

Expressions of Democracy



Expressions of Democracy harnesses the power of art to inspire civic engagement and foster open dialogue around the values of democracy. As Barcelona closes its historic term as the first-ever European Capital of Democracy, this participatory art initiative is taking place at the Smart City Expo World Congress in November 2024.

The artistic interventions invite attendees to interact, respond, and engage. The dynamic involvement encourages visitors to think deeply about democracy and take part in discussions that break down traditional silos.

Artistic Interventions



Aldo Giannotti: Contract & Sculpture

Aldo Giannotti's two-part work asks you to take matters in your own hands in a humorous yet profound way. His drawings invite us to reclaim responsibility for the communities we live in and challenge conventional notions of equality.

Oliver Hangl: Alphabet of Democracy



Oliver Hangl asks the public to help create an Alphabet of Democracy by assigning democracy-related ideas or principles to each letter. This collaborative effort to “spell out” democracy highlights the building blocks of democratic values, much like letters that form words and meanings, reflecting the essential principles of a resilient and participatory society.

Expressions of Democracy showcases two thought-provoking projects by celebrated contemporary artists. Each work embodies democratic values through sensory, interactive, and visually striking displays, offering participants a fresh perspective on civic engagement, shared responsibility, and community resilience.

Held within the Smart City Expo World Congress, and supported by Federal Ministry for Arts, Culture, the Civil Service and Sport (BMKOES), the art bridges thematic divisions, fostering connections among participants from urban planning, tech innovation, civic activism, and public policy.