

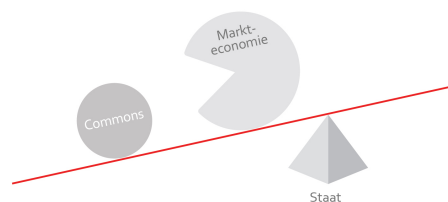
Diary Gdansk
Nathalie van Loon

To Gdansk we travelled with three participants. Introducing our new legal expert on the job: Marcel Kampers and bringing Sandra van den Berg: secretariat to the democracy programme and myself, projectcoordinator for the commons programme in Amsterdam.

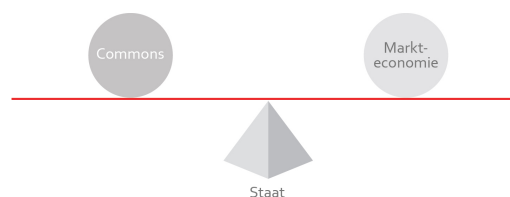
For me some take-aways are quite relevant to the Amsterdam programme:

1. The organization of urbact in Gdansk: starting with a inventory of the current legal framework. Now with our new colleague on board, we can start making progress on the legal part of the project, aiming for a concept legal framework for the commons in March.
2. Discussing the project with our colleagues, especially Ghent. Since our countries and ambitions are quite similar, it was very helpful to discuss where we come from ('big society' in stead of 'civil society') and where we want to go: more equality and equity maybe:

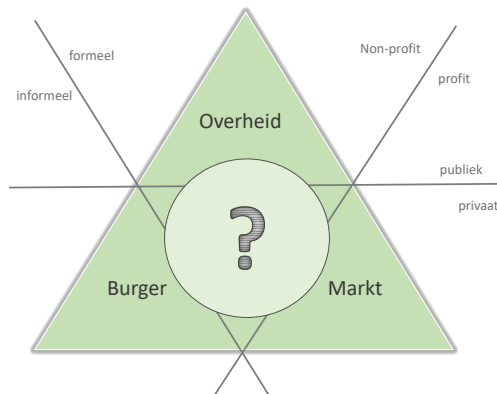
Moving from this picture that the Waag, one of our partners in Amsterdam regularly shares in presentations:



To:



Or: creating more balance between civil society, market and state, and experiencing cooperation and more democracy in the 'new playing field':



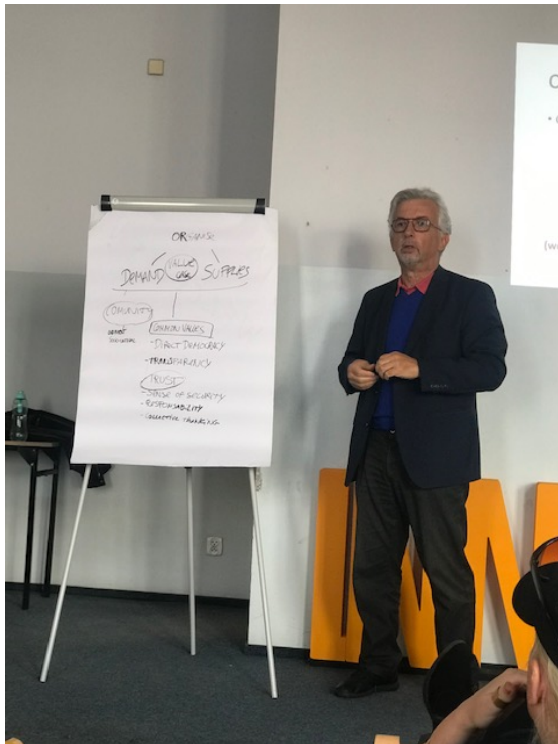
And 3. Organising the road ahead in Amsterdam: in view of this, the session with Peter was very inspiring; although it may seem 'inefficient' or 'non-productive', the discussion on values and the value-case should be one of the next steps in our city. Also to facilitate new ways of procurement, or collaboration with the commons.

And lastly: Gdansk is an amazing friendly and beautiful city, with an amazing history. But what the Urbact project shows me is not only our many 'little differences' but mostly our shared history and shared interest in building resilient communities in a resilient democracy.

Nathalie van Loon, November 4th, 2019



Visiting an old school at the edge of town, soon to be developed as part of the project.



Peter on values.

