS EDUCADORES**

BARCELONA 26-30 NOVEMBRE 1999

**CIUTATS ADHERIDES:**

Alican	Manresa
Alzira	Matxo
Barcelona	Mollet del Vallès
Badajoz	Mérida
Batlo	Niech
Bilbo	Opoto
Birmingham	Palma de Mallorca
Bolonya	París del Vallès
Budapest	París
Osaka	Praga
Calvià	Reims
Cerdanyola del Vallès	Rotterdam
Còrdova	Sabadell

GRANOLLERS INFORMA | BUTLLETÍ MUNICIPAL DE GRANOLLERS | JUNY DE 2009

### Granollers lidera les ciutats educadores

Més de 500 persones han participat en la IX Trobada de la Xarxa Estatal de Ciutats Educadores (RECE) que s'ha celebrat a Granollers. Durant tres dies la ciutat ha estat capital de l'educació, un espai de debat, reflexió i posada en comú de projectes i experiències. Conferències i diàlegs amb personalitats del món educatiu, amb l'assistència entre d'altres de: Lluís Bassat, fundador de l'empresa Bassat, Digby & Mather, Miquel Àngel Santos Guerra, professor de la Universitat de Màlaga; Joan Majó, enginyer industrial, empresari i polític; Paz Fernández, alcaldessa de Gijón; Jorge Wagensberg, director de Cosmo-caixa; Milagros Pérez Oliva, periodista; Josep M. Llop Torró, arquitecte i urbanista; Jerónimo Saavedra, alcalde de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria i Angélica Salvo, filòsofa. D'altra banda han destacat les presentacions de les conclusions de les diverses xarxes temàtiques amb què compta la RECE que durant aquests dos últims anys (2007-2009) han estat coordinades per la ciutat de Granollers. N'és un exemple la xarxa "Educació, cultura de pau i construcció democràtica" liderada per la nostra ciutat.

Els participants a la IX Trobada han pogut conèixer la ciutat a través d'uns itineraris i de la festa mediterrània amb un tast de la Festa Major de Blancs i Blaus que es va reproduir a Roca Umbert i que va servir per promocionar la cultura popular i tradicional de Granollers.

Posar l'educació en el centre de l'atenció política és condició per a la qualitat d'una ciutat que educa i aprèn. Aquesta és una de les principals conclusions de la Trobada i que deixa la porta oberta a continuar treballant en la línia que l'educació és l'eix transformador de la ciutat.

La IX Trobada de la Xarxa Estatal de Ciutats Educadores a Granollers ha deixat una empremta en forma de cançó, una idea nascuda com a proposta de la comissió ciutadana de la RECE amb música de l'Alex Martínez i lletra d'Eulàlia Canal. La cançó està interpretada per Gerson Gelabert i Ivette Nadal, i coordinada per Josep Vila, director de la coral Amics de la Unió.

**Granollers**

Venim d'enllà, som lloc de pas, tenim vestigis dels romans, i un mercat molt important.

Porxada i Pedra de l'Enxant, castells humans i un passeig fluvial, sempre anem cap endavant,

batut de llengües i colors, batec d'artistes, trobadors, i la Miya Marató.

Granollers és molt més que carrers i carrers. Granollers és la gent d'un racó de món on és benvingut tothom i ens encanta ser d'on som Granollers, Granollers, Granollers.

Som del Vallès la capital, bressol de penyes i entitats, i de l'hàndbol pioner,

orquestrès, música i corals per celebrar els bons instants i gaudir-ne tots plegats.

Granollers ...

Tenim carrers emmurallats ventall d'esports, seu de les arts, fires i actes culturals.

Quan clou l'agost, Festa Major, és temps de raures i emocions, Blancs i Blaus són el pulmó.

Granollers és un bon lloc on fer amics i fer canis, on sentir que pertanyes i gaudir som ciutadans de l'univers.

Granollers ...

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AJUNTAMENT DE GRANOLLERS

### L'OMIC fa una campanya de control dels aliments

L'Oficina Municipal d'Informació al Consumidor està realitzant una campanya de control dels aliments per tal de conèixer les condicions higièniques i sanitàries en què es posen a la venda.

L'objectiu és que arribin als consumidors en bones condicions i implantar un programa de control sistemàtic per garantir uns aliments sans.

La campanya preveu també defensar els drets dels consumidors i col·laborar amb els botiguers per oferir un millor servei, i també detectar els establiments que incumpleixen reiteradament la normativa legal.

La durada de la campanya és de sis mesos i seran controls, pràcticament, la totalitat d'establiments alimentaris de la ciutat, inclosos els bars i restaurants.

Un inspector de Sançament i Consum realitzarà una visita a cadascun dels establiments i informarà el venedor dels aspectes que incompleixen i la forma de corregir les possibles deficiències. S'obrirà expedient solament en els casos que puguin representar un risc imminent per a la salut pública.

Es farà una segona inspecció dels establiments que incumpleixin alguna norma sobre les condicions dels aliments i si continua sense corregir-se algun aspecte que comporti frau o perill s'obrirà expedient administratiu.



L'OMIC vol protegir el consumidor i ajudar el venedor a complir la normativa.

### Consells per a les rebaxes

L'OMIC ha editat un full informatiu en què detalla alguns dels consells que s'han de tenir en compte per anar a comprar durant l'època de les rebaxes. Aquesta època comença des del 7 de gener fins al 20 de febrer, segons l'Oficina Municipal d'Informació al Consumidor.

Els consumidors han de tenir present que s'ha de mirar la qualitat del producte i no només el preu.

No es convencionet entrar a local on hi hagi més aglomeració.

Els productes han de tenir el preu anterior i el rebuixat.

L'etiquetat ha de portar la composició, el tractament i el nom del fabricant del producte.

S'ha d'exigir la garantia en tot tipus d'electrodomèstics i informar-se que el baix preu no està motivat perquè s'ha deixat de fabricar, atès que podria comportar problemes amb els recanvis.

Els preus han d'estar marcats en totes i cada un dels articles exposats als aparadors i a l'interior dels establiments.

No caldrà la factura o xipet i guardis durant un temps, ja que és fàcil comprovar-hi de la seva compra.

### Granollers s'adhereix al grup de Ciutats Educadores

Granollers va participar a finals de novembre en el primer congrés de Ciutats Educadores, impulsat per l'Ajuntament de Barcelona i cobrat a la Ciutat Contal el passat mes de novembre. El Congrés va comptar amb la participació de 7 ciutats d'Europa, Amèrica, Àfrica i Àsia.

El objectiu són facilitar l'intercanvi i la difusió d'experiències en el complex món educatiu, promoure una informació ciutadana més complexa i utilitzar els recursos educatius i crear un banc de dades d'experiències educatives que siguin punt de referència i s'afirmi per realitzar cursos i intercanvis posteriors.

**La Biblioteca**

Al primer congrés es van analitzar diverses experiències que han contribuït al desenvolupament dels valors cívics en el marc de la democràcia i la solidaritat.

L'Ajuntament de Granollers va presentar el programa radiofònic "La Biblioteca" dins la comissió de vells i nous llenguatges. El programa i enet Radio 7 Vallès està realitzat per un grup d'adultes i mestres de l'escola municipal Salvador Llobet.

L'Hospital de Granollers llança als usuaris una guia per facilitar el coneixement del centre i perquè puguin fer un millor ús dels serveis.

La guia conté informació sobre els dies i els deans dels usuaris una breu història de l'Hospital, informació sobre les modalitats d'ingressos, els documents necessaris i les despeses que van a càrrec de les assegurances.

Finalment es detallen els serveis d'atenció i d'altres que pot utilitzar el malalt, i també el funcionament i el districte de cadascun d'ells.

Servei de biblioteca

Rotundament l'Ajuntament ha posat en marxa un servei de biblioteca al malalt, prestat per les biblioteques Francesc Turada i Joan Camps, per facilitar l'accés de les persones ingressades a la lectura.

S'ha confeccionat un catàleg amb diferents tipus de gèneres, preferentment dels usuaris una breu història de l'Hospital, informació sobre les modalitats d'ingressos, els documents necessaris i les despeses que van a càrrec de les assegurances.

Les biblioteques de la ciutat presten alternativament aquest servei dins el centre hospitalari facilitant els llibres.

### L'Hospital de Granollers ha editat una guia de serveis per als usuaris del centre



Un malalt de l'Hospital potes aprofitar les llibreries estades al centre per llegir. (Foto: P. Espanolla)





## **ASSEMBLY of the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATING CITIES**

The General Assembly of Educating Cities was held on March 23 and 24, 2017, in the Teatre Auditori de Granollers, which brought 57 cities from 15 countries to Granollers. The representatives of the municipalities were able to choose different itineraries to learn about educational experiences in Granollers: One route to see the work of recovering historical memory; a visit to the neighbourhood of Sota el Camino Ral with the help of the neighbours themselves; the expression of urban art in murals in the city; and the knowledge of projects and entities linked to popular and traditional culture. These itineraries were highly appreciated by the attendees, who also participated in the dialogues and conferences. The dialogue between Emilia Sáiz, Deputy Secretary General of the UCLG, and the Mayor of Granollers, Josep Mayoral, defended the role of cities

and citizens in the construction of society. Federico Mayor Zaragoza, former director general of UNESCO and president of the Culture of Peace Foundation, delivered the conference “City and Education” and defended the role of cities in the construction of the world and highlighted the empowerment of women who, according to him, advance the dialogue to resolve conflicts. The last dialogue that could be followed was between the mayor of Badalona, Dolors Sabater, and the mayor of Granollers, Josep Mayoral, who agreed on the need to involve citizens in local government.









## 02

THEME OF THE CONGRESS

# One theme, three axes

# 02

## THEME OF THE CONGRESS

*As you know, each Congress deals with an issue, a topic that promotes:*

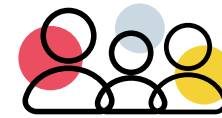
Reflection

The design of new strategies

An analysis of the methodologies of the models used

The socialization of experiences

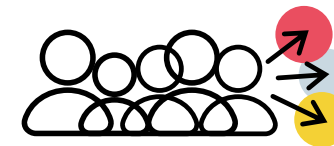
To prepare the proposal on the theme of the 18th Congress, which we are now presenting to you, we must first explain the steps followed.



The first step was to form a consultative group of technicians from various services in our organisation.



We asked this group to draw up a list of challenges they believe cities face now and in the near future. Naturally, each challenge had to be justified by objective data.



Once we had this list, we invited other people from the municipal organisation and civil society to prioritize and define what they considered to be the three most relevant CHALLENGES.



These were the three challenges agreed upon:



**1** First challenge

The complexity of cities

Cities are increasingly diverse and pluralistic. They contain more communities within them **and need inclusion policies so no one is left out and everyone can continue to build a community that includes everybody, the city itself.**



**2** Second challenge

Polarised societies

They lack the critical capacity to face excessive and contradictory information and a flood of messages that move through networks, aiming to create Manichaeian scenarios: good vs evil, my people vs the others. **More than ever, it is necessary to promote new scenarios and above, all new actions that encourage training to develop critical thinking capable of making us truly free.**



**3** Third challenge

Creative abilities

**Citizens, on the whole, lack awareness of their cultural needs and, above all, of their creative abilities.** Many understand creativity as something alien, which has nothing to do with them. **Creativity is absolutely necessary to generate social, personal and collective talent. We need creative citizenship that generates more resources and strategies, which will allow us to be better positioned to face the challenges of the future.**

We submitted this first document to the Scientific Committee. We held several meetings with each of its members, adding their suggestions and contributions, and finally prepared the proposal with them, which we present to you with the title:

---

“**EDUCATION and CULTURE:**  
strategies for constructing the  
CITY / COMMUNITY and developing  
a CRITICAL and CREATIVE  
CITIZENSHIP”

---



The three axes that we will follow are:



## 1 First axis

**Construction of the city/community in increasingly complex cities.**

The construction of “US”, which defines the feeling of freely belonging to “our” city, everyone’s city.



## 2 Second axis

**The development of a critical and free citizenship that will participate in the construction of the future of cities.**

Training and promotion of CRITICAL THINKING to acquire tools against sectarianism, populist discourses, and manipulation of information.



## 3 Third axis

**The development of creative citizenship with strategies and tools to face the challenges of society.**

## Articulated

Lectures and dialogues to encourage reflection and thought.

A sample of experiences to learn about the projects presented by the cities.

The methodologies used in these, in terms of strategy construction and design.

Study visits to learn about the experiences being developed on the subject in the territory, and its protagonists.



# 1 First axis

# City/ Community

Our cities are now more diverse than twenty years ago. In the last two decades, this has been one of the most relevant elements in the transformation that has occurred in urban areas. More diverse and pluralistic cities that contain many communities: cultural, religious, linguistic, etc. This diversity opens the door to great opportunities, and it is a generator of great wealth, but at the same time, it is also a generator of great complexity, as well as possibly being a generator of exclusion processes.

One of the challenges cities have to face is how, while respecting each constituent community, we can build the “COMMON US”, which makes us feel that we are part of a community that includes everyone - the city. A community of which we are part through bonds that we build from freedom, where the presence and essence of the individual are compatible with the strength of the community dimension. The word “ubuntu” comes to mind here, a small word that sums up a great African idea. Mungi Gnomane expresses its meaning in the following way: There is “ubuntu”





when people unite for a common good, “ubuntu” reminds us that if we unite, we can overcome the problems and differences that separate us. It’s very simple: I am because you are.

We need to know and acknowledge others. To contact and establish links with those who are not like us, with those who think or believe differently. This is why spaces for dialogue and conversation should be promoted, allowing us to understand all the worlds that coexist in the same city.

In a world that is highly interconnected by technology, we can observe that more than ever, there is a lack of personal contact with “physical” people - presence.

Inequalities that generate exclusion and call for policies that acknowledge this and, above all, act to reduce it.

Identity conflicts are present in these cities -our- cities. And against those who speak about multiple identities and their virtues, some covet identity essentialism. Some defend mixing, fusion and “contamination”, while others move in the opposite direction: defending the “purity of the original essence”.

•••••

***Cities are becoming more diverse and plural. They contain more communities within them. They need policies of inclusion so that no one is left out and everyone can continue to build the community that includes us all, the city itself.***

•••••

Everything we have mentioned so far converges in any person and group’s “right to the city”. A right that David Harvey considers to be not simply the right to access what already exists but the right to change it out of our deepest longings.

And in these “new” cities, we must preserve the old traditions and myths, but perhaps it is time to, together, think that we should also build new ones that represent us all. Myths that allow us to weave the community fabric.





## 2 Second axis

# Critical citizenship



We observe a surprising growth of movements that question what for some time now has been scientific and proven. The strength of beliefs seems to outweigh scientific evidence, and we have more and more followers of outlandish theories, even dangerous attitudes, such as the anti-vaccine movement, or “surprising and naïve” beliefs, such as the flat-earthers, for example. At times, it seems that the Enlightenment did not exist and the days of obscurantism are returning.

In a recent article, Judit Carreras, the director of the Centre for Contemporary Culture in Barcelona, quoted Kant, the father of the Enlightenment, and recalled the three questions: What can I know? What do I do? What can I expect? And three hundred years later, knowledge, action, and hope are the illustrated

legacy on which to think critically about the present, learn from the wounds of the past and reinvent a world that has stopped believing in the future. He went on to state that the foundations of this future must be creativity, imagination, reinforcing political and affective solidarity and critical thinking.

And we need to do this because we are at a time of extreme ideological polarization in our societies. Uncritical convictions, attitudes that make many people identify absolutely with a particular group and not question any of the group’s decisions or actions. Groups that are increasingly important in our societies and that act in an ever more sectarian manner.



.....

*It is more necessary than ever to promote new scenarios and above all new actions that promote training to develop critical thinking, capable of making us authentically free.*

.....

Another issue that is not minor and which supports this new reality is the information published and disseminated through social media. Information that overwhelms us, that we are unable to process, and that is addressed to us and loaded with manipulation and falsehood. With media that is increasingly less free and acts more like a tool at the service of economic interests and presents dangerous biases, such as the invisibility of certain groups and the omnipresence of others.

This is the reason for, and it is no coincidence, a model of entertainment based on so-called “reality” programs that always generate models acting clearly with a “nocebo” effect, generating

values that cannot be described as civic and building democratic and supportive citizenship, rather the contrary. These television and cable network programs present models based mainly on the idea of “Me first”. And it does not matter “how” one obtains benefit.

Moreover, we cannot ignore the emergence of Artificial Intelligence with all its advantages and new opportunities but also the dangers it poses if there is no clear regulatory framework to control it.

Apparently, everything on the internet is free; We browse at no cost. But in the end, one pays the price for the algorithms that customise the commercial (and not just commercial) messages we receive.

## opera aperta

### Festival d'art i paraula de Granollers



## Bacus, els sentits, la vida

Museu de Granollers  
17 - 20 de setembre de 2020

Obra de Bacus  
Fotografia: Jordi Gual  
Museu de Granollers  
17-20 de setembre de 2020





### 3 Third axis

# Creative citizenship



Education for creativity has always been strongly undervalued by education systems and society in general. There has been a misunderstood utilitarian idea of education and a conceptual confusion regarding the terms innovation and creativity.

This has been simplified in the notion that creativity is “what artists do”, as if this ability were not common to all humans. Education is precisely about generating skills, one of which is creativity.

Angélica Sátiro, a pedagogue and specialist in creative citizenship, believes that creating means generating new, more and better ideas. Ideas that can be applied in different fields through different languages. And these new ideas with

value are the ones that transform and promote change, not just making use of the ones we already have.

The ability to create and innovate is necessary to face the future challenges of our cities.

We understand that to generate social capital, it is essential to develop the creative capacity of its citizens. That is why it is absolutely essential for us to meet our citizens' cultural and educational needs and promote programs to develop their creative abilities.



.....

*More than ever, it is necessary to promote new scenarios and above, all new actions that encourage training to develop critical thinking capable of making us truly free.*

.....



In short, the proposed topic that we are presenting for the 18th Congress has the following title:

---

**“EDUCATION and CULTURE, strategies for constructing the CITY / COMMUNITY and developing a CRITICAL and CREATIVE CITIZENSHIP”**

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It is divided into three axes:

- 1 Construction of the city /community in increasingly complex cities.**
- 2 The development of a critical and free citizenship that will participate in the construction of the future of cities.**
- 3 The development of creative citizenship with strategies and tools to face the challenges of society.**

.....

***We need to know and recognise others. We need to have contact and establish links with those who are not like us, with those who think or believe differently from us.***

.....

You can see that the process we have followed to reach this final formulation allows us to affirm that it is not a proposal arising from an intuition, a sudden inspiration. On the contrary, it is a mature approach, worked on rigorously, that we think connects perfectly with the significant challenges that our cities face in the present and future.

And we see the Congress as a great working tool, an opportunity to find answers and proposals that may be useful to us. And also, of course, find even more questions.

.....

***Identity conflicts are present in these cities. Contrary to those who proclaim multiple identities and their virtues, there are those who proclaim identity essentialisms.***

.....

Likewise, and as we have already pointed out in Chapter 1, we are working with 32 cities in a thematic network of the Spanish Network. This is a network that we coordinate from Granollers with the support of several Catalan universities and members of the Scientific Committee.

The work has currently been initiated and will end in October 2025 and will possibly be extended until 2027. This means in practice that the contents of the topic we propose for the Congress are already being worked on, we are already analysing them, and research is being carried out.

This is no coincidence, far from it, this is how we designed it when we decided that our city wished to present this candidacy. We are convinced that this network will become an essential knowledge tool at the service of the 18th Congress.



.....

*On the other hand, we find ourselves at a time of extreme ideological polarisation in our societies. We are always aiming at manichean positions: “my people, the good ones” and “the bad ones, the others”.*

.....

The topic and the axes that we propose are directly related to the following articles of the CHARTER OF EDUCATING CITIES:

**3 – CULTURAL DIVERSITY and NON-DISCRIMINATION**

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**4 – ACCESS TO CULTURE**

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**5 – INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE**

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**6 – KNOWLEDGE OF THE TERRITORY**

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**7 – ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

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**10- IDENTITY OF THE CITY**

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**17- INCLUSION AND SOCIAL COHESION**

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This is our proposal. A proposal that we consider appropriate and opportune in the social, political and economic context in which we live and will live in the coming years.

TESTIMONY

.....

**Vanessa Jiménez**

Professor of Contemporary Art at the Universidad Popular (Popular University)



*Granollers has undergone a significant transformation in the last two decades, like most other cities worldwide.*

*The composition of our population has changed significantly. We are a lot more diverse now. People of 106 nationalities live together in Granollers. People who speak more than 50 different languages.*

*We cannot ignore that the city is now more complex. That we have new risks and that we must act to ensure that everyone can feel the city as “OURS” without exclusions of any kind.*

*That is why I highly value the proposals on the subject and the approaches of the 2026 Congress of Educating Cities.*

*And I am very excited to participate and contribute to its success. We rolled up our shirt sleeves and are working to make it happen.*

*You can count on us.*









**03**

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

# Selected knowledge

# 03

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

*Although it is not usual, Granollers has already constituted its Scientific Committee while you are reading this text. We are already working on its contents when we submitted the application.*

*This Committee guides and advises us in the work of the Thematic Network that we are coordinating with cities in the Spanish network, as well as in the content design work of the 18th International Congress of Educating Cities.*

We are doing this because we believe it is appropriate to have the knowledge and experience to:

Clearly define the theoretical framework of the topic presented to you for the Congress.

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Design the axes that we consider to be the backbone of the field of reflection and the experiences to be presented.

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Share and agree on the format model for presentations, dialogues, reports and publications.

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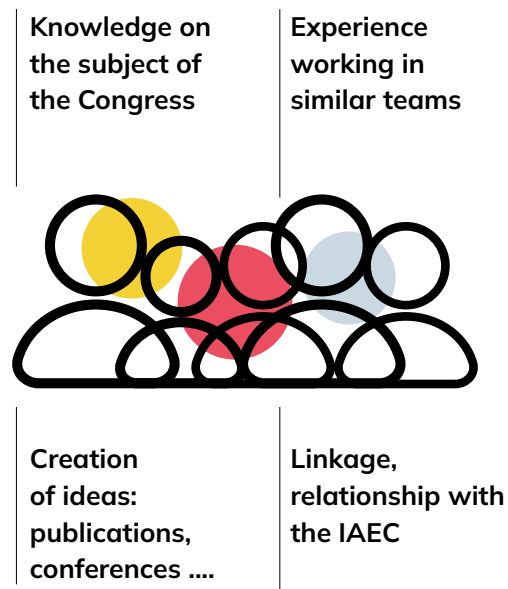
Generate relevant issues to encourage reflection, thinking and proposals.

---

Draw up a list of challenges that our cities must address in the present and future within the scope of the Congress.

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The criteria that members of the Scientific Committee should meet are the following:



Each person in the Scientific Committee that we present to you here meets these criteria.





**Joan Manel  
del Pozo**

- PhD in Philosophy from the University of Barcelona.  
Tenured lecturer of Philosophy at the University of Girona.
- Vice-Rector for Research and Knowledge Transfer at the University of Girona (2000-2002).
- Coordinator of Philosophy Studies (1996-2000).
- Tutor of Humanities at the Open University of Catalonia (1995 – 2006).
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Catalan Society of Philosophy since 2002
- Member of the Consolidated Research Group of the Generalitat “*Grup de Recerca de Filosofia de la Càtedra Ferrater Mora*” (Research Group of Philosophy of the Ferrater Mora Chair) (File number: 2014 SGR 1657).
- Member of the Observatory of Ethics Applied to Social Intervention of the Arnau d’Escala Campus since 2004. He has been the director since June 2013.
- Trustee of the University at the proposal of the rector and by agreement of the Board of Trustees.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Mayor of the Girona City Council for Participation, Information and Citizen Relations (1995-99). For Education (1999-2003) for the Presidency and Education (2003-06)
- Minister of Education and Universities of the Generalitat de Catalunya (May-November 2006)

He worked preparing the first Charter of Educating Cities, 1994, and on all its updates (2004 and 2022). He has participated in many Congresses as a speaker, as the chair, and in some cases as a member of the Scientific Committee. He has also given seminars on “the Educating City” to political and technical teams in many cities worldwide.



**Joan  
Subirats**

- Emeritus Professor of Political Science and Administration at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (2021)
- Professor of Political Science and Administration at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (1990)
- PhD in Economic Sciences from the University of Barcelona (1980)
- Minister of Universities (December 2021 – November 2023)
- Deputy Mayor for Culture, Education, Science and Community at Barcelona City Council (July 2019 - July 2021)
- Head of the culture area of the Barcelona City Council (January 2018 - May 2019)
- Researcher and visiting lecturer at several American and European universities. Prince of Asturias Chair at Georgetown University in 2003.
- Founder and researcher at the Institute of Government and Public Policies of the Autonomous University of Barcelona.

Joan Subirats has always been linked to the Educating Cities movement, as a Commissioner of Culture at Barcelona City Council and later as Councillor for Culture, he promoted a mandated plan: EDUCATION and CULTURE - A proposal to build a single public policy project closely focused on all citizens achieving cultural rights. On the subject of the Congress, we are particularly interested in his experience and career in governing the city of Barcelona.



**Eulàlia  
Bosch**

- A philosophy teacher, exhibition curator, and creator of projects connecting arts, education and philosophy to everyday life.
- Member of the founding group of the Research Institute for the Teaching of Philosophy (IREF), which she directed from its opening in 1985 until 1995. Her participation in congresses and conferences is a permanent line of work in her professional activity.
- A creator and curator of exhibitions such as *Criatures misterioses* (Mysterious Creatures) (1992), *La capsa màgica* (The Magic Box) (1993), *Veure la Llum: Eugènia Balcells* (Seeing the Light: Eugènia Balcells) (1996), *Recordar és fer memòria* (Remembering is reminiscing) (1997), *La ciutat de les paraules* (The City of Words) (1998), *Oteiza* (2000), *Freqüències* (Frequencies) (2009) and *Anys Llum* (Light Years) (2012) by Eugènia Balcells, all of them provided with wide-ranging educational projects.
- Since 1990, she has participated in collaborative projects with museums including LACMA in Los Angeles, California, the Tate Modern in London and with art education centres for children such as Barnahus in Bergen, Norway, or Arte in Gioco in Milan, Italy.
- In 1995, she created the Department of Education of the Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (Contemporary Art Museum of Barcelona) (MACBA), which she directed until 1999, and since then, she has worked regularly with the Eugènia Balcells Foundation.
- In 2003, she created, together with Ramón Espelt and Pep Subirós, *Gao Lletres*, an agency dedicated to the conception and development of cultural and educational projects from the perspective of culture as a public service.
- She is currently focusing her interest on writing.

Her intellectual and critical dimension and her experience as Curator of many art and history exhibitions give her the knowledge and expertise to address two of the axes of the Congress theme: “critical thinking” and “creative citizenship”.



**Oriol  
Nel·lo**

- A geographer specialised in urban studies and spatial planning, topics on which he has published several books and scientific articles.
- He studied at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Doctorate in Geography) and Johns Hopkins University (Master in International Affairs); he was director of the *Institut d'Estudis Metropolitans de Barcelona* (1988-1999).
- Member of the Parliament of Catalonia (1999-2003)
- Secretary for Territorial Planning of the Government of the Generalitat de Catalunya (2003-2011).
- He is currently a full member of the Institute of Catalan Studies and a professor at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, which he re-joined in 2011 to teach undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral courses from the Department of Geography. He also directs the UAB Research Group on Energy, Territory and Society.
- In recent years, he has been a guest lecturer at the School of Environment and Development, Manchester, at the University Institute of Architecture of Venice and at the Department of Architecture of the University of Sassari, as well as lecturing at universities in Brazil, Spain, Italy, Great Britain, Mexico, Portugal and Chile.

Oriol Nel·lo's experience as a teacher in the Department of Geography of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters of the UAB and especially his experience in managing the development of the Neighbourhood Plan program of the Generalitat de Catalunya and, more recently, the Neighbourhood Plan of the city of Barcelona, gives him knowledge about the urban territory as a space for building communities and at the same time a promoter of exclusions. A necessary vision from one who has the academic knowledge and is also a technician executing public policies.





**Angélica  
Sátiro**

- PhD in Pedagogy from the University of Barcelona.
- Researcher in Advanced Studies in Practical Philosophy (DEA) at the University of Barcelona.
- Master's Degree in Applied Creativity from the University of Santiago de Compostela.
- Postgraduate degree in Philosophical subjects from the Federal University of Minas Gerais (Brazil).
- Postgraduate in Business Pedagogy from the State University of Minas Gerais (Brazil).
- Specialised in Philosophy for Children by Montclair State University (USA).
- Degree in Pedagogy from the State University of Minas Gerais (Brazil).
- Director of *Casa Creativa* and CREARMUNDOS.

A disciple of the American philosopher Matthew Lipman and therefore well aware of the "Philosophy for children aged 3-16", Angélica offers thought and reflection on the construction of critical thinking and especially on how, through educational processes, we can acquire tools to develop it. Angélica also received her doctorate with a pioneering thesis at the time about "creative citizenship" and is a true specialist in the theory and conceptualisation of this idea.

Angélica also has a long history of ties with the IAEC and has participated in meetings of various networks and some Congresses.



**Yayo  
Herrero**

- An Anthropologist, Social Educator and Agricultural Technical Engineer.
- Partner-worker of Garúa S. Coop.
- Lecturer-collaborator in the UNESCO Chair in Environmental Education and Sustainable Development (UNED)
- Co-author of more than twenty books about social ecology and numerous articles.
- Chair of the Transition Forum.
- Member of the editorial board of *Hegoa*.
- She was the Confederal Coordinator of Ecologists in Action (2005-2014).

Yayo has intervened in drafting the latest version of the Charter in which the ecofeminist perspective has been significantly incorporated. Her intellectual and activist career and experience will provide us with ideas and proposals for the future, which the Congress must incorporate. Especially when addressing issues of "community building" with the rights and duties that arise naturally when working in the field of "critical thinking".



**Nicolàs  
Barbieri**

- Professor at the Open University of Catalonia.
- PhD in Political Science from the Autonomous University of Barcelona.
- His research focuses on the analysis and evaluation of cultural policies, especially in the field of cultural rights and social inequalities.
- He has carried out various advisory and training tasks for public and private institutions and has helped to promote and evaluate educational cultural programs.
- He co-coordinated the first Participation and Cultural Needs Survey in Barcelona and has participated developing public policy: "Culture and Education in Barcelona".

His work and publications are highly oriented towards cultural rights and access to and participation in culture. His research has basically focused on the city of Barcelona and some cities in its metropolitan area. The results of this research can be very useful in developing the strategies we can devise, from culture, for the construction of communities, and to have culture as a vector of change and transformation.

Professor Nicolás Barbieri also assumes a significant part of the responsibility in the coordination of the Thematic Network that we are working with 32 cities of the State, and that has the same theme as we propose for the Congress: "Education and Culture strategies for the construction of city/community and the development of critical and creative thinking".



*We ask the Committee that in May 2026 in Granollers we can meet and listen to the most relevant people in the world to address the theme of the Congress and the challenges that arise.*



**Gemma  
Carbó**

- Director of the Rural Life Museum of the Carulla Foundation (L'Espluga de Francolí, Tarragona) and president of INTERARTS.
- PhD in Education Sciences, specialising in cultural and educational policies.
- She directed the UNESCO Chair in Cultural Policies and Cooperation at the University of Girona and is a professor of cultural management and mediation in different Latin American university programs.
- She has always been interested in the connections between culture, education and sustainability.
- She chairs the Interarts Foundation, which works on international cultural cooperation, and the International ConArte Association for the Arts in Education.

Gemma brings us the skill and experience as a teacher of the UNESCO Chair of Cultural Policies and Cooperation at the University of Girona and as the director of the Museum of Rural Life of l'Espluga de Francolí. These two points of view; the theoretical and the pragmatic enable her to encourage the generation of strategies and specific proposals. Gemma is currently passionately promoting programs connecting the ARTS and SCHOOL, CULTURE and EDUCATION.





**Ester  
Bonal**

- A musical pedagogue and choir director.
- Graduating from the University of Barcelona in 1991, she became a Music instructor and worked for ten years as a secondary school music teacher.
- From 1996 to 2001, she was a music teacher at the secondary school Miquel Tarradell in the Raval neighbourhood of Barcelona.
- She has directed the children's choir, l'Esquix, of the Sant Jordi Choir in Barcelona and the Children's Choir and the Girls' Choir of the EMM Can Ponsic.
- Since 2002, she has been a professor in the Department of Pedagogy at the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya (ESMUC).
- From 2001 to 2008, she was head of studies at the Municipal School of Music of Can Ponsic (Barcelona), managed by the ARC Música Foundation.
- In 2004, she promoted Xamfrà, a music and drama centre for social inclusion in the Raval neighbourhood of Barcelona. And to ensure its sustainability, in 2013 she created the virtual space *El Teler de Música*, a social enterprise with musical didactic resources.
- Since 2017, she has directed the EducARTs project, which is part of the Barcelona Neighbourhood Plan, a socio-educational project that introduces the arts as tools to manage emotions in schools and institutes in the neighbourhoods in northern Barcelona.
- She is also a member of the Secretariat of Children's Choirs of Catalonia.
- In 2014, she won one of the Lluís Carulla Foundation's Civic Performance Awards.
- In 2019, she also won the AEMCAT Award (Association of Music Teachers of Catalonia) for her professional career.

Ester has had a long career in Art Education for vulnerable population sectors of Barcelona. This experience provides her with a theoretical discourse on culture, education and equity based on the daily realities of very fragile environments. Ester has her two feet on the ground because she works with families in the Raval neighbourhood of Barcelona every day. And she knows how important and necessary it is for the arts and culture to reach everyone. She also knows how culture and artistic experiences leave deep traces in the lives of those who have enjoyed them- the lives of her students. We need Esther to make us lift our heads up, but above all, to keep our feet on the ground.



**Agnès  
Boixader**

- A secondary school teacher retired since 1 July 2017.
- Degree in Philosophy and Literature (Contemporary History Section) (UAB, 1975). Teacher of Catalan (UPC, 1982).
- PhD in Didactics of Social Sciences (UAB, 2004).
- She taught at a private charter school (Escola Pia de Granollers) from 1978-79 to 2016-2017: History in Baccalaureate, Ethics, Social Sciences and Catalan Language in the ESO.
- From the 2006-07 academic year to 2012-2013, she was an associate professor in the Department of Didactics of the Social Sciences of the Faculty of Education Sciences of the UAB.
- She has participated in ARIE research projects and has been a member of the Research Group on Didactics of the Social Sciences (GREDICS).
- She has also been part of the UAB ICE Ethics and Education Group from 1996 until it changed its orientation in 2015. She was the coordinator of this group between 2005 and 2015.
- She is currently a member of the Advisory Board of *Can Jonch, Centro de Cultura per la Pau* in Granollers. A founding partner of GRANA association that promotes the Granollers educational volunteering project. She is also a driving member of the En-Raonar group to build democracy, which aims, among other issues, to ensure the renewal of democracy, recovering its foundational meaning and generating spaces for reflection and debate to enable peaceful coexistence.

As a philosopher, Agnes also collaborates regularly in the local newspaper -9 NUEVO - and her words generate debate, sometimes dilemmas and above all draw horizons. Her experience as a teacher, philosopher, thinker and a social activist will give us a multifaceted vision that we obviously also need.



**Josep  
Castillo**

- 2024 - Doctorate in Innovation and Educational Intervention
- 2022 - Master's Degree in Inclusive Education. University of Vic - UCC (Faculty of Education): Vic, Catalonia
- 2008 - Bachelor of Arts
- 1999 Diploma in Religious Sciences
- Diploma in Theology Faculty of Theology of Catalonia (ISCREB): Barcelona, Catalonia

Josep Castillo can contribute his experience as a teacher in the Faculty of Education of the University of Vic and also in a secondary school in Granollers. With him, we will be able to know and, therefore, be well informed of the experiences lived in the classroom and the interests, concerns and motivations that move them. Josep will have specific responsibilities at the Youth Congress.



**Teresa  
Sambola**

- Master's Degree in Public Function from ESADE, he has been working for the local world for 34 years.
- She holds a degree and an extraordinary prize in Education Sciences from the UB.
- She is currently the coordinator of the Barcelona Provincial Council of the Sports and Physical Activity Area. For the 2019-23 term, she coordinated the Education, Sports and Youth Area of the Institution.
- She has been heading the Education Department of the City Council of L'Hospitalet del Llobregat, of the City Council of Viladecans and coordinator of Personal Services of the City Council of Molins de Rei.
- She has also collaborated for 15 years with the FMC as a technical advisor to the Education Committee and the Social Rights Committee.
- On behalf of this municipal entity, she has been a member of the Joint Commission with the Department of Education of the Generalitat and has been part, among others, of the committees: the National Pact for Education, Adult Training, School Segregation, Hourly Reform and Jury of the Education Awards of Catalonia.

As can be seen, Teresa has a long career in public policy management for local administrations. She has held positions of responsibility in several cities in the metropolitan area and the County Council of Barcelona. Her involvement in the Educating Cities movement also goes far back in time. Her knowledge and experience will allow us to understand the complexities of local administrations and their legal administrative structures. And thus, with this knowledge, we will be able to observe and assess the feasibility of many of the proposals and strategies put forward.



.....

**The Committee will also accompany the participation roundtables that we are building with citizens.**

.....



**Xavier  
Bonal**

- Professor of Sociology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona and director of the UAB Research Group on Globalisation, Education and Social Policies (GEPS) of the UAB.
- He is also co-coordinator of the Interdisciplinary Group on Educational Policies (GIPE) and director of the European Master + GLOBED: *Education Policies for Global Development*. He has been a *Special Professor of Education and International Development* at the University of Amsterdam, a member of several groups of education experts of the European Commission and a consultant to various Public Administrations and international bodies (European Commission, OECD, UNESCO, UNICEF, Council of Europe).
- A specialist in the sociology of education and educational policy, he has been a guest lecturer at several European and Latin American universities.
- He has carried out research in the field of sociology of education and educational policy in Spain, Europe and Latin America.
- From 2006 to 2010, he was deputy to the Catalan Ombudsman to defend children's rights.

Xavier Bonal will provide us with his knowledge from the field of the sociology of education and from his experience in the work of applied research at the local level, especially in school segregation studies.



**Javier  
Martínez**

A founding partner of Lugadero, a transdisciplinary office born in 2010 from the collaboration of professionals in communication, design, urban planning, architecture and cultural management.

A trained architect, his projects focus on improving the daily life of the territories, highlighting environments, identities and social processes that relate to physical and virtual spaces, both public and private. His urban work coexists naturally with the creation of verbal and visual universes, with larger-scale strategic approaches and architecture in its various forms, research and contemporary thought.

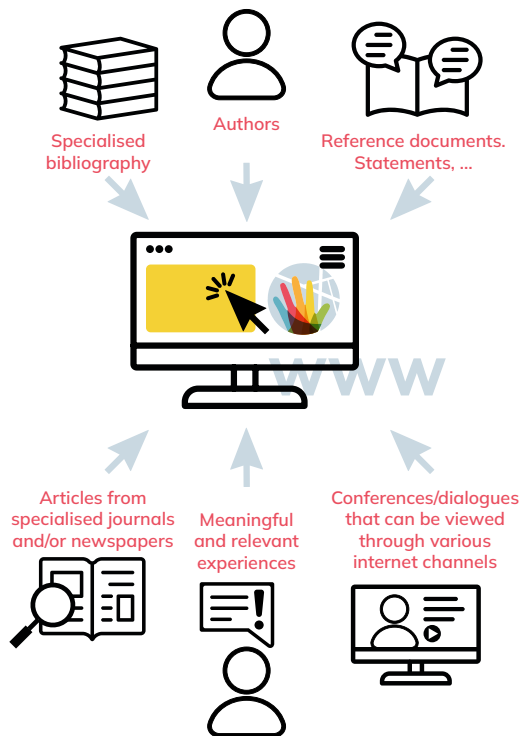
From Lugadero, he has led strategic communication projects in the urban field for public institutions and private entities internationally for over ten years and has won competitions such as "Future Wimbledon" in London, a project that he is currently developing, located at the intersection between participatory urbanism, design and communication; or the recently awarded Seville city brand, in the development of which he is immersed to date.

As co-director of Lugadero, he currently participates in different projects of diverse nature and scale, locally, nationally and internationally.

From his experience working in architecture, urban planning and communication, Javier can provide knowledge on the approaches we will take to issues related to community building.

The format of the Congress, which is explained in another section, is designed to be able to have a “time before” and a “time after” the specific dates of the face-to-face Congress. In these “times” and from the Congress website, the Scientific Committee will be able to contribute:

**A space of reference knowledge on the topic of the Congress:**



**A space for opinion:**

For generating questions, reflections on which participants will be able to generate their contributions. Altogether, these can constitute a specific publication: a notebook of opinions of the congress participants, for example.

It will also pay special attention to the methodologies of participation that may occur both in the face-to-face Congress and in the virtual Congress.

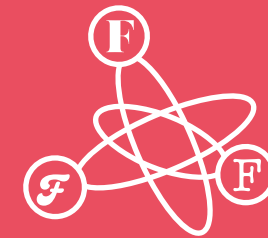
The Committee will also accompany the participation tables we are building with citizens. It will have the function of advising and supervising everything related to the content proposals and study visits.

It will also sometimes participate in the municipal political and technical coordination tables.

We require, as you can see, many things from the Committee, but especially that in May 2026 in Granollers, we can meet and listen to scientists, researchers, writers, etc. the most relevant people in the world to address the theme of the Congress and the challenges that arise.

And also, of course, that they rigorously select the best experiences, observe the common aspects to be able to generate models and their methodologies.

Naturally, they will be responsible for drafting the proposed Declaration and the conclusions of the Congress and some of its members will also actively participate in moderating dialogues and conferences.



**A Scientific Committee for a Congress and three Forums.**

The Scientific Committee is also responsible for coordinating other Committees. Specifically, the Scientific Committees of the Youth Forum, the Adolescent Forum and the Children’s Forum.

These three Forums will be held in parallel but will interact with the Congress at some point. Each Forum will have its own part of the programme with specific work and methodologies. And it will also have a part that it will share with the Congress program.

The Scientific Committee will act as a coordinator and will collect and supervise the documents prepared by each Forum so that they become a part of the Congress’s collection of documentation.



**XVIII CONGRESS AICE**

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

**YOUTH FORUM**

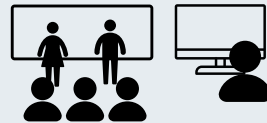


**200 young people** from Granollers and the surrounding area and 100 from IAEC cities

They work with a technical team led by a member of the **SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

**They draw up a declaration and conclusions**

**FACE-TO-FACE CONGRESS  
VIRTUAL CONGRESS**



Representatives of the IAEC cities

The Scientific Committee moderates the dialogues and conferences. I receives the contributions of the rapporteurs

**They draw up a declaration and conclusions**

**ADOLESCENT FORUM**



**100 teenagers** from Granollers and the surrounding area

They work with a technical team led by a member of the **SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

**They draw up a declaration and conclusions**

**CHILDREN'S FORUM**

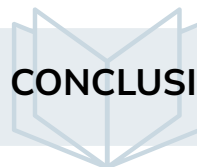


**100 boys and girls** from Granollers and the surrounding area

They work with a technical team led by a member of the **SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

**They draw up a declaration and conclusions**

**DECLARATION and CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONGRESS**











04

CITY PROJECTS

# The strength of the community

# 04

## CITY PROJECTS



## City/Community

*Granollers can present a varied collection of projects being executed and related to the theme and the axes we propose for the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress.*



### Arrelats (Roots)

A “conversation preservation” project aiming is to preserve the migratory story of many people in the city. We want to know where they came from, their motivations and how they got to Granollers, their city.

We wish to get to know them through their words, and preserve those words. It is a space for citizens’ memory, where every citizen, every person, is important. The stories are relevant for each family and the entire city. All the pots are the same size. Only the colours change, showing their diversity and building, at the same time, a beautiful colourful mosaic on the shelves.

The conversations have a person who listens and, if necessary, asks questions and the testimony that explains their journey. Many of those made so far have been created by students in 4<sup>th</sup> year of the ESO from all the schools in the city.

In each pot, there is a QR to listen to the audio, a written transcription, photographs and an object linked to the story that the witness wanted to deposit inside. We currently have over 600.



## City/Community



### Només d'Anada (One-way only)

This is a program of six sessions with six guests who have had a migratory experience and have generated thought and reflection about it in a book, a film, etc.

The program sessions were held at Roca Umbert, Fàbrica de les Arts. Each guest had twenty minutes to explain their experience. In the room, we find one hundred and sixty 4th year ESO students from several city High Schools. Next, we move on to another building with twenty-five round tables. Each student is assigned a table they will share with students from other schools. At each table there is also an enabler or facilitator, in this case, a student

from a higher year, who will table issues related to everything the guest explained to them a few minutes ago.

And the conversation will begin. The guest visits all the tables. Getting asked questions, answering and listening to the conversations.

Initially, each table asks the guest questions, and each student expresses, using cards, the feelings, thoughts and ideas that come to their heads during the session they have experienced. They can also do this by drawing.

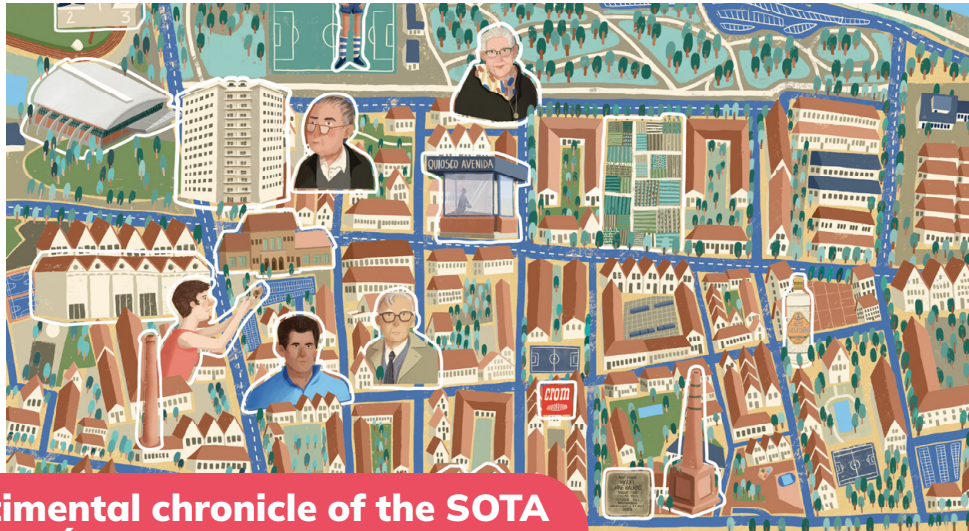


These two activities are focused on the idea of "WE" and not on the concept of emigrants, newcomers, residents, ...

And we do it because this word, this US, includes all of us since we are all children, grandchildren or great-grandchildren of migrants.

There are no cities without migrants and migration is a fact of the human condition. Humans have always moved, today is no different.

## City/Community



### Sentimental chronicle of the SOTA EL CAMÍ RAL neighbourhood

This proposal was born to disseminate a chronicle of the Sota el Camí Ral neighbourhood, comprising twenty-five stories appreciated and loved by its inhabitants. These stories were collected through a participatory process with members of the Neighbourhood Association, the Merchants Association, the Families Association and the local School's teaching staff.

First, we decided which stories could constitute an itinerary and were sufficiently representative of the life of the neighbourhood in the 1960s and 70s. We also decided which people would explain them and where. It is, therefore, a tour of different corners of the neighbourhood where the neighbours themselves tell these stories of

humble and simple people, full of gestures of humanity and solidarity, of civic and political commitment and entrepreneurship.

Each group of visitors is accompanied by a guide who takes them to all the designated places. At the end of the visit, each participant is presented with an illustrated plan and ten postcards with old photographs of the neighbourhood corresponding to some of the stories that were told.

We are currently working on the second phase; the second itinerary. In this itinerary, the neighbourhood residents will determine the stories of the present and what they want to highlight about their neighbourhood today and



now, and we will generate a new itinerary, a new map and new postcards.

In the third phase, we will make an itinerary created by boys and girls and looking to the future. Once the project is completed, we will have three itineraries:

#### A Sentimental Chronicle

#### A Sota el Camí Ral 2024 neighbourhood Itinerary

#### The Children's Neighbourhood



## City/Community



### The frog song from a pond in “Sota el camí Rai”

This project is being promoted by a Neighbourhood Association, an Association of Merchants, a School, a High School, a Music School, the Municipal Conservatory, and the Natural Science Museum. Other participants are a children’s literature writer, an illustrator and a composer.

Together, we have built a story that aims to create a new myth, a new story that can be used to explain ourselves. A tale to affirm who we are and what we are like. That talks about “us.” All the inhabitants of Granollers in 2024. From everyone, about everyone.

The story has to do with our place name: Granollers. The name Granollers comes from “*granoller*”, which in ancient Catalan meant “*granolla*”, which in ancient Catalan meant “place where there are frogs”. “*Granolla*” is the word that in ancient Catalan meant frog - “*granota*” in modern Catalan. This means that Granollers literally means a place with many frogs.

Asking our scientists, they tell us that indeed this valley where our city was built has always been favourable for frogs. In fact, before Homo Sapiens Sapiens, they and other amphibians inhabited this area.

Right in the most vulnerable neighbourhood of the city, there is a pond. A pond that, if correctly naturalised, could be a good place for a colony of frogs to live.

The story we have created tells us that there have always been very special frogs in these ponds, frogs that croak with unusual frequency. A frequency that can only be perceived by children. It is also said that their croaking sounds like a song when the days approach the solstice (winter and summer). Specialists from the Natural Science Museum have recorded them. And these sounds have been passed on to the musicians at the Conservatory. The composer Paula Grandes adapted the sounds and wrote the lyrics.

The result is a beautiful song that is very similar to Paul McCartney’s: “We All Stand Together” Right now, this song is being rehearsed by the children of the Petits Cantors choir in the *Amics de la Unió* School of Music and the Ferrer i Guàrdia School with their families, a choir formed by children and their parents.

## City/Community

We are currently working on organising a special party, which we would like to become a tradition for next summer's solstice. At this party, the song will be sung by all the choirs, and stories will be told.

One of them will be very special: the tale of *The Frogs in the Pond*. These tales of pond frogs always make us look at ourselves in a mirror. This frogs' pond is a small frogs' town where everything is possible, and things are done that are not done in the city.

The frogs in the pond are as diverse as the citizens of Granollers. Everyone can identify with them.

The legend story also says that if, during these winter and summer solstice nights, you approach the pond and sing the frog's song, you get what you ask: to pass an exam, receive the "yes" of a loved one, overcome a challenge...

It always works; you just have to be there and sing.



This is a project by an Association of Merchants to beautify and illuminate the streets for Christmas. The proposal is to give meaning and light to each tree.

We believe that Christmas is a good time of the year to highlight stories that show attitudes of achievement, struggle for human rights, and solidarity. Stories that tell us about the dignity of human beings. That is why the project consists of twenty stories, each placed in a light fixture under a tree. A tree that illuminates a story that looks like a Christmas story. But it's not; it's very real.



This is a school handball tournament that invites all children from all schools in the city to practice this sport during the month of May. This means that all schools have their own teams and families accompanying them. It is an excellent opportunity to clearly see our city's magnificent human diversity. A diversity that we can observe on the field and in the stands. Handball becomes an element of shared identity.

Everyone's a winner.



## City/Community



**The Festa Major or big festival of Granollers**



### **The Festa de Blancs i Blaus (White and Blue Festival).**

This is a magnificent tool for actively participating in the life of the city and feeling part of it.

The festivity is based on a game where two groups, two gangs, the Whites and the Blues, are challenged to see who is able to generate more noise and also win more competitions. For a week, a (secret) jury will validate the creative and fun proposals generated by the groups in each gang. A significant number of very diverse competitions are held.



Just wrap a white or blue scarf around your neck and participate in any of these competitions. And if you want, you can also join a group in these gangs and participate creating the proposals. Or even create a new group. The festivity is an excellent place to make social cement, using Erik Klinenberg's terminology. To generate processes of inclusion, a feeling of belonging, and to build creative citizenship.



## Critical citizenship



### Popular University

The *Universitat Popular* or Popular University of Granollers (UPG) was founded in 2014 and is the consequence of the success of philosophical gatherings held in the city's libraries since 2007. The organisers of these talks saw an increase in the number of attendees, students eager for knowledge and eager to participate, and at the same time, an increase in the number of teachers of other subjects who wanted to generate similar spaces.

The Popular University (UPG) is a non-profit cultural entity managed by AIEP (Popular Education Promotion Association). It incorporates a wide range of training in various branches of knowledge, with academic and scientific rigour.

Rooted in the capital of Vallès Oriental and with a firm vocation to openness to all, the UPG's educational proposal is primarily aimed at all those seeking an overall vision and an integrated knowledge perspective, regardless of their current academic level.

The UPG aims to promote education based on dialogue, encouraging shared reflection and critical analysis as a driving force for social transformation. Faced with a certain massification of the cultural offer, its promoters think it is convenient to decouple learning from the economy and material benefit, facilitating access to education for people of any socioeconomic status and at any level of training.

Therefore, the recipients of the courses are all those with cultural and formative concerns who consider learning a necessary process that continues throughout life.

It is undoubtedly a great project to promote a critical spirit.



## Critical citizenship



**En-raonar**

In 2017, when events occurred in Catalonia that generated great political and social tension, a group emerged called EN-RAONAR.

This group is united by the idea that we must use critical thinking more than we do, find new ideas and projects to revitalise democracy and continue to learn ways for different people to live together. Steps must be taken in the direction of equity and social justice, and we must work for the common good.

With a clear objective of creating meeting and conversation spaces with those who usually do not meet and do not think alike. The strength of the proposal lies in the need to think, reflect, speak and, above all, to listen to others. The En-raonar group has since developed several activities. The most successful is holding talks and dialogues with relevant people who provide different perspectives on a given current conflict. The speakers' proposals are always plural and diverse, like the audience.



**Cinema Edison**

It was born from the Cine Club of the Cultural Association, an association that turned seventy-five this year. Cinema Edison focuses mainly, apart from film and documentary screening programs, on particular projects and programs such as:

**The Book and Film Club / Conversations with filmmakers / Presentation of premieres / The Fantàstik Festival / La Peixera, a space for creating short films collectively created by young people aged 16-26. / The Cine Club Jove / Cine Forum Sessions**

All these activities encourage a free and critical attitude and are an excellent place to enjoy cinema in all its dimensions.

## Critical citizenship



### Ópera Aperta (Open Opera); the art and word festival of Granollers

It is a festival of thought that was born after the global 2020 pandemic. Promoted and produced by the Museum of Granollers, it arose to cover the need to generate spaces for joint reflection around issues that involve us personally and collectively. With the challenge of resignifying life and the place of humans in the world. New times, new challenges to reflect on and new questions.

Each year, the Festival selects a piece from the museum's collection around which the proposed theme, the object of debate and the reflection revolve.

#### 2020:

In its first edition, Opera Aperta used a **head of Bacchus**, a second-century Roman sculpture found in excavations in the city, to invite us to talk and reflect on life and its possible meanings.

In ancient Rome, Bacchus was the god of vines and ecstasy, tragedy and dance, creativity and everything that escapes reason and constitutes the vital impulse or passion for life. And they asked, among others, the following questions:

Who does the management of life depend on? Where does our incorruptible commitment to life come from? How can we understand this desire to endure, which we call life? What do philosophy, science and art say about it?

#### 2021:

**Retrat de la senyoreta Dulce (Portrait of Miss Dulce)**. Antoni Caba (1838–1907),  
The presence and persistent gaze of the “young lady” invited us to investigate where the notion of person begins and ends. And some of the issues that were raised:

What makes us people? What makes us different from each other? What version of ourselves do we have, and does it match what others have of us? What is the boundary between the person and the character?

#### 2022:

An installation by Francesc Abad called “*Spuren o Rastres*” is the work that invited us to discuss the notion of travel. The different meanings of travel were discussed In this edition.

#### 2023:

A work by Jordi Benito was used: “*Voici dans l'eau ma chair de lune et de rosée*” from 2005. A work inspired by Paul Valéry's poem “*Narcisse parle*”, from the book *Album de vers anciens* (1920).

« “The music of numbers enamours me, like art, like poetry,” Benito explained. Poetry and mathematics are two approaches to understand the irreducible mystery of reality.



## Critical citizenship

Benito's work is an installation of light, a blue neon that creates a game of aquatic reflections and invites debate on notions such as image, reflection and reality. A conceptual line that refers to one of the great themes of thought: the question of reality.

What can we consider real? How should we move today in a world of replicated realities? How can we distinguish what is real from what is pure imposture?

With these questions as a guide, the fourth edition was presented. At the moment the program is ending the fifth edition of a festival that has already been consolidated in the cultural program of our city's spring.



*Panoràmic* is a festival that explores the relationship between cinema, photography and new forms of images and promotes and encourages the search for new languages and audio-visual narratives. Born in 2017 with a vocation to of critical pedagogy of the image aimed at audiences increasingly immersed in visual environments, and therefore aiming to be helpful.

Panoràmic proposes a space of knowledge and reflection between still and moving images. And it does so by encompassing all the areas where the image is present, i.e., through projections of feature films and short films, video, video installations, video games, mappings, exhibitions,

workshops, conferences, workshops, TV, installations, archives, bibliography, photobooks or interactive projects, among others.

Since the first edition, ideas and concepts have been developed, such as "photo-fixed" with *Film Still* (2017), the revolt with *68 The Whole World is Watching* (2018), the space with the *Ultima Thule, the conquest of space* (2019), the transitions of intimacy with *Extimacy. Public – Privat – Secret* (2020) and *Incertesa-Atzar-Predicció* (2021)

Panoràmic is consolidated as a reference festival for culture, exhibiting visual arts in multiple forms and creative processes. Thus, from education and

## Critical citizenship

training, reflection and dialogue, transversality and hybridisation, creativity and learning and the commitment to contemporary and plural culture, Panoràmic aims to become a benchmark in cities and the whole country.

The Panoràmic festival is directed by Joan Fontcuberta, Laia Casanova and Albert Gusi and has an advisory team comprising Andrés Hispano, Mercè Alsina and Fèlix Pérez-Hita. Throughout the five editions the work of artists such as Erwin Wurm, Weronika Gesicka, Israel Ariño, Clara Gassull, Julie Freeman, María Cañas, Carles Barba, Joachim Smichd, John Akomfrah, Dina Kelberman, Jonathan Brown, Albert Serra, Roberto Huarcaya, Clement Cheroux, Antoine d'Agata, Itziar Okariz, Isaki Lacuesta, Pere Portabella, José Luís Guerin, William Klein, Sophie Calle, Laia Abril, Martin Arnold, Jorge Furtado, Harun Farocki, David Lynch, Sylvie Bussieres, Eugenia Balcells, Chris Marker, Pilar Rosado, Marcelo Brodsky, Simon Menner, Mireia Sallarès, Kurt Caviezel, Veronica Fieiras, Cabosanroque, Jordi Borràs, Ventura Pons, Cristina Núñez, Lurdes Basolí, Daniel G. Andujar, Manel Armengol, Alicia Kopf, Silvia Isach and Roger Subirana, Marcel · lí Antúnez, Frederic Amat, Cristina De Middel and Martin Parr, have participated in the Festival, to name a just a few.



## Creative citizenship



### Day of Arts, Education, Thought and Culture

This day brings together technicians and those responsible for the educational projects of Cultural Centres in Catalonia and the rest of Spain. These days are always focused on collective work, part of which is prior and done by each person from their city. The other part takes place during the day, collectively in a warehouse in Roca Umbert, a factory of the arts, in Granollers.

Ideas and strategies are constantly being sought so that cultural proposals reach more audiences, and they are more involved. And they naturally promote critical thinking and stimulate the creative capacity of audiences.

The days always contain an element of reflection, another of conversation and a part of creativity.



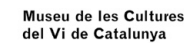


## Creative citizenship

Participating institutions



apropa  
cultura  
una porta  
a la inclusió



## Creative citizenship



Roca Umbert

### From a textile factory to an art factory

The Roca Umbert factory began to be built in 1904. In 1936, workers requisitioned the company, and it was named *Espartacus*. In January 1939, it suffered severe destruction due to arson, but slowly recovered and in the 1950s, a power plant was built to give the factory a reliable electricity supply since constant electrical restrictions often forced production to stop. Then, modernisation of the industry began, and a large number of fabrics were manufactured, highlighting cotton garments. Dressing gowns, towel sets, tablecloths, military clothes, denim garments ... The factory closed in 1991.

### The transformation process

One-third of the area of the former Roca Umbert textile factory belongs to the municipality. In January 2003, the Plenary Session of the City Council of Granollers approved the Use Plan of the Roca Umbert project as a factory for the arts, and in November 2004, the Architectural Master Plan was approved. Both documents have been the roadmap that has guided the rehabilitation of the 21,000 m<sup>2</sup> that Roca Umbert currently has, to become a new centre for contemporary creation.

Since the opening of the Technological and University Centre (2003), Roca Umbert has been a project in continuous evolution: in 2005, the library was inaugurated; in 2006, La Troca Centre for Popular and Traditional Culture, the bar, the musical rehearsal space and the offices; in 2008, the Arts Space; in 2009, the Audio-visual Centre; in 2010, the NauB1 Musical Creation and Dissemination Centre and the multipurpose *Dents de Serra* building, and in 2011 the production workshops of the main festival and the Thermal Workshop were rehabilitated in a first phase of the works, as a centre for interpreting the industrial past.

At the same time, private companies have been established in Roca Umbert: *Taller Sarandaca* (2005), *Arsènic, Espai de Creació* (2011) and the workshop of visual artist Joan Fontcuberta (2013).

Roca Umbert is a cultural space in constant transformation, at the service of creative processes, artistic training and dialogue between the arts, which advances by cooperating with the emerging economic fabric, especially with the audio-visual industry.

Its multidisciplinary nature and comprehensive approach to creation, which includes research, creation, training, production and dissemination, are the axes of action of the areas that comprise Roca Umbert, and its activity is intensified as the rehabilitation of the buildings progresses.

A unique setting where literature, music, popular culture, visual arts, audio-visuals, thought, heritage can be combined and intertwined to experiment in all fields of contemporary creation and where they can be shared between creators and citizens.

Open and collaborative innovation that makes Roca Umbert a laboratory rather than a container, cooperating with the economic and social fabric of the city of Granollers.



## Creative citizenship



### Laboratori de lletres i imatges (Words and images laboratory)

The ***laboratori de lletres i imatges*** is a space for creation within the Roca Umbert Library that invites families to experiment with reading, understood in the broadest sense of the term: reading with all the senses, reading images and sounds, literary creation as a game, poetic imagination as an artistic form...

Decalogue of the laboratory characteristics:

1. **Books are the source of inspiration**, the starting and arrival points. Without books, there is no laboratory.

2. The physical presence of books and their reunion with children and adults through a time of **shared reading** is essential.

3. The final facilitator or enabler may be external, but **the laboratory is born from an objective or need of the library**, and it is designed and executed together with the staff of the children's area.

4. Books are the engine of an experience that may or may not include a plastic workshop, but in no case is the product the objective. The process is what is important.

5. The search for beauty in the presentation, the care of the aesthetics of the space and the creation of rituals are crucial to achieving the surprise effect. The small details and objects add value to the experience, complete it and facilitate a particular disposition of spirit in the families.

6. The idea is to create unique, affective and experiential experiences around reading and books that endure in the children's memory.

7. The diversity of the library's collection is shown. Instead of classifying books, they are declassified, and new links are sought between them.

8. Families are not passive recipients but are asked to be very actively involved. The facilitator gives them all the prominence to become a guide or companion.

9. From books or stories, creativity is what allows us to reach new forms of literary, artistic, theatrical, musical games, etc., expression.

10. There is a will to comprehensively document its operation and disseminate the proposals on the network so that they can be shared, evaluated, improved and adapted, following the current commitment to 2.0 and the collective construction of new realities.



## The Frog song

This song is the axis on which a community action project is articulated, which we are developing in the Sota el Camí Ral neighbourhood of the city, and of which you have information in this same dossier.

It is about creating a new story, a new myth that pursues the idea of community and building a “we” where everyone has their place.

See if you decide to sing it.

## We All Stand Together

*Win or lose, sink or swim  
One thing is certain, we'll never give in  
Side by side, hand in hand  
We all stand together*

*Play the game, fight the fight,  
But what's the point on a beautiful night?  
Arm in arm, hand in hand  
We all stand together*

*La la la*

*Keeping us warm in the night*

*La la la*

*Walk in the night  
You'll get it right*

*Win or lose, sink or swim  
One thing is certain, we'll never give in  
Side by side, hand in hand  
We all stand together.*

Follow the tune of this song  
“We All Stand Together” by Paul McCartney

## Creative citizenship



### El llibre gegant (The Giant Book)

Since 1979, on Ascension Friday every year, and always under the Porch, the children in the city can go to write their tale, their story.

First, they write it on a wooden table, and a teacher corrects their spelling. Then, they are given a very large sheet of paper where they copy the corrected text. With this large sheet, they choose one of the twenty illustrators scattered around the square and tell them their



TESTIMONY



## Gabi Moto

President of  
Friends of Africa



story to make illustrations they both agree on. Having finished the drawing, the giant sheet is brought to a table where it is collected with others to make the year's giant book. We currently have 42. The Casal del Mestre and the bookstore La Gralla oversee the organisation.

There are many stories, many children writers and many illustrators. Now, when they go to the Porch with their sons and daughters, the first thing many parents do is show them the stories they wrote when they were little. And the story continues. Imagination and creativity are never-ending.

---

**As you can see in this selection, we can offer you projects and experiences linked to the theme we propose for the Congress in all its axes. For the study visit proposals, we also have other projects and experiences offered by the towns and cities in the region.**

---



*I have been fortunate enough to be actively involved in many projects we have presented to you.*

*Participating means that I have been able to build these projects with others, and they are, let me say it, now also a little mine.*

*The first: Those about COMMUNITY, we always work with a word that is our guiding theme: US*

*This is how we define ourselves, not as newcomers from one place or another. We are simply "US"; those who now and here live and coexist in this valley of frogs.*

*The second is critical citizenship: Projects that allow us to learn, get to know and acquire the attitudes and habits to keep our eyes open and have a critical vision.*

*And those in the third group are the ones with the thread of creativity.*

*In every one of these projects, you will always find spaces for PARTICIPATION so those who enjoy them are also protagonists of their innovation, change, ...*

*Projects that are always born from the ground roots with the collaboration of many people. That's the most important thing for me. And what I like best. I wish you could come to Granollers. And I would love to be able to explain this to you.*

*I look forward to seeing you*









# 05

INVOLVEMENT OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES

# All as one

# 05

## INVOLVEMENT OF MUNICIPAL SERVICES

*We have organised a political coordination round table for the candidacy composed of the mayoress and the councillors of:*

- **Education**
- **Culture**
- **Communication**
- **Sports/Cooperation**
- **The environment**

*This round table reports on all the actions that are taking place and those that are planned to the government team and the other opposition groups on a regular basis.*

This coordination will be maintained and intensified during the stage that we may be responsible for organising the 18th Conference.

This political table has also designated a **transversal technical round table** which is composed of technicians from the different areas that belong to the municipal organisational structure: Education, Culture, Communication, Sports and Environment. A schedule and an action plan have already been drafted for this more operational round table.

Specific **sectoral round tables** have also been designed to address areas such as **security, cleaning, mobility, production/logistics, communication, and public participation,**

As well as the following sectoral committees:

**Culture sectoral committee: composed of technicians from the various cultural facilities and services.**

**Education sectoral committee: composed of representatives of the Municipal School Council.**

**Community Action Sectoral Committee.**

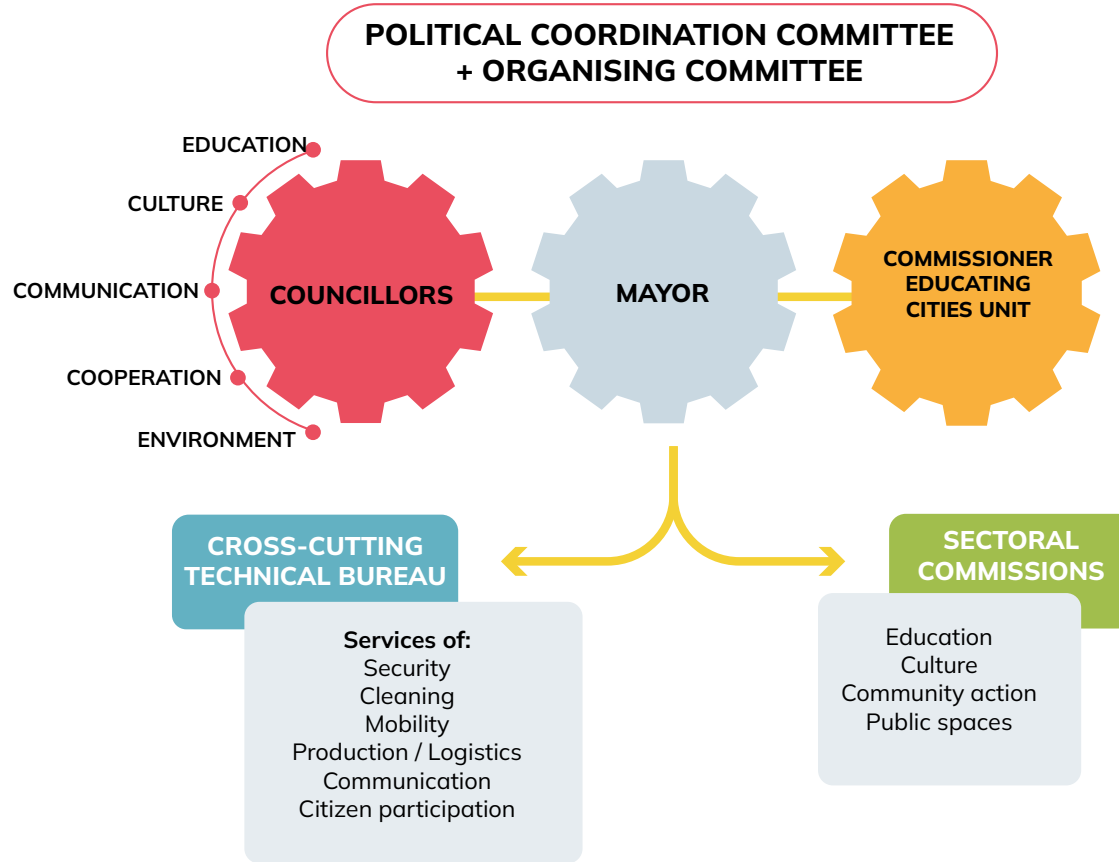
**City Council Committee.**

**Committee of Entities.**

This transversality has already been operational right from the very start, specifically with the way in which we have worked on this dossier you are reading. This dossier was the result of a team effort of a range of people from various departments of Granollers town hall.







.....

*The transverse nature of the work with technicians from various areas has been operative from the very first minute, specifically in the way we have worked on this dossier that you have in your hands.*

.....











*Associations*

*Educational community*

*Neighbourhood*

*Sports clubs*

*Congress*

*Cultural centres*

*Commercial establishments*

**06**

INVOLVEMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY

**Unity is  
strength**



# 06

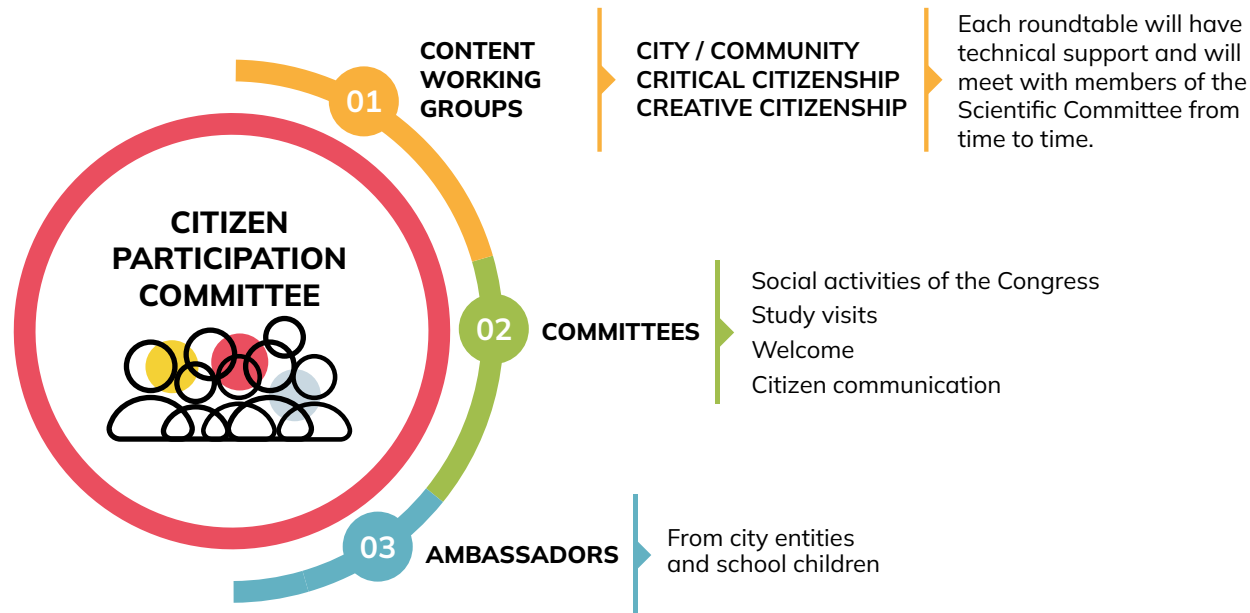
## INVOLVEMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY



*As of January 2024, we already have a very diverse group of 60 people who have expressed their willingness, commitment and desire to participate in preparing and organising the Conference.*







We have defined an initial phase with them where we will focus our efforts on the generation of proposals and content. This resulted in the organisation of **three work spaces**, one for each of the axes of the Conference:

- 1. City/community**

---

- 2. Critical thinking**

---

- 3. Creative citizenship**

---

We aim to generate points of reflection, and to propose significant and relevant topics that encourage raising and generating questions and issues. The three round tables will hold work sessions with the Scientific Committee as well as with the representatives of the cities that are part of the Thematic Network of the Spanish Network that we are coordinating at specific times.

We will also be overseeing the constitution of other commissions and working groups, if applicable, linked to the holding of supplementary activities at the Conference.

**Social activities committee of the Conference.**

---

**Committee on Study visits.**

---

**Commission welcomes participants.**

---

**Citizen communication committee.**

---

And following the magnificent proposal of Curitiba, we hope to have boys and girls act as **ambassadors** who report on, attend and establish a link with each attendee.



We would also like to introduce our associations and organisations to our Conference participants and for them to establish a lasting relationship. That has inspired our drafting of a special programme for the day before the Conference opening day where we will prepare meeting spaces for any conference participants who are interested and wish to make contact with, meet and talk, with the following organisations:

**Jazz Festival**

---

**Panoramic Festival**

---

**Popular Culture Entities**

---

**Dance Entities**

---

**Music Schools**

---

**Theatre Schools**

---

**Cinema Edison**

---

**Sports clubs**

---

**Neighbourhood Associations**

---

**Popular University of Granollers**

---

**En-RAONAR**

---





TESTIMONY

.....

## Ferran Gontán

The head of the DRAC group of Granollers



*Because the city is made up of its people  
Many of the activities that are held in  
Granollers each year are only possible  
because of this force, this collective,  
altruistic and generous work:*

*The Festa Major is one good example. Much  
willingness and energy comes together to  
create a week full of activities of all kinds  
and for all audiences. The majority of  
activities are created and executed by the  
people themselves, who are the true key  
players of the Festival.*

*We are also always open to participating in  
all those events that the city hosts.*

*We love to meet people from other regions  
and other countries and share our culture  
and traditions with them.*

*On the occasion of the 18th AICE  
Conference, we would like to set our DRAC  
[fictional Catalan dragon] alight and make  
it dance to the rhythm of gralles [traditional  
wind instrument] and tabals [traditional  
drum]. And to enjoy this moment together.*

*I wouldn't miss it. LET THE PARTY  
AND FIREWORKS BEGIN.*





**Juan Antonio Corchado**  
Mayor of Les Franqueses

**Alba Barnusell**  
Mayoress of Granollers

**Marta Pujol**  
Mayoress of  
La Roca del Vallés

**Emilio Cordero**  
Mayor of Canovelles and President  
of the Consell Comarcal del Vallés Oriental  
(Vallès Oriental Regional Council)







07

PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER CITIES

**The region  
accompanies us**

# 07

## PARTICIPATION WITH OTHER CITIES

*Granollers is the hub city around which a conurbation composed of three other municipalities has expanded, namely, Canovelles, Les Franqueses and Roca del Vallès. These three municipalities form an urban continuum and share a range of services.*

*Granollers is also the capital of Vallès Oriental which is composed of 39 municipalities including Mollet del Vallès, Sant Celoni, Caldes de Montbui, Montmeló and La Garriga. It occupies an area of 735 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population of 422,777 inhabitants.*

*It is an urban area that represents the second urban ring in Barcelona.*



Granollers presents its candidacy backed by the mayors composing the conurbation and the support of the region of Vallès Oriental through the president of its Council, Mr. Emili Cordero. We will be collaborating with all the towns and cities of the region to prepare, organise and hold the Conference. We will establish work and coordination spaces alongside them to establish the appropriate participation channels.

The entire region will be the territory from where we will be showcasing the most relevant experiences to offer study visits.





Naturally, we will be promoting strategies to promote the movement of educating cities and the International Association taking advantage of the Conference taking place in our city, particularly in the communities of the Spanish State of Catalonia, the Balearic Islands, Aragon, Navarre and the Valencian Community. We will also do this in the French State, specifically in the Southern Departments.

We will be working directly with the Secretariat of the AICE for this task, with whom we will attend any regional/sectoral events where we can properly promote the Conference.











08

THE YOUTH FORUM

**Conceived  
and designed  
by young  
people**

***This has been a relevant topic around the AICE Executive Committee table.***

***It would seem counterintuitive to develop the design and proposals for the future of our cities without taking into account the generation of young people. They are the very people who will be most affected.***

This is behind our concern with creating spaces and time to allow young people to reflect, debate, and create proposals from their point of view and that could also be added to and be presented in the conclusions of the latest conferences.

Young people's view of reality from their own perspective is obviously differently. It is a view that we cannot fail to include and be very mindful of.

We believe that this is something we must do from the very start to get it right. This is why we are currently organising meetings with various groups of young people in the city. We want to formalise these meetings with the preparation of a "Youth Forum" conceived and designed by young people.

This Youth Forum will have its own work spaces, specifically in ROCA UMBERT, Arts factory. This former textile factory is now a centre for the creation, production and dissemination of cultural activities. Their warehouses will host part of the specific programme. The other part of the programme is what will be shared in the plenary sessions with the rest of the delegates. Roca Umbert is just 400m from Palau de Congressos, barely 4 minutes by foot.

This Youth Round Table will not only offer opinions and generate proposals about the Youth Forum but will also about the Conference in general.

We obviously cannot provide any more details about the work and methodologies due to being something we are just beginning to work on, as already explained above.

What we have determined is that 100 young people from the city/county will be participating. We will aim to have 50 boys and 50 girls studying or working in the following fields: Education, Culture, Humanities, Social Sciences, Arts, Urban Spaces, Architecture, Social Work.

We will also draft a proposal that can reach all the young people in the city and collaborate with those who have left the education system, for example, and promote their participation through channels that we still have to define.

One of the issues we face when it comes to getting the city's young people to participate in our Conferences are the administrative difficulties in granting grants, scholarships, etc.



We cannot yet offer an easy and plausible proposal for travel at this time. However, in terms of accommodation, we do.

Any young people from Granollers and the Vallès Oriental region who wish to participate in the Forum will have to commit to hosting another young person from another city anywhere in the world. In exchange, the young people from Granollers who do this will also be hosted by the people they offer accommodation to. So it's about what we all understand as exchange.

.....

***"I welcome you for a week in my house in Granollers. You welcome me for a week in your house, in the flat in the city where you live".***

.....







All young people, including those coming from other cities, must be training, work or be studying in the areas we have mentioned above.

The other essential requirement for everyone is to master the English language due to being the language used at the Youth Forum.

We are therefore working on the proposal to organise a “Youth Forum” involving 200 young people, 100 from Granollers and its region and 100 from the rest of the world’s cities.

This Youth Forum will also have a significant space for COLLABORATIVE CREATIVITY processes in its programme across various areas, particularly in the social and artistic areas.

There will also be dedicated mingling spaces, and others that will form part of the set of activities of the General Conference (visits, meals, etc.)





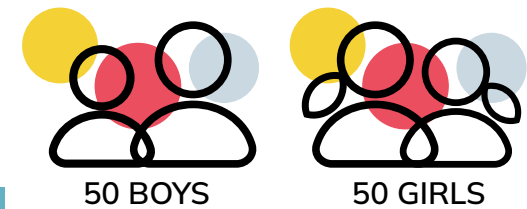
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*This Youth Forum will have its own work spaces, specifically in ROCA UMBERT, Arts factory. This former textile factory is now a centre for the creation, production and dissemination of cultural activities.*

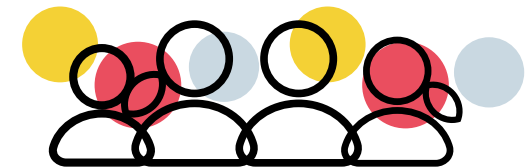
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# YOUTH FORUM 200 YOUNG PEOPLE

100 YOUNG PEOPLE  
FROM THE CITY/REGION



100 YOUNG PEOPLE  
FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD





### Other fora

We also wish to take the opportunity to organise a shared reflection with teenagers and children from the whole region.

This of course involves planning a Youth Forum and a Children's Forum as we already mentioned in chapter 3.

Actually, practically every city and town in the region has its own Council for Children and Adolescents, involving their contributions to the Conference jointly and following suitable dynamics and methodologies from their viewpoint.

Both will have a Scientific Committee responsible for the work and they will be supported by technical staff for all the tasks and activities taking place.

These fora will take place at the Museum of Natural Sciences.

All conclusions will be submitted to the Conference's Scientific Committee to be included in the final document.

Both children and teenagers will also participate in several plenary sessions of the Conference.

.....

*Young people obviously look at reality in a different way. It is a viewpoint that we cannot fail to incorporate and keep very much in mind.*

.....



## Xavi Fernández

Student of the Escola  
Municipal de Treball  
(Municipal School of Work)



*I would like my city  
to host the 2026  
International Congress  
of Educating Cities.*

*There are a number of  
reasons I am putting it  
forward:*

*1. To be able to participate with other young people from the city and other people from other generations during its preparation and organisation. This involves the design of the set of activities and the study visits that will be offered to conference participants, as well as in all the preparation work for the content proposal, which is of particular interest to me.*

*2. Because the Conference proposes to address issues that I understand are very important for the future of cities, and naturally for ours. I would like to work on their identification and above all on the generation of future proposals to provide answers.*

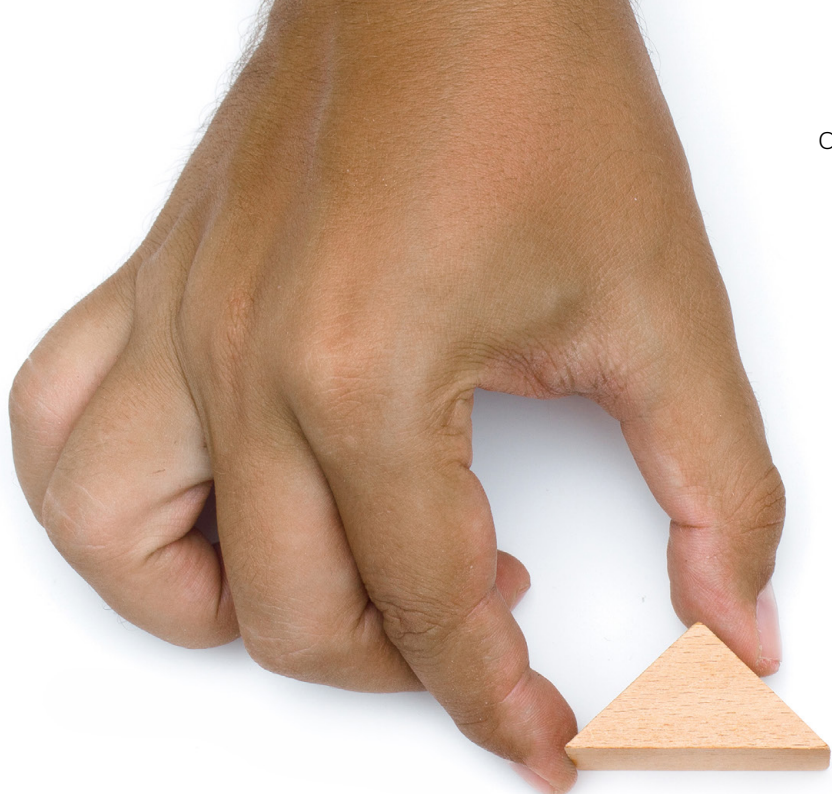
*3. And because I really like meeting people from around the globe. And I would be delighted to be able to host young people from other cities and live with them for a week participating in the Conference activities. And obviously do an exchange in their city to get to know where they live.*

*4. Because this will be unmissable, and I want to be a part of it.*

*We will have a great time. You will have a great time. Granollers always has its doors open. We are waiting to welcome you.*







09

SPACES AND FACILITIES

# A city prepared



# 09

## SPACES AND FACILITIES

*The Conference will be held in Granollers. We want the city to welcome, experience and feel it intensely. The city will be hosting guests from all over the world. And we will be preparing, adapting and adorning it to make everyone feel welcome.*

*We want “the city” to be centre stage. So much so that we are thinking of holding a “special” plenary session at Plaça de la Porxada, the hub of the city.*

The whole city will be ready to host all the planned activities.

However, before determining the specific spaces where we will hold the Conference, we would like to share a background idea: We look on the city as a space. We also believe that the central

spaces that must host the Conference, especially the Sports Hall transformed into a Congress Hall, must contain the city.

In other words, we are working on a conceptual model based on the idea of creating a city within the Palau itself that will contain:

### **Green spaces.**

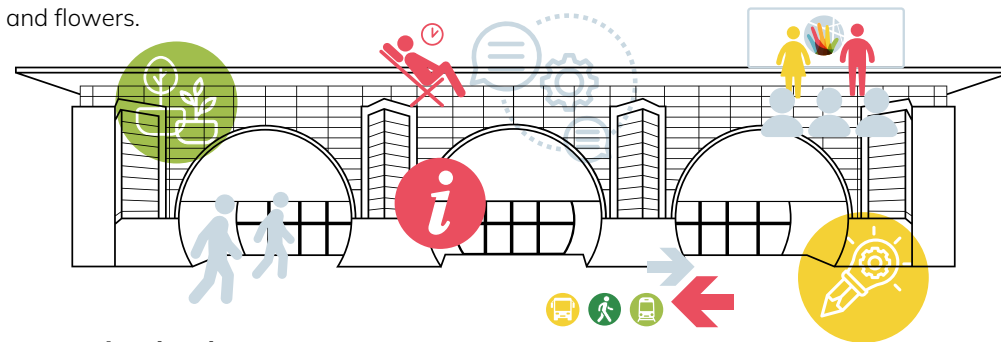
Naturalised spaces, containing trees, plants and flowers.

### **Mingling spaces.**

Containing furniture that allows you to sit, chat, take a break, have fun.

### **Work space.**

Personal and group work. And individual work spaces for the organisation of the conference.



**Recreational and walk spaces.**

**Management areas:** guidance, information, communication, etc.

**Connection spaces with several transport systems.**

**Spaces for creativity and expression.**



## The Conference Hub (Sports Centre)


This building has a useful surface area of 8.295 m<sup>2</sup>. Opened in 1991, it has hosted numerous sporting events, as well as many other activities such as concerts, fairs, children's parks, literary awards, mass gatherings of the country's choirs, political rallies, etc.





*We have enough space to host the rooms that the congress requires. And we can also, if necessary, generate external spaces (marquees, ...) that converge directly into the central space of the Conference Centre.*





We are particularly aware of the need for all work spaces to include:


 **Proper acoustics.** Necessary to be able to comfortably follow the discussions without any elements that could distort the attention they require.


 **Proper visibility.** If the distance between the speakers and certain participants requires it, we will have large screens for everyone to have a good view of what is happening. Each room will also have stages that allow the speakers to be seen comfortably from any position.


 **Comfort.** We will use comfortable seats that allow us to work and participate in the sessions with the necessary level of comfort.

 **Clear signage.** That allows us to move around the Palace and other facilities safely and quickly. This is why the signage and the information signs must be of the right size to be clearly visible. They must be clear and not cause any confusion.

 **Building a pleasant atmosphere.** Where participants feel they are somewhere that makes them feel good. Surrounded by plants, flowers and natural air fresheners.

 **Warm lighting.** That creates a welcoming atmosphere. With lots of natural light when possible as well as indirect light.

 **Rest areas** with suitable furniture for rest and discussion. With natural light.

 **Breakfast and lunch area.** That allow ease and comfort of access. This means organising several service lines to prevent any congestion. The proposed menus must consider a wide range to meet the tastes of all conference participants. It must also be suitable for a wide variety of diets. The space must also be pleasant, bright and comfortable. The tables and chairs must guarantee comfort and include natural elements that generate a pleasant atmosphere.

 **Outdoor space.** Terraces with deckchairs, umbrellas, awnings and trees to enjoy a quick rest and the May sunshine and shade. This must be a "special" mingling space. Somewhere that facilitates discussion and getting to know other participants.



.....

*We think of the city as a space.  
And at the same time we think that  
the central spaces that have to  
host the congress have to contain  
elemnts of the city.*

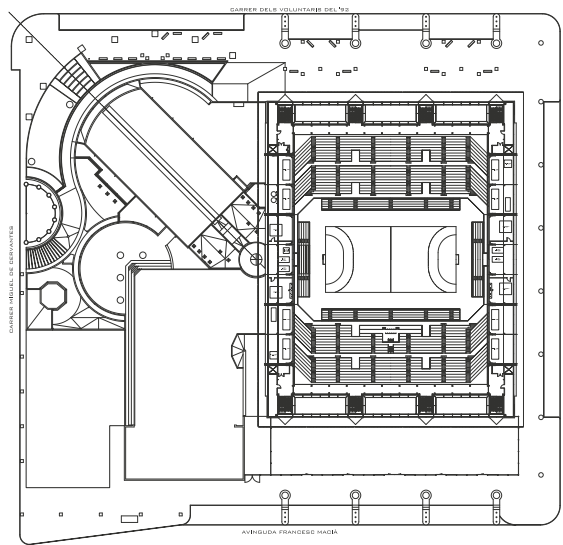
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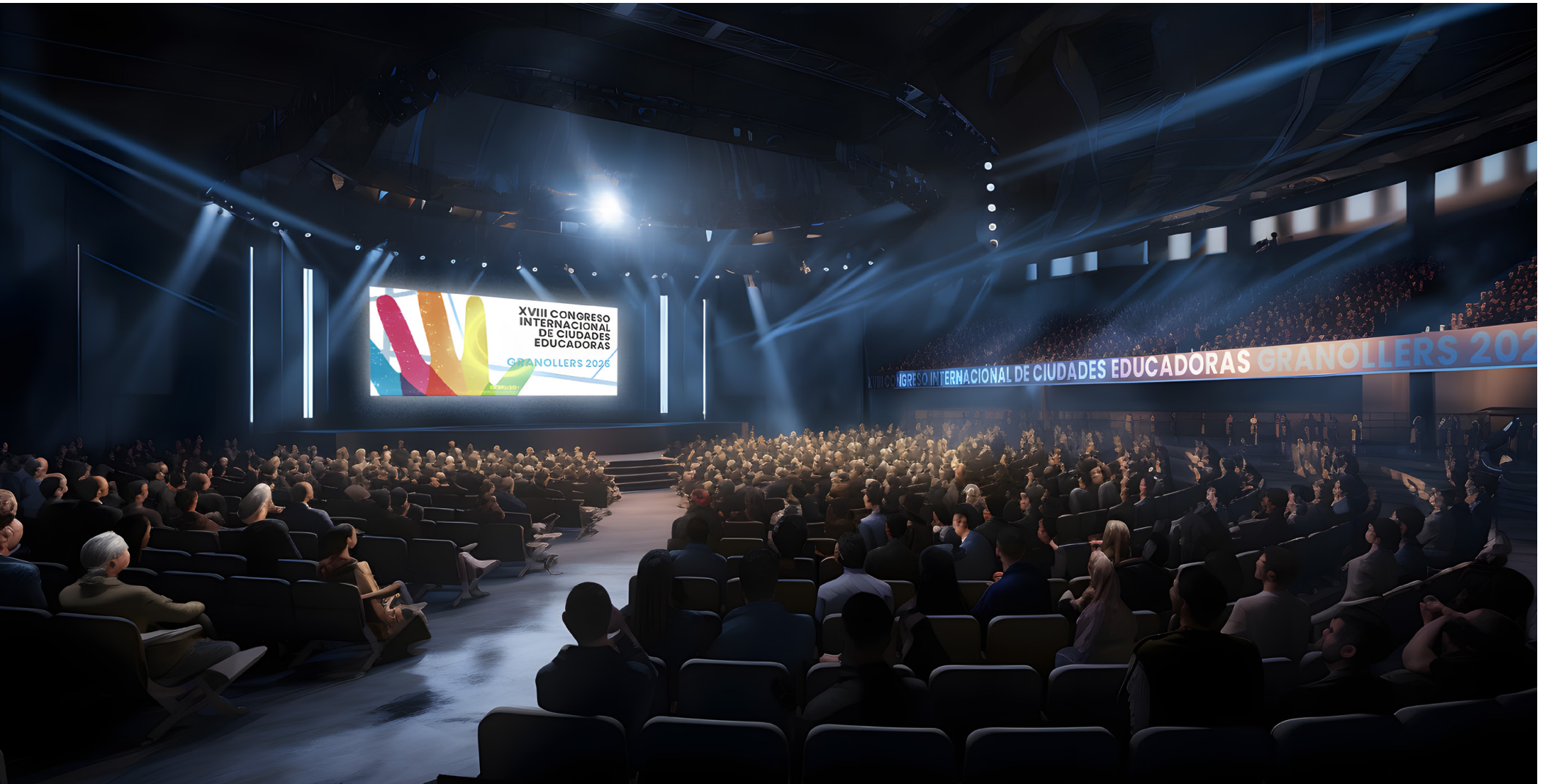














We are also considering the following as Conference spaces:

## Roca Umbert, Fàbrica de les Arts

As a space to hold the Forum of Adolescents and Young People, as well as for the Meetings of the Association Networks.



## Natural Sciences Museum

As a space to hold the Children's Forum and the Meeting of the Association with cities that are not yet members.





TESTIMONY

.....

## Jordi Romea

The head of Sports Service  
of City Hall of Granollers



*I have been responsible  
for the Palau d'Esports  
since its launch in 1991.*

*It has hosted a very  
extensive range of events.  
A particular highlight is its  
diversity, namely, how we  
have managed to host such  
a range of activities in this  
space.*

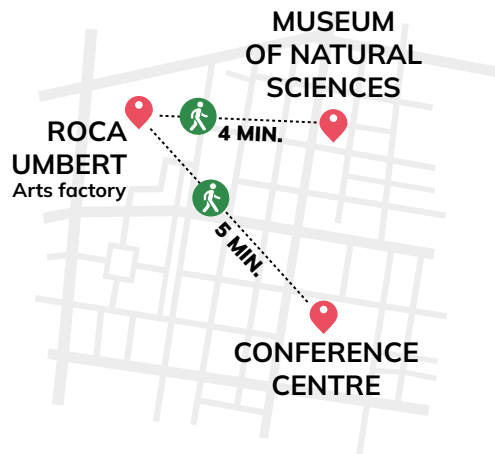
*The Palau has sufficient space to model  
the facilities and adapt them to the  
needs of each activity. Its architecture in  
this regard is very bountiful.*

*Together we were able to experience  
the excitement of concerts, the silence  
of Spiritual Days, the clamour and joy of  
sports tournaments and the anticipation  
of an “artistic performance”.*

*The Palace has been filled with song,  
children’s games, debate and speeches,  
music and exhibitions, fairs and  
celebrations, and much more.*

*And I have no doubt that with the  
required adaptations that are already  
planned the PALAU will make a  
magnificent CONFERENCE CENTRE to  
host the 18th AICE Conference.*

*I hope that this one can be added to  
the list and to give you a very deserving  
welcome.*









*The face-to-face  
Conference*

*The virtual (online)*

*The Conference  
website*



**10**

CONGRESS FORMAT

**Three formats  
to enjoy  
more time**

# 10

## CONGRESS FORMAT

*Our proposed Conference has three formats:*



**1st** *A face-to-face format*



**2nd** *A virtual format*



**3rd** *An open, live and dynamic WEB format taking place from 1 January to 31 December 2026.*



The first:

### The face-to-face Conference

We suggest holding it in May 2026.

In a world where technology allows us to connect with other people from any corner of the world and in which we belong to networks of people with whom we have never met in real life. In this hyper-connected world we believe that:



*An organisation like ours needs, more than ever, for its members to be able to meet physically, in person, and on a regular basis. That they do so while minimising the ecological footprint, and therefore, that they travel with a conscience, knowing which is the best option. But we believe that nothing can replace the experience the same things, at the same time and with other people.*



And we also value the impact these experiences have on these people when they return to their cities.

We are clearly committed to this format and will perform all the promotional campaigns to generate the desire to be there and participate.

This format will include everything required by the bases.



TESTIMONY

•••••

## Guiu Ollè

Student at the Camins de  
Les Franqueses School



*We organise fun activities for everyone in Granollers such as the Festa Major, concerts, and many things that attract people to our town from other places. It gives me great pleasure to see visitors from abroad come here to enjoy this with us.*

*I would really like to be able to be at this Conference that is being planned and partake in the activities that they wish to organise and for people from other countries to show us their way of doing things. This is something that will contribute to the betterment of all cities, Granollers and alike.*

*I look forward to seeing you here in Granollers. You will have a great time.*

## The face-to-face Conference

••••••••

*We are already working on the contents of the conferences and dialogues because we consider these elements to be absolutely central. For us they are the axis that articulates and gives meaning to the whole proposal.*

••••••••

Whenever we ask ourselves what the main motivation of participants are when deciding to attend a conference such as the one we are proposing, these are some of the answers that come up:

1. To enjoy top-class presentations and dialogues with prestigious speakers who are able to generate reflection, new proposals and new perspectives. Speakers with the ability to inspire and generate new stories. And to ensure that this generates knowledge as well as questions for attendees.
2. To learn about the experiences of other cities that we may find useful, to either reproduce

or adapt them, or understand the models on which they have been generated and use them as the basis to create our own activities and projects.

3. The relational aspect. That allows us to meet new people in the field we are interested in. And meet up with old friends and acquaintances. And to be aware of everything that arises spontaneously during the conference downtime.

And we are most likely motivated by and interested in all three of these, promoting the interest that we will try to highlight and accentuate.

••••••••

*We want you to have a memorable experience in Granollers in May 2026.*

••••••••



**The second:**

## The virtual (online)

Just like the conference we talked about already. All the live broadcasts of all the conference plenary sessions will be prepared. The design these streaming sessions is already underway, bearing in mind that Granollers has already held these types of meetings to mark the International Day of the Educating Cities in 2019 and 2023. On these two occasions we held dialogues with mayors from other cities around the world, with Ada Colau, mayor of Barcelona, Pablo Javkin, mayor of Rosario, Koldo Narbaiza, education councillor of Bilbao and the mayor of Granollers Josep Mayoral in 2019. The philosopher Daniel Innerarity, the urban planner Zaida Muixí, the rector from the National University of Rosario Franco Bartolacci, and the philosopher Eulàlia Bosch also took part in this meeting.

We held the second session in 2023, in this case involving Ana González, mayor of Gijón, Alejandra Gutiérrez, mayor of León (Mexico), Maria Silvia Bacila, councillor for education in Curitiba (Brazil) and Alba Barnusell, mayor of Granollers. Professor Tica Font from the Delàs Centre and José Moisés Herrera, director of crime prevention and social participation in León, Michele Bravos, journalist and executive director of the Aurora Institute in Curitiba and sociologist and professor at the University of Oviedo Hans Van den Broek also participated in this session.

The digital format will be available to anyone who cannot travel. These people will be able to follow the plenary sessions comfortably while also feeling part of the conference. We will set up participation channels with these participants to be able to gather both their questions as well as their contributions.



**The third:**

## The Conference website

**Is a first for us that will allow us to hold an Open Conference from 1 January to 31 December 2026 using the website.**

The Conference website is the space containing relevant information about the contents of the conference, therefore allowing anyone to access areas of knowledge, such as bibliographic references, various documents, talks in audiovisual format, relevant experiences and a space for participation to leave their opinions, generate questions and promote creative and collaborative proposals. In this regard, we will have devices for the creative generation of materials that can be displayed and presented during the process.



The website will also be a space open to suggestions of all kinds.

And one important new feature already mentioned in the previous chapters 3 and 8.



*The 200 young people working with us in the Youth Forum, 100 teenagers in the Adolescent Forum and 100 children in the Children's Forum.*



One conference and four forums.

Each forum will contribute its conclusions to the conference that will enhance the closing statement.



**A CITY ADAPTED TO THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN IS BETTER FOR EVERYONE.**

This sentence by Tonucci inspires the following headline:

**A conference that listens to the voices of children is better for everyone**

The Italian pedagogue Francesco Tonucci created his project in 1991: "The city of children". As you are well aware, this project grants a very important role to children and to their participation in civic life. Tonucci has always asked politicians to listen carefully and to pay attention to children, their youngest citizens. He believes that listening to them has an added symbolic value thanks to how it enriches democracy.

A Conference is a space for dialogue, for words. And it is also a space where we project thoughts, ideas and strategies towards the future. It seems a paradox that those who will be most affected by what we are planning do not participate. And this is because they are precisely the people with "the longest future" ahead of them.

This need is something we have already contemplated in our proposal as you have already seen. We believe that their voices must be heard, and their views, opinions and proposals shared, something we will be doing this with at least a hundred boys and girls from Granollers and the region.

This part of the Conference will be just as relevant as any other part. We will work together, using different methodologies as would be expected, related to the same challenges and the same issues as the rest of the conference.

And it goes without saying that we will be inviting Francesco Tonucci, an old friend from our city. We have no doubt that he will be happy.







**II**

CONGRESS  
SUSTAINABILITY MODEL

**More  
than a  
just plan**

# II

## CONGRESS SUSTAINABILITY MODEL

*The creation of a sustainable event requires the design, organisation and implementation of actions that minimise negative social and economic environmental impacts and instead leave a positive legacy in its host community.*

*This involves the creation of a Sustainability Plan that contains the sustainability measures to be implemented at the event, those in charge of performing the action, the implementation deadlines and the follow-up indicator at a minimum.*

*We will therefore appoint someone to be in charge of coordinating the actions and monitoring the sustainability plan.*

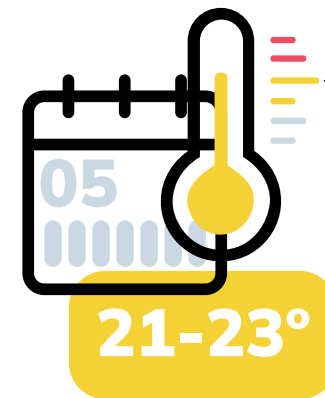
Staff (organising team, suppliers and contractors, collaborators, etc.) will also be informed about the sustainability measures that are expected to be implemented at the event, and will be asked to be involved, highlighting the relevant role they can play to identify recommendations for improvement.

We will also inform attendees, organisation staff, supplier companies, etc. about the sustainability measures implemented and inform them about how they can contribute towards making the event more sustainable.



### Selecting the space and event location

The spaces we have selected to hold the Conference took these criteria into account as well as the details. The May weather in Granollers will rule out the need for any air-condition spaces. The average temperature during the second half of May is 21-23 degrees Celsius.







## Energy efficiency. Commitment to renewable energy



### About mobility

- The Palau, ROCA UMBERT and the Museum of Natural Sciences are in very close proximity to each other and are very well connected by public transport (at just under 300 meters from urban and interurban bus stops and a train station that connects Granollers with Barcelona, Girona and France).
- Most of the accommodation in the city is located less than a 15-minute walk from the Conference venues.
- We will have spaces equipped for parking bicycles or other sustainable mobility equipment.

### We have:

- Spaces with adjustable natural light.
- Rooms with air conditioning systems separate to the rest of the building.
- Rooms sized for the expected audience, where the maximum capacity of the room is designed to host at least the expected capacity and to not exceed 15% of the maximum number of expected participants, or for the space to be modular.
- Low consumption and LED type lamps.
- Energy-efficient electronic and electrical equipment according to Energy Star, TCO or equivalent criteria; appliances, air conditioning systems and category A water heating devices.
- Independent lighting and air conditioning control systems for rooms or spaces.
- Charging points for electric vehicles (in the building itself or nearby).
- Renewable energy, in the case of the Palau that is produced on site.
- Staff in charge of the environmental management of the room who will be responsible for disconnecting the electrical devices, controlling the room's lighting and air conditioning. The air conditioning temperature ranges must be set to the time of year (maximum 21 °C in winter and minimum 26 °C in summer).



### Waste management

- We will have a selective collection system in place for the different fractions of waste generated to promote waste recovery guaranteeing the maximum possible recovery of collected materials.
- The premises will have selective collection containers for all waste generated (including the organic fraction) marked in a clear, instructional and visible manner identifying the type of waste they contain to allow attendees to separate their waste.
- We will ensure the proper ultimate management of all fractions of selectively collected waste.



### Water saving system

We will have timed automatic shut-offs or with flow regulators, saving devices in toilets and urinals, etc.), while ensuring the proper management of waste water.

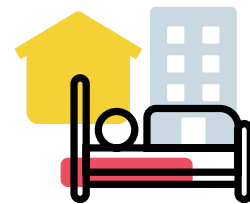


### Misc.

#### We also have the following in place:

- Resources to organise video conferences and for retransmitting presentations.
- We will have agreements in place with transport companies (e.g. taxi services) that provide the service with vehicles with an eco label or zero emissions according to the General Directorate of Traffic.
- We will request equipment that operates with rechargeable batteries for the simultaneous interpretation service. This same requirement will be extended to other services that require the use of equipment that operate with batteries.
- Decorative elements, such as the use of reusable elements will be requested (e.g. plant ornaments: live plants that can later be transplanted but no natural cut plants or flowers under any circumstances)

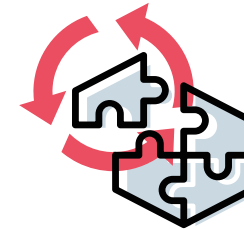




## Accommodation

### Location:

- Most of the planned accommodation is located less than 1 km from the Conference venue. We will promote commuting by foot, bicycle, etc.
- They are well connected by public transport, less than 20 minutes away from the location where the event takes place.
- The Conference organisation expects the transport of conference attendees from the hotels (round trip). We will include that fuels used must be efficient and with the smallest possible ecological footprint when hiring a bus fleet.



## Design, assembly and disassembly of the installations

- We will prioritise the rental of materials. If materials cannot be rented, we will try to use reused or recycled materials, or wood that comes from sustainably managed forests (FSC or PEFC certificate).
- We will consider options that facilitate the subsequent reuse of materials, such as modular stands that are easy to assemble and disassemble, recyclable and foldable to minimise environmental effects and transport costs.
- We will opt for rental (reusable) carpets if they are required. If this is not possible, we will ensure that they can be used at other events through the agreement with associations, entities, etc.
- We will try to use environmentally friendly materials such as recycled and recyclable plastics, or cellulose or other biodegradable materials, without any adhesives.



## Catering and restaurant services

### Product range

- We will request for products served to be local in the contract with the supplier companies.
- Fresh and seasonal fruits and vegetables.
- Food and drinks from organic farming (juices, fruit, etc.).
- Organic and fair-trade coffee.
- Seed and stone fruit grown following integrated production criteria.
- Drinks must be supplied in jugs or glass bottles, preferably ones that can be returnable. Drinks must not be supplied in single-use containers.
- We will use reusable trays, plates, glasses and cutlery. If this is not possible, they must be made with compostable materials, which must be managed as an organic fraction.
- We will use reusable tablecloths and napkins. In the event that this is not possible, they must be made from 100% recycled paper.

- Products will not be served in individual portions, giving priority to bulk purchases (such as sugar, coffee, milk, oil, etc.).
- We will ask supplier companies in the contract to purchase products with reusable, compostable packaging or with a high percentage of recycled material.
- We will selectively collect different fractions of the waste generated (at least organic matter, cooking oil, paper and cardboard, packaging, glass and waste).
- The supplier companies must have clearly marked selective collection containers that identify the type of waste they contain.
- We will perform the ultimate management of the different fractions collected selectively, through the contracted public service.

### Food waste

- We will adjust the amounts of food to the actual needs (according to the expected attendees according to registration).
- We will have a food donation programme for social organisations.
- A few days before the Conference, we will send attendees a reminder such as the one below:

“If you have registered and will not be able to attend the event, we would appreciate it if you let us know to allow us to adjust the catering and prevent any food waste.”





## Sustainable mobility

### Attention to diversity

- Establishment of agreements with associations, entities, etc. to facilitate the use of the materials at the end of the event.

### Other aspects

- We will procure a range of healthy foods, avoiding excess animal protein, saturated fats and sugary and processed products.
- We will inform attendees about the sustainability features of the catering (e.g., identification of the source of local products, intended use of leftover food, etc.).
- We will identify any allergens of the products offered. In the event that this is not possible, it will be necessary to ensure that the staff has this information.

Passenger and goods transport involves energy consumption and emissions into the atmosphere. Good Practices in the different phases of the event must be considered to reduce the ensuing impacts, taking into account all possible agents involved such as attendees, contracting services, etc.

### Measures to promote sustainable mobility

- We will provide information before and during the Conference on the sustainable means of transport available (public transport, on foot, bicycle, etc.) and on the electrical charging points at the venue of the event (availability and characteristics), if applicable.
- We will take the opportunity to publicise the sustainable means of transport available whenever we communicate and send the information about the place where the Conference will take place.

- We will ensure that travel (such as visits to facilities as part of the organisation of a conference) can take place in group or shared transport.
- We will schedule the events taking into account the availability of public transport and avoiding peak times to improve the comfort of attendees.
- We will offer incentives to encourage the use of public transport. ALL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES provided with their corresponding accreditation will be able to use it free of charge during the days of the Conference.
- We will inform participants about the benefits of using sustainable means of transport.
- We will indicate the location of public transport stops.



## Cleaning of the facilities

### Cleaning products

- We will use products that meet the requirements of some type I ecolabel (Nordic Swan, European Union Ecolabel or equivalent) (except cases justified by disinfection issues).
- We will prioritise the purchase of concentrated cleaning products and ensure the correct dosage.
- We will purchase products wholesale, preferably in returnable or easily recyclable containers.
- We will collect the waste generated at the facilities while ensuring the proper final management of the waste in accordance with the existing selective collection circuits.
- We will label and store product packaging correctly (product name, hazard pictograms, instructions for use, etc.).

### Contracting transport companies

We will request the following when hiring the corresponding services:

- For group transport to be sized to the needs of the service and for the maximum capacity of the vehicle (passenger seats) to not exceed 15% of the maximum number of expected passengers and for journeys to be planned so that the minimum possible number of journeys is made
- For the transport fleets to be low impact: vehicles with an eco label or zero emissions according to the General Directorate of Traffic and preferably with the Environmental Quality Guarantee Badge. If this is not possible, vehicles will be required to be Euro VI.
- For the companies to have certifications that guarantee commitment to the environment (Environmental Quality Assurance Badge, EMAS, ISO 14001 or equivalent) and/or evidence of the organisation's commitment to sustainability.
- For their staff to be trained in efficient driving techniques.





## Communication and promotional items

- We will have the safety data sheets for the products.
- We will train and inform staff with recommendations to ensure the proper dosage of products, the correct management of waste and the rational use of resources (water, electricity, etc.).
- We will have containment and collection protocols and materials to deal with accidental spills of products.

We will issue communications before, during and after. Saving resources and minimising the environmental impact of communication materials must be a basic and constant premise throughout all stages of the Conference.

### Obsolescence, reuse and digitisation

- We will design the materials and texts avoiding identifying the year, day number, etc. with the aim of reusing these materials in subsequent events.
- We will reuse roll ups and other materials.
- We will evaluate the option of using digital identification and communications. In the event that this is not possible, a system will be established to reuse the accreditations.

### Gifts and delivered items

Regarding promotional materials and giveaways:

- We will prioritise products with a low environmental impact, preferably manufactured by work placement companies, special work centres or social initiative cooperatives.







12

NETWORKS

**Many  
years of  
networking**

# 12

## NETWORKS

Where we can contribute our knowledge and experiences and get to know and learn from each other.

---

Where we can make commitments and access relevant proposals.

---

Where we can collaborate and build together.

---

Where we can share challenges and concerns and above all the same values that underpin the common pillars of political and technical actions.

---

Working in a network has also allowed us to discover new ways of doing things that have often formed the pillars of new projects. Working in a network has allowed us to meet other people and live in their cities “for a few days” and host them in ours.

.....

*Working as a network has allowed us to join forces, to add and sometimes, not infrequently, to multiply.*

.....

*Granollers is a city that assumes the interdependence of our world and the need of cities to connect and participate in networks and spaces where we can give and receive in an active and committed manner.*







And the following meetings took place in Granollers:

- **DECEMBER 2023** - 16th International Congress of SECEM.
- **MAIG 2022** - EVL LAB technical conferences at the Green and Circular Economy Fair in Granollers.
- **NOVEMBER 2019** - European meeting of researchers to promote a bat monitoring network.
- **JUNE 2018** - The Mayors for Peace Network holds the 2nd General Assembly for Peace.
- **MARCH 2018** - Conference: Funding opportunities for the implementation of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures.
- **DECEMBER 2017** - European Project THERNOS.
- **MARCH 2017** - Assembly of the International Association of Educating Cities.
- **OCTOBER 2016** - X General Assembly of the Spanish Cities for Climate Network.
- **OCTOBER 2016** - Conference: "The role of local governments in developing the Sustainable Development Goals after the Paris Summit".
- **OCTOBER 2014** - Meeting of Mediterranean Cities for Peace.
- **NOVEMBER 2011** - Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace.



## Mayors for Peace

This organisation is composed of 8,349 cities from 166 countries around the world. Its work focuses on three objectives:

1. A world without nuclear weapons.
2. Achieving safer and more resilient cities.
3. Promoting a culture of peace in all places.

In 1983 the mayors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki promoted the programme to promote the solidarity of the cities towards the total abolition of nuclear weapons. In 1985, the First International Conference of Mayors for Peace was held. In 1986 the Conference became a permanent organisation.

The city of Granollers is part of its Executive Committee and assumes one of its vice-presidencies. Last October, the mayoress of Granollers, Alba Barnusell, participated in the 3rd Forum of mayors and mayoresses of the United Nations held in Geneva representing Mayors for Peace.

Granollers expresses its commitment as a city that wishes to build a project for a culture of peace and historical memory. Granollers was bombed on 31 May 1938 and 25 January 1939 during the Spanish Civil War.

The Can Jonch Peace Culture Centre was created in 2008 with the aim of generating discourse and educational proposals for a culture of peace and cooperation and to promote historical memory.

The cities belonging to the Mayors for Peace will receive our special invitation to attend and participate at the 18th Congress of Educating Cities, considering that these cities can make relevant contributions in the areas of interest to us.



TESTIMONY

## Albert Camps

Former councillor of the Granollers City Council



*And all this not only for a matter of efficiency, but also, more importantly, as it needs to be part of the culture of the city council's organisation.*

*We should always ask ourselves which other cities do we work with? We in Granollers acquired this culture years ago and we are aware of the benefits it brings to the city.*



*From the first day I became councillor I understood the need to work with other cities. And this is something I have always wished to convey to my teams and my colleagues.*

*Cities, now more than ever, need shared workspaces. The challenges they have to face require a lot of knowledge in order to compare many experiences and merge so much effort.*

*We are obviously aware how this involves “extra work” in certain cases that is dedicated to others in a generous way. But that’s how “business” involves **giving** and that these efforts serve the common cause.*

*But we are also aware of know what we receive. And we **receive** a lot. Rest assured that the overall balance is always positive. And it is for everyone.*

*I am celebrating Granollers submitting its Candidacy to the 18th Congress of Educating Cities. I would very much like to be able to attend as I have done on several occasions.*

*We look forward to seeing you there.*











**13**

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

**Organising  
DNA is in  
our blood**

# 13

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

*The city of Granollers hosts several international events every year that form part of its traditional calendar of activities.*

*These are some of the most established ones that take place:*



This was first held in 1998. This year it celebrates its 25th year. It is the most important international men's and women's handball championship in Southern Europe.

It takes place during the final week of June, with the participation of **more than six thousand athletes**. Teams from **47 nationalities from five continents** participated in the Granollers Cup.

The matches are played in 22 facilities. This is a very popular tournament in international handball.



The 37th edition will take place next February 2024. This is a prestigious race that internationally renowned athletes accompanied by popular athletes participate in every year. Some of these renowned athletes who have participated in the Granollers Half Marathon include: HAILE GEBRESELASSIE , STEFANO BALDINI, SAMUEL WANJIRU, STEOHEN KIPROTICH, MATTHEW KIPKOECH, ABRAHAM KIPTUM, HAGOS GEBREHIVET.

**More than 12,000 athletes** take part in the Granollers Half Marathon. Some of them come from other countries of the world who attend thanks to the prestige of the race and its organisation.



### Panoramic



This is a festival of images that offers a range of exhibitions in various formats throughout the city. The works are by Spanish and international renowned artists. The 2024 version is now in its 8th year. This Festival has already consolidated itself on the Spanish arts scene and that has already generated links with other international festivals such as: Les Recontres d'Arles (France), one of the main photography festivals in Europe, as well as the Belgrade Photo Month, the one held in Quebec (Canada) and that of Manizales, Colombia.

### Jazz Festival



JazzGranollers first took place in 1935 with the aim of promoting jazz and improvised music in Granollers and the region. The association organises an annual jazz cycle at the Casino and the Granollers Jazz Festival.

This festival has a long history. Celebrating 52 years this 2024. Its programme always features international artists.

### Festival of International Choirs



This twice-yearly event is organised by the Friends of the Union Association, a meeting and shared work space for various children's and youth choirs from different countries around the world. Despite being recent, it has already choirs from Belgium, Italy, France, Germany, Portugal and Uganda.

This Congress was held from 5 to 7 December 2012 at Museum of Natural Sciences of Granollers. Experts in climate change and bioindicators from 20 countries around the world and several collaborators of the Granollers Museum exchanged knowledge with bat scholars from locations as diverse as Australia, the United States, Costa Rica and India during this meeting. They also worked on drafting a publication on bats and bioindicators and on possible future action programmes in this area.

Following the congress, the Museum also hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Spanish Association for the Conservation and Study of Bats on 8 and 9 December. State projects related to the conservation of chiropterans, the order of mammals to which bats belong, were presented at this conference.

### International Symposium on the Importance of Bats as Bioindicators



This congress was held from 6 to 9 December 2023, organised by the Spanish Society for the Conservation and Study of Mammals (SECEM), the Museum of Natural Sciences of Granollers and the Department of Climate Action, Food and Rural Agenda of the Generalitat [regional government] of Catalonia and taking place at the Teatre Auditori in Granollers.

### 16th International SECEM Congress





## Other events with a major media and economic impact

Within the municipal area, we have part of the Circuit de Catalunya land that hosts several international events throughout the year. Naturally, the most relevant events that attract the biggest number of people are: the MotoGP Championship and the Formula 1 Championship. Both events have a big impact on the city.

### MotoGP Championship



### Formula 1 Championship





## Granollers is a handball city

This is a sport that has given the city an identity and a sense of belonging. Their teams have always performed well in the educational sphere, and they have had several successes both in Spain and abroad competitively. BM Granollers was the first Spanish team to win a European competition.

Granollers is currently the only city in Spain that has seen its first men's and women's teams in the first division.

The city also took part in the Coaliment tournament in May, a tournament involving boys and girls from **all the schools** around the city. Every summer, the Granollers CUP

brings together more than 6,000 athletes from all over the world to the city.

We do, however, have an exceptional milestone that we share with only one other city in the world. Granollers has organised the three most important competitions in this sport in the Palau d'Esportes: the Olympic Games, the Men's World Championship and the Women's World Championship. We share this milestone with the German city of Munich.

Thanks to being part of and participating in numerous networks, we also regularly host meetings, assemblies, seminars and congresses.

Below are some of the most significant:

We hosted the BCN'92 Olympic Games handball competition in 1992.

**1992**







We organised the 1994 and 2023 SPECIAL OLYMPICS.

We hosted the Men's Handball World Championship.

**2011**

**2017**

**1994-2023**

**2013**

Executive Conference of Mayors for Peace with the presence of its President, the Mayor of Hiroshima Kazumi Matsui, the Vice-President, the Mayor of Nagasaki Tamihisa Taue and the Vice-President and Mayor of Granollers, Josep Mayoral.

we hosted the International Assembly of Educating Cities.



we organised the Women's Handball World Championship and Granollers was the venue for all stages including the semi-finals and final.



2024

2021

During the first week we have celebrated the Spain International Men's Handball Tournament with the participation of teams from: Poland, Serbia, Slovakia and Spain.



.....

*Naturally, the most important events that attract the largest crowds are the Moto GP Championship and the Formula 1 Championship. Both events have a hugely positive impact on the city.*

.....

.....

*It is very clear that national and international organisations, networks and federations have confidence in our organisational capacity. They always come back.*

.....



TESTIMONY



## Martina Capdevila

KH7 BM Granollers  
player



*They say that Granollers is the “open town”*

*And apparently this has been said for a long time. One thing that is for sure is that something is always going on in my city.*

*We are always ready for some type of celebration, championship, meeting or festival.*

*We are always organising events, many of which are very impactful and that a city of our size should not be logically able to host. However, we still manage to organise them, and we do it well. And we know this because they keep coming back.*

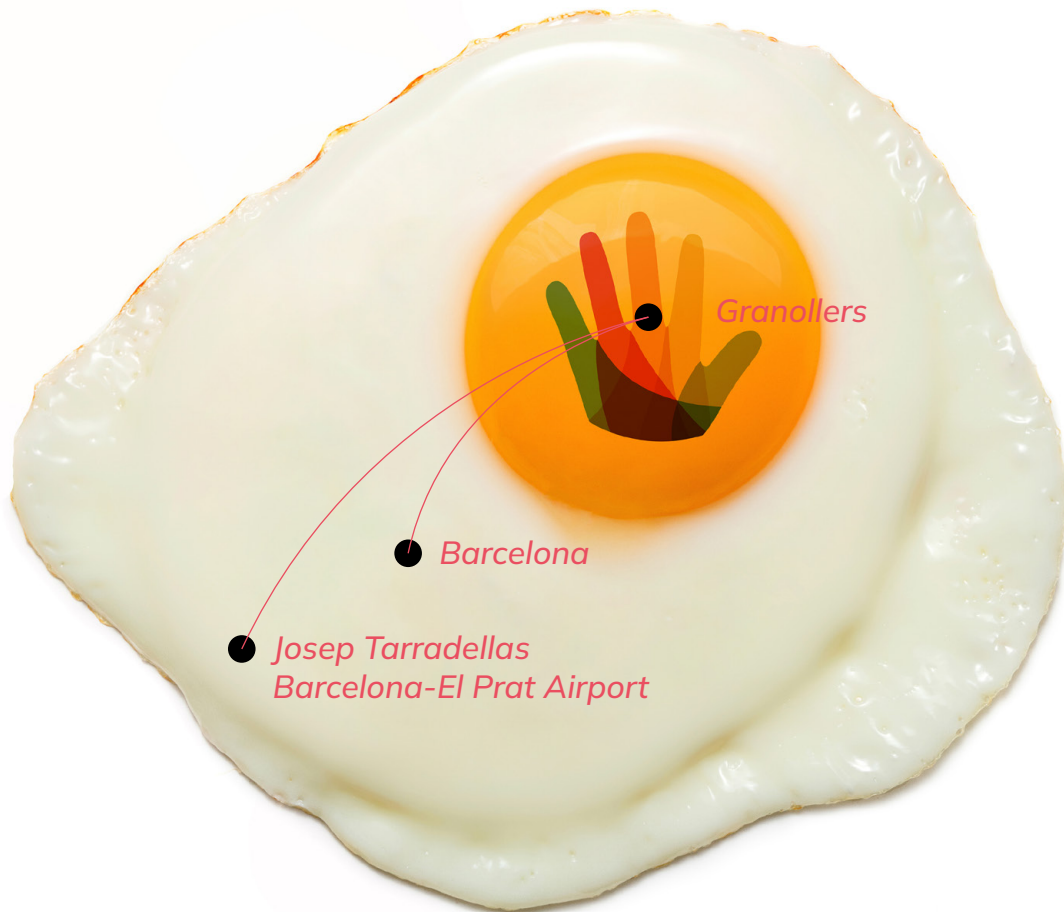
*And maybe because the responsible institutions place their trust in us. I don't believe that this is just a coincidence. I hope that you will also choose us and hold your Conference in Granollers.*

*And while you are here, you can also take the opportunity to learn about the most beautiful sport in the world: handball*









14

COMMUNICATIONS

**A well  
connected  
Congress.  
Accessible.**



## COMMUNICATIONS

***Granollers is the capital of Vallès Oriental, located in the Congost valley, 25 km from Barcelona.***

***It has been a strategic and well-connected crossroads since it was first founded.***

The Via Augusta used to pass through here, connecting Tarraco and Barcino with imperial Rome. This has always made it a particular connectivity hub, and Granollers was actually one of the first towns in the state to have a railway line built in 1854.

The AP-7 highway currently passes through Granollers, which connects the city with the rest of Spain and with Europe, the C-17 highway and several roads that generate a steady network that connects us with the rest of the cities of Catalonia and the major communication axes of the state.

We have two railway lines and three stations that connect us with Barcelona, Girona, Vic, Puigcerdà and France.



***The journey from Granollers by train to Passeig de Gràcia (BCN) takes 28 minutes.***



It also has two airports:

**EL PRAT airport (BCN) which is 35 minutes by car from Granollers.**

---

**GIRONA - Costa Brava airport 40 minutes by car.**

---

Granollers can also be reached by train from EL PRAT airport (BCN) and from GIRONA.

Meanwhile, Sants station in Barcelona is connected to Europe. This will increase considerably in the coming years. This is good news for European attendees who can avail of a wide range of rail routes with a much lower ecological footprint than traveling by plane.

The journey by train takes 35 minutes from Sants station to Granollers.

There are also buses running directly from BCN – Granollers. Some of these buses already use non-fossil fuels. A bus stop is located 3 minutes from the Palau de Congressos.

It is only a 4-minute walk from the train station to the Palau de Congressos.





Conference participants will have a bus that will pick them up from all the hotels and take them to the Palau de Congressos and return them to the hotel once the activities finish for the day.



*All congress participants, with proper accreditation, will be able to use the local urban bus network.*



The fleet of these buses is also being transformed in terms of the use of non-fossil fuels. Some of the journeys through the city can be made on foot and we will also offer the option of doing it by bicycle.



*... the connection with the international flights can be made through two airports:*

- *PRAT airport (BCN) which is 35 minutes away by car.*
- *GIRONA - Costa Brava airport is 40 minutes away by car.*











**15**

ACCOMMODATION

**Let's talk about  
comfort**

# 15

## ACCOMMODATION

*Granollers has a wide and diverse range of hotels supplemented by those offered by the municipalities in its conurbation and in the region.*

The city's booming economic activity, especially those arising from its industrial estates and commerce, have resulted in its wide range of hotels, giving rise to its "business tourism", one of the sectors that generates employment throughout the year.

And as we have mentioned in other chapters, another major driver of the occupancy of our hotels is the holding of major international events such as:

**The Formula 1 World Championship.**

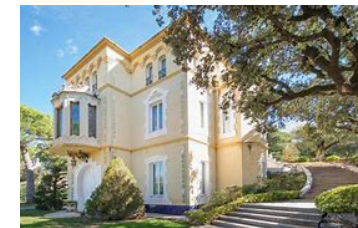
**THE Moto GP World Championship.**

**The Granollers CUP tournament.**

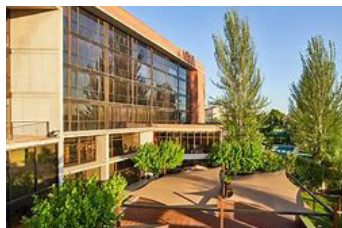
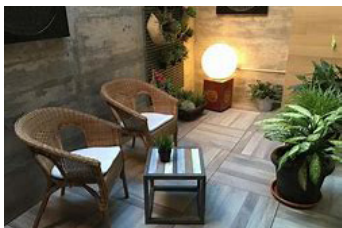
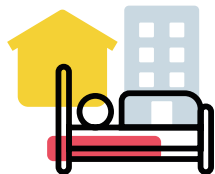
**The Half Marathon.**

**The Festa Major.**

We also host many visitors for events and activities that are organised in the city of Barcelona, especially fairs and that our hotels welcome thanks to how well the city is connected by public transport to this county town.







## Discover the abundant gastronomy on offer in Granollers

In Granollers you will taste a varied and quality cuisine, based on the combination of the most traditional Catalan cuisine with fresh touches of young, innovative and creative cuisine. “Fork lunches” are a tradition in several establishments in the city and one of the most recommended gastronomic proposals. Tradition has it that on Thursdays, market day, farmers, traders and customers would gather at the tables to close deals and chat while they filled their bellies.

MUNICIPALITY	HOTEL	HOTEL CATEGORY	NUMBER OF ROOMS	NUMBER OF BEDS
<b>Granollers</b>	Granollers City	4*	111	218
	Granollers	3*	72	134
	Fonda Europa	3*	37	72
	Iris	3*	53	81
	Holiday Inn	3*	100	200
	Ibis	3*	100	200
	Cal Gaig	3*	3 apart.	16
	Hotel H	2*	33	57
	Alpi	1*	22	29
	Aparthotel	4*	84	161
	Atenea Vallès			
		<b>Total</b>		<b>612</b>

Apart. = Apartments

MUNICIPALITY	HOTEL	HOTEL CATEGORY	NUMBER OF ROOMS	NUMBER OF BEDS
<b>Vallromanes</b>	Golden Barcelona	4*	43	84
	Mas Salagros	5*	54	108
<b>Les Franqueses</b>	B & B (Sidorme)	2*	96	192
	Verti	2*	12+4 apart.	30
<b>La Garriga</b>	Calabria	2*	7	19
	Edelweis	3*	4	8
	Gran H. Balneari	4*	155	260
	Blancafort			
<b>Montmeló</b>	Hostal Serra		7	11
	H. Montmeló	2*	30	47
<b>Montornès</b>	Can Campa	1*	14	24
<b>Vilanova del V.</b>	Augusta	4*	101	220
	Barcelona Vallès			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>511</b>	<b>1.003</b>





**Aparthotel Atenea Vallès (★★★★)**  
Granollers

**Hotel Ciutat de Granollers (★★★★)**  
Granollers

**Hotel Granollers (★★★)**  
Granollers

**Hotel Iris (★★★)**  
Granollers

**Cal Gaig Rural (★★★)**  
Granollers

**Hotel Casa Fonda Europa (★★★)**  
Granollers

**Hotel Holiday Inn Express Barcelona-Montmeló (★★★)**  
Granollers

**Hotel H (★★)**  
Granollers

**Hotel Ibis (★★)**  
Granollers

**Hotel Augusta Barcelona Vallès (★★★★)**  
Vilanova del Vallès

**Hotel Verti (★★)**  
Les Franqueses del Vallès

**Hotel B & B Barcelona-Granollers (★★)**  
Les Franqueses del Vallès

**Mas Can Calet Aparthotel (★)**  
Les Franqueses del Vallès

**Montmeló Hotel (★★)**  
Montmeló

**Mas Salagros EcoResort & SPA (★★★★★)**  
Vallromanes

**Hotel Golden Barcelona (★★★★)**  
Vallromanes

**Gran Hotel Balneario Blancafort (★★★★)**  
La Garriga

**Hotel Calàbria (★★)**  
La Garriga

**Hotel Edelweis (★★★)**  
La Garriga









**16**

BUDGET

# **Details of expenses**

# 16

## BUDGET

### Income

CONCEPT	PARTICIPANTS		
	600	700	800
<b>PARTICIPANT REGISTRATIONS</b>			
	165.000 €	189.250 €	220.750 €
<b>SPONSORSHIP COMPANIES AND FOUNDATIONS</b>			
	20.000 €	20.000 €	20.000 €
<b>SUBSIDIES FROM OTHER ADMINISTRATIONS</b>			
	150.000 €	150.000 €	150.000 €
<b>CONTRIBUTION FROM GRANOLLERS CITY COUNCIL</b>			
	91.924 €	89.624 €	84.274 €
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>426.924 €</b>	<b>448.874 €</b>	<b>475.024 €</b>

### Expenses

CONCEPT	PARTICIPANTS		
	600	700	800
<b>ADAPTATION OF SPACES</b>			
Adaptation of rooms and outdoor areas of the Conference Centre	30.000 €	30.000 €	30.000 €
Rental of furniture	10.000 €	15.000 €	20.000 €
Rental of trees and plants	10.000 €	10.000 €	10.000 €
Rental of screens and projectors	12.000 €	12.000 €	12.000 €
Signposting of spaces	6.000 €	6.000 €	6.000 €
<b>SERVICES</b>			
Registration management service	25.000 €	25.000 €	25.000 €
Information and logistics support service	4.000 €	4.500 €	5.000 €
Sound and audiovisual technical services	20.000 €	20.000 €	20.000 €
Cleaning service	3.100 €	3.100 €	3.100 €
Security service	1.600 €	1.600 €	1.600 €
Production of live broadcasting of plenary sessions	12.000 €	12.000 €	12.000 €
Photography / Video	3.000 €	3.000 €	3.000 €
<b>TRANSLATIONS</b>			
Simultaneous interpretation at all stages of the Congress	36.188 €	36.188 €	36.188 €
Translation of texts	8.000 €	8.000 €	8.000 €
Rental of booths and headsets for participants	4.500 €	5.250 €	6.000 €
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>			
Logo. Graphic applications	3.900 €	3.900 €	3.900 €
Graphic design of the programmes, badges and signage of the venues.	2.000 €	2.000 €	2.000 €
Printing	0 €	0 €	0 €
Web page	5.800 €	5.800 €	5.800 €
Social networks	1.600 €	1.600 €	1.600 €
International communication campaign	4.000 €	4.000 €	4.000 €
Promotion of Congress actions	24.000 €	24.000 €	24.000 €



CONCEPT	PARTICIPANTS		
	600	700	800
<b>CONGRESS ACTIVITIES</b>			
Scientific Committee – remuneration	7.000 €	7.000 €	7.000 €
Speakers - remuneration, accommodation and travel	10.000 €	10.000 €	10.000 €
Bus travel to visits and other social events.	6.000 €	6.000 €	6.000 €
Bus transport from hotels to the Conference Centre.	1.100 €	1.100 €	1.100 €
Publication of “abstract book”. Publication of conferences, dialogues ... of the Congress.	5.000 €	5.000 €	5.000 €
Final report of the Congress to be submitted to the Executive Committee.			
Stands	1.836 €	1.836 €	1.836 €
<b>CATERING</b>			
Breakfast coffees	29.400 €	33.600 €	42.000 €
Meals	54.000 €	63.000 €	72.000 €
Institutional dinner	15.000 €	17.500 €	20.000 €
Catering 200 young people	31.400 €	31.400 €	31.400 €
<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>			
2024 / 2025	14.200 €	14.200 €	14.200 €
2026	17.300 €	17.300 €	17.300 €
<b>ORGANISATION FEES</b>			
Congress organisation fees	3.000 €	3.000 €	3.000 €
<b>OTHER</b>			
Guests from other networks, other organisations	5.000 €	5.000 €	5.000 €
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>426.924 €</b>	<b>448.874 €</b>	<b>475.024 €</b>









17

GRANOLLERS-COZY CITY

**Welcome  
our home**



# 17

WE WOULD LIKE TO  
WELCOME YOU  
TO GRANOLLERS

*Our doors are always open.  
We are always waiting for  
someone to stop by and see us,  
who drops by to say hello.*

*Someone who comes in to  
participate in our sports,  
cultural, educational, economic  
attractions. The city of Granollers  
is a hospitable, welcoming city.*



Three cypress trees indicated the house, farmhouses or rural houses in Catalonia that could welcome travellers. There they would be welcomed, find food and a place to lay down for the night. We should plant three large cypress trees at each entrance to our city. A magnificent symbol to express who we are.

However, let us explain another metaphor of our city: the *Porxada*. The *Porxada* is our most beloved monument, which is even more symbolic. This is how the former Mayor explained the spirit to visitors of Granollers. And while pointing to it, he said:

*“This is a simple space that shelters us, that protects and shields us. An open space, without any doors. No one asks you for anything to come in. Everyone can come in and feel safe. Feel protected.*

*And inside the Porxada where something always has been and always will be going on. Believe us when we say that the concept of multipurpose space had to have been invented by someone who visited us and knew the versatility of this monument. Granollers is just like the Porxada”*



.....

*Granollers is like the Porxada ...  
An open space, without doors.  
No one asks you for an entry fee.  
Everyone can enter and feel at  
home. To feel protected .*

.....

The city has been a welcoming land for families and people who have come from all over and who have found a place to work, to grow, to live in Granollers.

And we have collectively been building the city and making it bigger and more prosperous. A city that is increasingly diverse, more varied and complex, which like all cities faces the times we are living in. And that wishes to continue to be what it set out to be from the very beginning: **a meeting space.**

It is no coincidence that many bodies, federations and associations continue choosing us to host their events. We are familiar with exactly what organising each one involves, with the work, the effort and the resources that need to be put in. And we have the strength, the passion and the teams to do this. And more than anything we are motivated by the complicity, drive and support of many citizens.

This is probably not a coincidence at all. The most important thing is for them and other new organisations to keep choosing us for their events.



.....

*Granollers, like all cities, is facing the same challenges as all cities.. And it wants to continue to be what it originally was: a meeting place.*

.....



TESTIMONY

.....

## Elena Frauca

Illustrator



*Granollers is my city and I love it here.*

*One of the things I like most about my city is the temperament of its people. This is something we are almost oblivious to as we are so used to it, something we are only aware of when people that come here from elsewhere show us and tell us how welcoming and what good hosts we are.*

*We take this for granted. We like to welcome our guests. Our door is always open.*

*And we like to celebrate. We celebrate everything.*

*We like to meet people who come from other places, get to know what they do, how they live, etc., and we like to show them who we are and explain what we do and how we do it.*

*And, even more, we really want them to enjoy themselves here and share this experience.*

*Warmly rest assured that you will feel at home in Granollers. And I hope it always remains so.*

*For now, we would love you to give it a try.*

*And we are here, waiting to greet you with open arms.*



# **Letter from the Mayor's Office**



Ajuntament de Granollers

Dear members of the AICE Executive Committee,

As the mayor of the city and on behalf of the government that I preside over and with the consensus and support of all the municipal groups belonging to the municipal corporation, I oversee all the commitments and requirements set out and required in the terms and conditions for the presentation of candidacies for the organisation of the Congress of Educating Cities in 2026.

And this is backed by:

- The work already completed, and the commitment shown by the city as part of the International Association.
- Proven experience and organisational capacity for international events.
- Because we consider that we have:
  - A content proposal with thematic axes suitable for the context that the cities around the world are experiencing. Challenges that we must share. And new transformation strategies that we need to start drafting.
  - A Scientific Committee of a high professional and intellectual calibre that is already working with us to prepare a top-class proposal.

- The spaces to be able to host the Conference sessions in a comfortable and pleasant manner.
- And the support of the cities in our conurbation, our region and the Spanish Network. As well as the country's superb cultural facilities.

But above all because we have a city that is "ready to roll up its sleeves", that drives us forward.

Let me end with a quote from Eduardo Galeano:  
*"Many small people who in many small places do many small things that can alter the face of the world."*

This is something we are convinced of, and we commit ourselves to doing it with you at the 18th AICE Conference.

We are ready. And waiting to greet you.

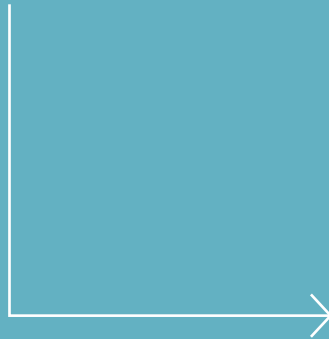
Warmest regards from Granollers,  
"with its doors open, the educating city"

**Alba Barnusell i Ortuño**

Mayor of Granollers



Certificate of the agreement  
of the city hall resolution  
E- 427/ 20024



Ajuntament de  Granollers

Àrea d'Alcaldia

pl/Porxada 6, plta.baixa - 08401 Granollers. 938426858

**Manuel Monfort Pastor, secretario general de l'Ajuntament de Granollers**

**CERTIFICO:**

**Que en fecha 17/01/2024 , la alcaldesa, Alba Barnusell Ortuño, ha dictado la Resolución núm. E-427/2024 siguiente:**

**Asunto:** Aprobar la presentación de la candidatura de la ciudad de Granollers al XVIII Congreso de Ciudades Educadoras

**Número Expediente:** 1/2024/242

**Hechos:**

1. Granollers ha sido siempre una ciudad comprometida con el Movimiento de Ciudades Educadoras desde su mismo origen. Un compromiso que se observa en su trayectoria: Granollers ya participa activamente, con la presentación de experiencias, en el primer Congreso celebrado en Barcelona en 1990.
2. En 1994, cuando se crea la Asociación Internacional, Granollers formaliza su adhesión como miembro activo y responsable. Desde ese momento Granollers ha participado activamente en congresos internacionales, encuentros estatales y también en diversas redes temáticas de la red española.
3. De 2007 a 2011 Granollers lideró la red: Ciudad Educadora y Cultura de Paz de la red española. En marzo de 2007 fuimos elegidos por la Asamblea de la Red Española (RECE) para llevar su coordinación y para ser la sede del noveno encuentro que debía celebrarse en 2009.
4. En mayo de 2008, Granollers fue elegida en el Congreso de Sao Paulo como miembro del Comité Ejecutivo. Y se ha ido renovando la confianza de esta Asamblea de forma sucesiva en los años 2012, 2016 y 2022.
5. En mayo de 2009 se organizó el IX Encuentro Estatal de la Red de ciudades españolas. Y en marzo de 2017 se acogió en Granollers la Asamblea de la Asociación, donde participaron delegados de 75 ciudades de 15 países.

Desde 2021 Granollers asume la Tesorería de la Asociación Internacional.

6. Actualmente, desde el mes de octubre de 2023, Granollers coordina la Red Temática de la red estatal española: "Educación y cultura: estrategias para la

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construcción de ciudad/comunidad y desarrollo del pensamiento crítico a la ciudadanía" de la que forman parte estas 32 ciudades: Barcelona, Valencia, Bilbao-Bilbo, Zaragoza, Avilés, Vitoria-Gasteiz, San Sebastián Donosti, Tarragona, Lérida, Girona, Quart de Poblet, Castelldefels, Xàtiva, El Prat de Llobregat, Illescas, Olot, Tomelloso, Villa-Real, Mahón, Silla, Barakaldo, Castillo de Aro-Playa de Aro-S'agaró, Viladecans, Ibi, San Cugat del Vallés, San Feliu de Llobregat, Manlleu, Jijón-Gijón, Santa Perpetua de la Mogoda, Rivas Vaciamadrid, Sant Just Desvern y Canovelles.

7. La Asociación Internacional organiza Congresos cada dos años y convoca a las ciudades miembros a presentar, si lo consideran, sus candidaturas para ser su sede. Actualmente se ha abierto la convocatoria para la celebración del Congreso en 2026.

8. Granollers ha decidido presentar la candidatura al XVIII Congreso de Ciudades Educadoras:

- Porque tiene una propuesta de tema, cuyos contenidos abordan algunos de los retos más significativos que tienen nuestras ciudades. Y porque estas preguntas, estos retos están trabajando en una red temática de la RECE (red española) que coordina y en la que participan otras 32 ciudades del estado.
- Porque la temática para el Congreso y los contenidos que los propone se han trabajado con un equipo científico formado por personas de gran valía intelectual y que a su vez están muy vinculadas al movimiento de Ciudades Educadoras.
- Porque tiene una larga trayectoria de trabajo, compromiso y responsabilidad en la Asociación, plenamente contrastada.
- Porque asume las responsabilidades que se derivan y cuenta con el apoyo de otras administraciones que comparten el proyecto, las voluntades, las ideas y también quieren compartir los recursos necesarios para hacerlo posible.

9. Se ha realizado una estimación de la viabilidad presupuestaria de este evento considerando posibles ingresos y gastos.

Se prevé poder contar con los recursos propios del Ayuntamiento de Granollers que se consignarán en el ejercicio presupuestario correspondiente, así como con los ingresos de las inscripciones de los congresistas, con la participación en los gastos de la propia Asociación Internacional y con la col colaboración que ya nos han manifestado otras administraciones.

Por lo tanto, el Ayuntamiento de Granollers tiene el compromiso de velar por la viabilidad presupuestaria del XVIII Congreso de Ciudades Educadoras

El informe técnico emitido al respecto por el Comisionado de Ciudades Educadoras, y que se incorpora al expediente, es favorable a la aprobación de esta candidatura.

Por todo lo expuesto y en uso de las atribuciones que me otorga la legislación vigente,

#### Resuelvo

**Primero.-** Manifiestar el compromiso de la ciudad de Granollers de organizar el XVIII Congreso de Ciudades Educadoras.

**Segundo.-** Aprobar la presentación de la candidatura y el compromiso de velar por la viabilidad presupuestaria del proyecto que recoge las actuaciones a realizar para organizar el XVIII Congreso de Ciudades Educadoras en 2026.

**Tercero.-** Notificar la presente resolución a la Asociación Internacional de Ciudades Educadoras.

El secretari general  
Signat digitalment per Manuel Monfort Pastor  
Data: 19/01/2024 8:56:44  
Granollers, 19/01/2024



# Attachments

## Institutions



## Cities

## Cities



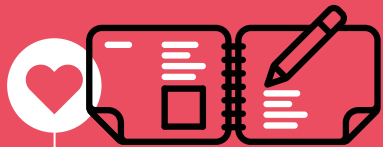


# The making of



We leave you with certain images and a few words to explain how we produced the dossier you have just read. We created the dossier just as we would like the Conference to be.

This was done:



- With a great degree of desire, and an eagerness that is contagious. With passion (and we really mean this).
- In partnership with many people. This is evidenced in the list of credits. People working along with us in different municipal services, and many citizens who have offered us ideas and suggestions, and who have happily dared to compose the images making up this document, which is still a collective dream.
- With design, photography and translation professionals who have offered us the best to be able to transform our ideas into images.

*Every time we explained the reasons that brought us here, we were met with smiles and gestures of encouragement.*

*Trust, support and encouragement were the words expressed to us by many of the collaborators, the key players of this dossier.*



*All of us who in one way or another have participated in the preparation of this dossier, are aware that we have worked on the materialisation of the proposal of a wish.*

*We are very aware of this. This has involved hours of work and a few headaches (naturally).*

*But believe me, it was all worth it.*



But long before we started the specific work of drawing up the dossier, we were involved in the following activities, including:

A first creative session in September where several colleagues from the City Council helped us formulate ideas about the meaning of the proposal, and how to showcase it.

In October we took advantage of an event planned to celebrate the International Day of Educating Cities to allow the Mayor to publicly state her intention to present her candidacy. And a bid was put out this event to participate in the Tables of Contents that we have designed with a significant number of applications made from people who were already showing us their support and trust.

In November we had meetings with the design team to start defining the dossier model, defining how each chapter could be and the elements that could be included.

The production schedule for the texts, photographs and layout will be established in December.

And production finally took place during the month of January.

**SEP**

**OCT**

**NOV**

**DEC**

**JAN**

That same month, we presented the proposal at the Spanish network meeting to coordinate the thematic network that will work on the same axes that we propose for the Conferences. We garnered the support and sympathy of the technicians and politicians present.

We held meetings with each member of the Scientific Committee in November and December. We definitively composed the Scientific Committee before Christmas.

We held meetings with many cultural facilities in our country throughout the previous quarter from September to December, with various institutions and with other administrations to share our purpose and collect ideas, proposals and suggestions.







# In Granollers we are pre







# pared to roll up our sleeves



*Now we are already working.  
In 2026 the city of Granollers  
will be ready to hold  
a memorable congress.*

*We are waiting for you.*



**Granollers**  
CIUTAT  
EDUCADORA



# Credits

## Creation and production

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Technical coordination:  
Albert Soler, Sílvia López i Puri Fenoy

Translation:  
Doina Serveis Lingüístics

Photography:  
Jordi Ribó

Creative session:  
VIGVAG Creative Solutions

Graphic design:  
Mires Estudi de Comunicació

## Scientific committee

---

Nicolàs Barbieri  
Agnès Boixader  
Ester Bonal  
Xavier Bonal  
Eulàlia Bosch  
Gemma Carbó  
Josep Castillo  
Yayo Herrero  
Joan Manel del Pozo  
Javier Martínez  
Oriol Nel-lo  
Teresa Sambola  
Angèlica Sàtiro  
Joan Subirats

## Mayors of the county

---

Juan Antonio Corchado Ponce  
Mayor of Les Franqueses del Vallès

Emilio Cordero Soria  
Mayor of Canovelles and President of  
the Consell Comarcal del Vallés Oriental  
(Vallès Oriental Regional Council)

Marta Pujol Armengol  
Mayoress of La Roca del Vallés

## Ex-mayors and ex-councillors

---

Josep Pujadas i Maspons  
Former Mayor of Granollers

Josep Mayoral i Antigas  
Former Mayor of Granollers

Conce Acedo Borrasca  
Former Councillor for Education

Pietat Sanjuan Trujillo  
Former Councillor for Education

Francesc Arolas Pou  
Former Councillor for Education



## **They collaborated**

---

Elsa Alemán Fenoy  
Samira Badi Lebrahme  
Pol Blanchart Fernández  
Josep Blanchart Santacreu  
Toni Bonet Alamillo  
Marina Bosch Dalmau  
Mercè Cabanillas Gracia  
Albert Camps Giró  
Biel Camps Hernández  
Èlia Camps Hernández  
Martina Capdevila Barbany  
Paco Castilla Saez  
Bernat Comín Ventura  
Toni Cornellas Aligué  
Paula Coronado Soriano  
Ester Cruz Casals  
Esther Dabau Ministral  
Fatou Diaby  
Marc Duque Julià  
Ouafae El Boukhari Bouagfa  
Anna Entraigas Tena  
Albert Farré Estebe  
Elena Frauca Cantó  
Lea Gallego Lemaître

Marc García Latorre  
Lucía García Martínez  
Marina Garrell Traveria  
Montse Garriga Pineda  
Antonia Gil Montes  
Ferran Gontán Ferrer  
Elisenda Gorchs Figueras  
Miquel Grau Gorchs  
Xavi Hernández Godoy  
Jordi Hernández Pérez  
Consuelo Herrera González  
Vanessa Jiménez Cano  
Francesc Xavier Jiménez García  
Jan Jiménez Parra  
Teo Jiménez Parra  
Sílvia Julià Pons  
Juan Pablo Juste Calvo  
Carles Lax González  
Rosa Llorens Vallverdú  
Antoni López Casals  
Melecio López Liria  
Montse Marín Rubio  
Lola Martí Sánchez  
Miriam Martí Sánchez

Juan José Masero Sánchez  
Carme Megías Diéguez  
Irene Mérida Vera  
Bárbara Merino Liébana  
Mariona Morales Raich  
Germà Morlans Molina  
Gabriel Moto Nsa  
Cristina Muñoz Ruiz  
Roser Obiols Ripoll  
Manel Olano Martínez  
Guiu Ollé López  
Roc Ollé López  
Carla Ollé Torrents  
Júlia Ortega Ramos  
Irene Perales Martínez  
Isidre Plaza Sánchez  
Lola Portero Trujillo  
Aina Pozo Llonch  
Aleix Raga Mérida  
Raimon Raga Murtra  
Antonio Rama García  
Sara Ramos Bouterin  
Jordi Romea Viñets  
Gerard Salvador Llorens

Pol Salvador Llorens  
Daniel Sánchez Jiménez  
Anna Segarra Aparicio  
Rosa Serra Mitjans  
Laia Serratusell Muñoz  
Roger Serratusell Muñoz  
Daniel Smith  
Ivet Solanas Ramos  
Helena Soler Martínez  
Marta Soler Martínez  
Ramón Suárez Ibáñez  
Elias Susany Chraouti  
Moussou Sylla  
David Toset Civil  
Rosa Vico Amores  
Ming Wei  
  
FONDA EUROPA  
DE GRANOLLERS:  
Tomàs Alcázar, Ezequiel Alonso,  
Marta Ruiz, Abel Almendro,  
David Estévez i Laia Vidal



## **Candidature of the city of Granollers to host**

**the XVIII  
International Congress  
of Educating Cities  
in 2026**



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
**Educating Cities**  
ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES  
**Villes Éducatrices**  
ASOCIACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE  
**Ciudades Educadoras**



Ajuntament de Granollers

Granollers,  
30th January  
2024



**Diputació  
Barcelona**