



Common experiences in Napoli

On the 20th and 21st of September we attended the first URBACT Civic State meeting in Napoli. In this meeting, several European cities presented their projects related to the urban commons; from Barcelona we presented the Citizen Assets program of community use and management.



We met the different projects of the partners: Napoli (Italy), Gdansk (Poland), Amsterdam (Netherlands), Ghent (Belgium), Presov (Slovakia) and Iasi (Romania). Some of these projects are destined to create community spaces and facilities in empty plots. Others want to promote cooperative projects, citizen initiative from participative processes, and others, promote public heritage rehabilitation projects from stakeholders. Specifically, in Napoli case, we met two community projects located in public buildings: Asilo and exOPG.

- The Asilo is an old local centre managed by cultural and artistic entities, which voluntarily develop workshops and activities opened to the citizenship. In this case, the city council is taking care of the water and electricity supplies, but they have to regulate this situation in long-term. Compared to the Barcelona experiences, we have similar ceded buildings to neighbours entities: for example Ateneu La Flor de Maig in Poblenou or Ateneu 3 Lliris in Gràcia.
- The “exOPG” centre is an old asylum occupied by social movements in the worker neighbourhood. The social and neighbours’ movements who have occupied this centre pretend to make the services and basic necessities arrive, that the State doesn’t provide, to the people in a volunteering and communitarian way. This is an example of a communitarian action and neighbourhood empowerment, without any likely references neither Barcelona nor Spain. The exOPG case develops welcome for migrants, popular gym, theatre, bar, nursery school and doctor of proximity.

Transfer Diary 2.1_ Napoli Meeting Urbact “Civic estate”

*Albert Martín, Barcelona City Council
20/21-September 2018*