

WESTERN STATES – CATALONIA, WESTERN CITIES – BARCELONA Cities, states and artificial intelligence

6th November 2023, 16:30 – 19:00h CET

CIDOB, Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona

Organised by: CIDOB's Global Cities Programme, with the support of Barcelona City Council, and Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

While national and supranational governance structures wrestle with AI frameworks for development, cities, states, and provinces are legislating and planning for the ongoing and looming AI-enabled societal transformations. Given their respective roots on the West Coast and in Catalonia, Carnegie California and Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) are convening practitioners, policymakers, and industry to explore the implications of AI, highlighting the benefits, challenges, and strategies for leveraging this technology effectively at the city and state/provincial level. The agenda for the second meeting of the “Cities, States and Artificial Intelligence” project will revolve around two main themes: (a) the contribution of regional and local governments to ongoing efforts to regulate AI by supranational and national bodies; (b) strategies to build AI capacity and attract tech talent to ensure equitable development of AI.

16.30 – 16.40

Opening remarks

Agustí Fernández de Losada, Director and Senior Research Fellow, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB

Ian Klaus, Director, Carnegie California

Michael Donaldson, Urban Innovation Commissioner, Barcelona City Council

16.40 – 17.55

Subnational Governments in National/Transnational AI Regulations

Chaired by:

Marta Galceran-Vercher, Research Fellow, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB

Initial remarks (5' per speaker)

Michael Donaldson, Urban Innovation Commissioner, Barcelona City Council

Guillem Ramírez-Chico, Policy Advisor, Eurocities

Judith Membrives, Head of Digital Policies Advocacy, LaFede.cat and Member of Algorights

David Graham, Chief Innovation Officer, City of Carlsbad (CA)

Amy Tong, Secretary of Government Operations, Government of California

Albert Royo, Special Envoy for Technology, Innovation and Science, Delegation of the Government of Catalonia to the European Union

Guiding questions for the open discussion among participants (40')

- What role can subnational governments play in the negotiation, implementation (i.e., localization), and monitoring of national and transnational AI regulations? Relevant for the discussion here are the cases of the US Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights and the European AI Act.
- To what extent are there formal/informal mechanisms in place to encourage a subnational involvement in such national/transnational AI governance efforts?
- How may the upcoming European AI Act impact the adoption and regulation of AI at subnational levels (public sector, local industry, civil society)?

- Unlike Europe, the United States is not likely to see broad AI legislation at the federal over the next few years. What are the implications of that for subnational governments and the industry?
- To what extent existing or new global AI principles, guidelines, and other governance tools can be used to ensure AI in the public sector and the industry is pursued in an informed and trustworthy manner at the subnational level?

17.55 – 18.10 **Coffee break**

18.00 – 18:55 **Local Governments and Industry in the Global Race Towards Building AI Capacity and Attracting Tech Talent**

Chaired by: **Ian Klaus**, Director, Carnegie California

Initial remarks (5' per speaker)

Olivia Blanchard, Senior Researcher, Digital Future Society, Mobile World Capital Barcelona

Alex Aletà, Principal Engineering Manager, I+D Barcelona AI Hub, Microsoft

Stephen Caines, Chief Innovation Officer, City of San Jose (*online*)

Dawn Comer, Executive Officer, Finance and Innovation and Sr. Director, Digital Inclusion & Innovation, City of Los Angeles (*online*)

Julien Antelin, Interim Chief Data Officer, City of Los Angeles (*online*)

Ben Polski, Consultant, Carnegie California

Guiding questions for the open discussion among participants (20')

- What strategies can be pursued to ensure that cities have the right talent and capabilities to understand and execute AI opportunities?
- What reforms or investments need to be made to better facilitate talent inflows into local ecosystems?
- How can local and regional governments develop and attract talent to boost their global positioning in a competitive urban world?
- How can the public and the private sectors collaborate to ensure equitable development of AI?

18:55 – 19:00 **Session Wrap-up**

Agustí Fernández de Losada, Director and Senior Research Fellow, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB

Participants list

- **Agustí Fernández de Losada**, Director and Senior Research Fellow, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB
- **Albert Royo**, Special Envoy for Technology, Innovation and Science, Delegation of the Government of Catalonia to the European Union
- **Alex Aletà**, Principal Engineering Manager, I+D Barcelona Hub, Microsoft
- **David Graham**, Chief Innovation Officer, City of Carlsbad
- **Alexandra Vidal**, Researcher and project manager, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB
- **Amy Tong**, Secretary of Government Operations, Government of California (*online*)
- **Ben Polski**, Consultant, Carnegie California
- **Carme Colomina**, Senior Research Fellow and Editor, CIDOB
- **Daniel Santanach**, Coordinator of the AI Strategy of Catalonia, Government of Catalonia
- **Dawn Comer**, Executive Officer, Finance and Innovation and Sr. Director, Digital Inclusion & Innovation, City of Los Angeles (*online*)
- **Guillem Ramírez Chico**, Policy Advisor, Eurocities
- **Ian Klaus**, Founding Director, Carnegie California
- **Judith Membrives**, Head of Digital Policies Advocacy, LaFede.cat and Member of Algorights

- **Julien Antelin**, Interim Chief Data Officer, City of Los Angeles (*online*)
- **Kiran Jain**, Non-resident scholar, Carnegie California (*online*)
- **Leila Doty**, Privacy and AI Analyst, Information Technology Department, City of San José (*online*)
- **Marissa Jordan**, Program Manager, Carnegie California
- **Marta Galceran-Vercher**, Research Fellow, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB
- **Michael Donaldson**, Urban Innovation Commissioner, Barcelona City Council
- **Miquel Estapé**, Vice-President of Government Digital Innovation, Associació Catalana de Gestió Pública (ACGP) and Deputy CEO of Strategy and Innovation, Open Government of Catalonia Consortium
- **Octavi de la Varga**, Strategic International Projects Advisor, Diputació de Barcelona
- **Olivia Blanchard**, Senior Researcher, Digital Future Society, Mobile World Capital Barcelona
- **Ricardo Martínez**, Senior Research Fellow, Global Cities Programme, CIDOB