



Let's win back Barcelona!

From our towns and cities across the world, we sign this manifesto to support Ada Colau and the Barcelona en Comú citizen initiative in the Barcelona municipal elections. Today, as many times before in its history, Barcelona has become one of the frontlines in the battle for the democratic soul of Europe. A victory for Barcelona en Comú could serve as an inspiration and a model for citizen movements in the rest of Europe and beyond. The citizens of Barcelona have the opportunity to make their city the capital of a democratic revolution that people across the world are yearning for. Let's win back our cities, let's win back Barcelona on May 24.

We want to express our support, as citizens, for Barcelona en Comú and its head of list, Ada Colau, who we want to be Mayor of Barcelona. We want to win back Barcelona with and for the people.

We give our support aware of the city's situation. Barcelona is a city that has undergone positive changes over many years, fruit of the struggles of the women and men of its neighbourhoods. However, we've seen poverty and inequalities between citizens rise significantly, unemployment wreak havoc, especially for the young and the elderly, and men and women being denied basic rights like housing, water and electricity.

Barcelona is a global city in danger of converting its social, cultural, historical and architectural heritage into a showroom at the service of neoliberal policies. This is undermining life and social harmony in the city. Today, the right to the city of the women and men of Barcelona is at risk.

We want to feel proud of living in Barcelona again. We want Barcelona to be an international model of a fair and caring city, a healthy city with less pollution, in which everyone can make a life for themselves.

And we want to do this collectively, so that citizens of the city are the protagonists in the construction of public policies, and words like 'participation' and 'transparency' mean something again. We want a city council that governs by obeying its citizens.

We want a city government that acts as the trigger for the democratic change that many women and men are calling for, and that sets an example in tackling corruption. We want a democratic Barcelona that protects people from powerful interests and lobbies which want to turn the city into a business. We want a city that doesn't privatize public services like the education of our children, or act as an accomplice to cuts to public healthcare.

Winning back Barcelona will only be possible with the involvement of lots of people. That's why we're taking this step. We want people to vote with pride for a citizen candidature that defends their rights and freedoms. We don't want a city government that has been chosen by less than 50% of the population. We call for ballot boxes to be filled with votes so that Barcelona becomes the capital of the change we want.

For these reasons we support Barcelona en Comú, Ada Colau for Mayor, and the rest of her team.

Together we'll win back Barcelona