



6th Meeting of the OECD Working Party on Open Government

30-31 March 2023

Palazzo Vidoni-Caffarelli, Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, Rome, Italy

English-French interpretation available





Thursday, 30 March 2023	
Official sessions of the OECD Working Party on Open Government <i>Palazzo Vidoni-Caffarelli, Corso Vittorio Emanuele II, Rome, Italy</i> Zoom	
14:00-14:25	<p>Item 1. Welcome and opening remarks</p> <p>Item 1.a. Adoption of the Draft Annotated Agenda</p> <p>The Chair will invite the Committee to adopt the Draft Annotated Agenda of the 6th Meeting of the Working Party on Open Government (WPOG).</p> <p>Item 1.b. Approval of the Draft Summary Record</p> <p>Delegates are invited to approve the Draft Summary Record of the 5th Meeting of the Working Party on Open Government held on 12 May 2022 [GOV/PGC/OG/M(2022)1].</p> <p>Item 1.c. Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paolo Zangrillo, Minister for Public Administration, Italy• Gillian Dorner, Deputy Director (Acting), Public Governance Directorate, OECD
14:25-15:45	<p>Item 2. Implementation of the OECD Recommendation of the Council on Open Government</p> <p>The Recommendation of the Council on Open Government [OECD-LEGAL-0438] was adopted in 2017 and remains the only international legal instrument in the field of open government. The Recommendation provides a comprehensive overview of the main tenets of the governance of open government strategies and initiatives to improve their implementation and impact on citizens' lives.</p> <p>This session will discuss the first draft Monitoring Report on the Implementation of the OECD Recommendation of the Council on Open Government, which provides an overview of the implementation of the substantive provisions by Adherents thus far and its conclusions regarding the dissemination and its continued relevance. The draft reflects the results of the 2020 OECD Survey on Open Government and the 2021 OECD Perception Survey for Delegates of the OECD Working Party on Open Government. It also demonstrates the continued relevance of open</p>



	<p>government policies and practices in the current context and in the framework of the new OECD Reinforcing Democracy Initiative in particular.</p> <p>Delegates will be invited to discuss and provide feedback on the draft Report and its conclusions regarding the instrument's dissemination, its ongoing importance, and next steps to consider for its future.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alessandro Bellantoni, Head of the Open Government, Public Communication, and Civic Space Unit, OECD• Katju Holkeri, Financial Counsellor and Head of the Governance Policy Unit, Ministry of Finance, Finland
Refreshments	
16:00-17:00	<p>Item 3. Taking the next step – Towards holistic open government strategies</p> <p>The findings of the Monitoring Report on the Implementation of the OECD Recommendation of the Council on Open Government show that an increasing number of countries have started designing and implementing holistic open government strategies, as an integrated whole of government roadmap for their national open government agendas. This session will showcase the experiences of pioneering countries that are working on open government strategies aligned with the OECD framework and the new strategy of the Open Government Partnership (OGP).</p> <p>Delegates are invited to reflect on the presentation from the OECD Secretariat and the interventions by countries leading in this area and to discuss how others can move forward in advancing all-encompassing roadmaps for open government.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sabina Bellotti, Department for Public Administration, Administrative Innovation Office, Development of Competences and Communication, Italy• Barry Kong, Executive Director, Open Government, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, Canada• Paul Maassen, Chief, Country Support, Open Government Partnership
	<p>Item 4. Measuring the impact of reforms – the OECD Open, Participatory and Representative Government Index</p>



17:00-18:00	<p>Increasingly, countries' open government agendas are being coupled with measurement tools, indicators, and maturity models to monitor reform progress, assess the impact of open government initiatives, and inform policy design. To support countries in this endeavour, the OECD Secretariat is currently developing the OECD Open, Participatory and Representative Government Index which will – for the first time – measure the outputs of countries' actions and policies that aim to enhance governments' openness. The Index is a key deliverable of the OECD Reinforcing Democracy Initiative, and it aims to assess the results (“outputs”) of practices that foster the government-citizen nexus (“open government policies”).</p> <p>Delegates are invited to reflect on the presentation from the OECD Secretariat on this endeavour and consider how the use of measurement tools can move the needle towards assessing the eventual outcomes and impacts of open government reforms.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benedict Stefani, Policy Analyst, Open Government, Public Communication, and Civic Space Unit, OECD • Lucia Lacika, Advisor, Office of the Government Plenipotentiary for Civil Society Development, Slovak Republic • Otávio Moreira de Castro Neves, Director of Open Government and Transparency, Office of the Comptroller General, Brazil
Friday, 31 March 2023	
<p>Informal morning sessions organised by the OECD</p> <p><i>No French/English interpretation provided</i></p> <p>Zoom</p>	
10:00-11:00	<p>Session 1. Public communication for more inclusive policy-making</p> <p>Public communicators play a key role in “bringing citizen voices to the room” during the policy-making process, providing a holistic and realistic understanding of the intended beneficiaries of a policy – which sometimes siloed policy teams can lack. Through the regular audience insights that they gather and the listening they conduct, they can contribute to more inclusive policy-making by allowing a greater understanding of different audience groups and their concerns in a fast and continuous manner, and by collecting inputs from the “silent middle”, i.e. citizens and beneficiaries who may have valuable views but are traditionally unlikely to participate in consultations. Public communicators' ability to amplify and maximise the reach of public consultations is also an asset that can be further deployed. In addition, communicators are at the frontline of efforts to ensure the</p>



	<p>public is better informed and immune to the extent possible to mis- and disinformation and can hence contribute to consultations based on a factual and correct understanding of the issue at hand.</p> <p>This session will include a presentation of the relevant facets of the OECD analytical framework for public communication outlined in the OECD Report on Public Communication and the recently launched panorama of practices from OECD countries on accessible and inclusive public communication, as well as a discussion on the first OECD Public Communication Scan.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karine Badr, Policy Analyst, Open Government, Public Communication and Civic Space Unit, OECD• Jim Macnamara, Distinguished Professor, School of Communication, University of Technology Sydney• Lázaro Tuñón Sastre, Deputy Director for Open Government, Directorate General of Public Governance, Spain• Alberto Russo, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Department for Information and publishing, Manager of the Institutional Communication Service, Italy• United Kingdom
11:00-12:00	<p>Session 2. Ensuring complementarity between access to information and personal data protection</p> <p>The OECD Working Party on Open Government has played a significant role in promoting the importance of transparency – and access to information in particular – alongside the benefits of open government more broadly. At the same time, the growing importance of personal data in our economies, societies, and everyday lives has brought the right to protect this information to the forefront. In some cases, the increasing efforts to advance privacy protections has had unintentional repercussions on the right of access information. Emerging challenges for public administrations in taking a balanced approach to access to information and personal data protection have become increasingly evident in recent years. The growing tensions among the two rights have exacerbated the need for policy coherence between them. It is within this context that, increasingly, the institutional oversight bodies responsible for these policy areas are identifying synergies in safeguarding both interconnected rights, and in some cases, governments are centralising these areas through a single institution. While not necessary, this dual responsibility can allow institutions to recognise and exploit connections between both policy areas and ensure that personal data and privacy are defended while still enabling full access to public information.</p>



	<p>Based on current trends in the areas of ATI and privacy rights, this session will focus on exploring the linkages and tensions between access to information and personal data protection and discuss how oversight bodies can better understand them and find ways to enhance – rather than limit – both rights.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emma Cantera, Policy Analyst, Open Government, Public Communication, and Civic Space Unit, OECD • Blanca Liliana Ibarra, President Commissioner of the National Institute for Transparency, Access to Information and Personal Data Protection (INAI), Mexico • Warren Seddon, Director of FOI and Transparency, Information Commissioner's Office, United Kingdom • Kevin Gernier, Advocacy Officer, Transparency International France
<p>Official sessions of the OECD Working Party on Open Government</p> <p>Zoom</p>	
14:00-15:00	<p>Item 5. Mainstreaming citizen participation and deliberation in public decision-making</p> <p>The Luxembourg Declaration [OECD/LEGAL/0484] and the subsequent Action Plan on Enhancing Representation, Participation and Openness in Public Life highlight the importance of participatory and deliberative processes as tools to counter the trend of declining trust in institutions and to reinforce democracy. Furthermore, the importance of citizen and stakeholder participation is explicitly recognised by Provision 8 and 9 of the OECD Recommendation on Open Government. These processes are implemented in synergy and complementarity with existing representative democratic institutions, with the overall aim of providing more spaces for citizens and stakeholders to participate in policy making and service design and delivery at the local, national and supranational level.</p> <p>The Monitoring Report on the Implementation of the OECD Recommendation on Open Government sheds light on current trends regarding the laws, policies and institutions that create the enabling environment needed for participation. Moreover, data from the 2020 OECD Survey on Open Government outlines areas of opportunity to increase its impact, namely, finding the right equilibrium between the involvement of organised stakeholders and individual citizens, moving towards the mainstreaming of these practices, and harnessing the benefits of digital technologies. Given the context of the OECD Reinforcing Democracy Initiative, and increasing interest from members, the Working Party on Open Government will engage in a broader reflection on the role of citizen</p>



	<p>participation and deliberation for democracy to ensure that their approach is fit for purpose and reflects contemporary trends, opportunities and challenges.</p> <p>Delegates are invited to use this session as a platform of exchange and knowledge-sharing to present good practices in citizen participation and deliberation and offer insights from their respective country perspectives.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauricio Mejia, Policy Analyst, Open Government, Public Communication, and Civic Space Unit, OECD • Anthony Zacharzewski, President, the Democratic Society • Valeria Lübbert, Executive Secretary of the Public Integrity and Transparency Commission, Ministry General Secretariat of the Presidency, Chile • Ott Karulin, Advisor, Government Office, Estonia • Alban Praquin, Director, Open Innovation Project & Mayara Soares Faria, Project Officer, Open Government, Mission for Public Innovation, Interministerial Directorate for Public Transformation, France
15:00-16:00	<p>Item 6. Civic space protection at national levels</p> <p>To increase the visibility of the OECD's Working Party on Open Government's work on protecting and promoting civic space, related activities were drawn together and branded as the OECD Observatory of Civic Space in late 2019. In 2022, the Observatory launched the first OECD comparative report on civic space: The Protection and Promotion of Civic Space: Strengthening Alignment with International Standards and Guidance, which offers a baseline of data from 33 OECD Members and 19 non-Members and a nuanced overview of the different dimensions of civic space, with a focus on civic freedoms, media freedoms, civic space in the digital age, and the enabling environment for civil society.</p> <p>Since 2019, six countries have undergone a Civic Space Scan or similar in-depth assessment, as part of an open government review or open government scan. The six countries, which includes Finland, Portugal, Brazil, Romania, and Tunisia, are invited to share reflections and learning with the wider Working Party on this experience, including the benefits of the exercise, outcomes, challenges and steps taken since the assessment.</p> <p>Delegates are invited to reflect on the findings of the Global Report on Civic Space, respond to the interventions from countries who have undergone civic space scans, and consider how a similar assessment could be advantageous in their own country context.</p> <p>Speakers:</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Claire Mc Evoy, Civic Space Lead, Open Government, Public Communication, and Civic Space Unit, OECD• Jorge Lagarto, Innovation adviser and content designer, LabX, Portugal• Laurențiu Mazilu, Advisor, Open Government Service, General Secretariat of the Government, Romania• Nizar Ben Sghaier, Director-General for relations with constitutional institutions, Presidency of Government, Tunisia
16:00-16:15	<p>Item 7. AOB and closing remarks</p> <p>The OECD Secretariat and the Chair of the Working Party will present the next steps for each area of work, address AOB, and provide the closing remarks of the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alessandro Bellantoni, Head of the Open Government, Public Communication, and Civic Space Unit, OECD• Katju Holkeri, Financial Counsellor and Head of the Governance Policy Unit, Ministry of Finance, Finland, and Chair of the OECD Working Party on Open Government
End of the Meeting	