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# ITU

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### LUNCH BREAK AND DEMO STAGE

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-- and the American endeavors, she said once the data we'll decide in the end whether a democracy and economic prosperity can be combined. So here we are facing also some substantial questions around the future of our democracy, the future of civil liberties and maybe a new social pact for the digital society that we need to shape as a society all together. So this is the kind of data extractivism that a lot of -- I mean economies and academics are looking at as the main business model so accepting data not only from things but also from people, in particular personal data. And then of course a lot of concerns about surveillance, there is an economy from the Harvard business school, she talks about surveillance capitalism as one of the forms of functioning of the current economy. Of course, we feel a lot of nontrust from citizen, distrust on this kind of models. If we want to make sure that AI and data will serve the common good, we need trust. So we need to reestablish trust between bubble institutions companies and citizens to use this technology to enhance the public good. I love the idea of ethics of the good life. That's where we need to go.

Also, there's been a debate about concerns about black box algorithms and some consensus that we need to end algorithms for example because AI and Machine Learning are the core -- the general purpose technology of our age and governments are investing a lot in artificial intelligence. We see the China policy on AI and now the European commission has announced some strong 20 billion Euros and new centers that work on artificial intelligence. We see investments in this area. We need to make sure that ethics and algorithms go hand to hand and we can make sure that we stop with that black boxes.

Of course, a lot of things can go wrong. Here I will make one example that everybody has heard in the last days around how can this data be manipulated for political purpose of elections. But of course I could make other examples in healthcare or in transportation, autonomous driving and so on. This touches the very core of our democracy.

How can we democratize data and AI and we hear more and more the

battle of supremacy with U.S. on one side and China on the other side on digital and AI. We can open up spaces on the supremacy battle and think about new models. I want to spend my ten minutes about what we are doing practical in Barcelona. So cities have a very important role, first of all, because they can create public value. We can build smart, equitable cities and we can have citizens from. I am Italian. I've been in Barcelona for two years. I was nominated by the mayor of Barcelona and she's the mayor of Barcelona and defined by the guardian one of the most radical mayors in the world. She used to be an activist for housing rights and rights to the city. Anousheh's in government trying to put forward this kind of policy for many for the majority of the population. She asked me to come to Barcelona to rethink technology. Starting from societal and needs. This is an approach we are following which I think can also guide us when we think about AI and we're following with this SmartCity which was mentioned by all the speakers before that the technology push approaches don't work. We can't start from the AI connectivity, the data, the mass computation only. We need to start seeing what are our goals and what are our problems and what are the citizen needs. For instance, work being on affordable housing, s healthcare, sustainable mobility, energy transition, create more public space, fight climate change, which of course are all the goals we also have for the UN goals and these are the basis. Then we can start asking, why do we need technology? How can technology really help us to achieve this kind of goals and this kind of problems and how can we govern technology in a way that can help us to get there? Otherwise, we are ending in technological solutionism and we solve technology problems, we won't solve the societal problems that we really need to solve.

We're also doing a lot of work for collective intelligence for democracy. The for for us how we want to reestablish trust and work together with citizens in a way that they can be part of the policy making solutions. We're using a lot of tools and participantry platform which is combined with offline consultation with citizens. We have a department that takes care of citizens' rights and in Barcelona over 72% of the policy actions that we run today in government were suggested by citizen themselves. We're running a process which actually I will tell you later what we're doing with AI and data on this, but definitely citizen engagement and collective intelligence into policymaking that is very opposite of manipulating data on social networks can be really the basic. Future and revitalizing democracy and policy in this way.

Of course, access to data and making data available as a public good can help us to fight for transparency. For instance, we are publishing we're -- how the salaries are spent in the public sector. We use visualization to explain to citizens how this is happening. So they can see exactly we can create more transparency. We have a project which is very experimental which is an encrypted infrastructure that allow everybody from the city but also citizens, so public officials and citizens to denounce cases of corruption. It's anonymous. They can keep control of their identity so they don't need to disclose their identity.

As part of this digital transformation, at the core of it there are standards for cities. We are coming together. I know you have an activity so we're looking to be part of that, coming together with cities to make sure that we have this ethical digital standards when we digitize public administration. At the core of it there are some important principle like open standard, open and secure hardware and AI chips which is going to be very much also at the core of what we talk about to make sure AI is for public good. We have in Barcelona which has ethical responsible data and AI strategy at its very core. We have principles now part of the GDPR, the new regulation for data protection right now this month which is about data sovereignty, how can citizens control data, data portability and data trust and making sure we have privacy and security by design when we develop it. We create accountable technology. This is a step we're now looking at from a normative standpoint. We're collaborating with the city of New York on this. I'm sure there are other cities working on the same topic which is how we can make we can have algorithmic assessment in the way government runs, automated digital system and assure accountability. This is a process we will require for disciplinary and we make sure we make enormous that are flexible enough not to stifle innovation but make sure it moves together with our values and our needs.

We have an important project that's experimenting giving back digital rights to citizens and giving control to citizens, this is called DECODE, a flagship project that Barcelona is coordinating and funded by the European commission and how we can use disputed digitals like the blockchain to make sure we give back control to citizens. We want to enter a paradigm where data is a common resource and infrastructure on top of which everyone can build new services. We want data halledor handling an usage to be transparent and privacy friendly. We want to create rules that are set by common and force governance about the access of data and then experimenting with political new legal regime of data ownership. That is the data commons. And the social rights to data.

How are we doing that? DECODE is mixing based cryptography. Is it open in the public domain. We want to decide what data I can keep private, what data do I want to share with whom and on what terms so they have. How this data can become a common good. We have an architecture block chain and then privacy through language that allow us to have data entitlements and decide what are the rights to access data.

So this is about regaining data sovereignty over our data and making sure we have common agreements on how this data can be used for the public good. And we are looking very much at standardization in this area because it's going to be very interesting then to collaborate and create scale, not only across cities but also with governments and other organizations working on this kind of projects.

So some of the application of what we are doing with this centralized data ownership is data driven participated democracy. As I was saying before, we have a big platform where they can propose budgets and we

have a big participantry budgets across Europe and city citizens can be assure they have enough privacy and control of data but also that they can share data with people that have similar interests of them and amplify their social impact. Together we're working on a project that is mixing AI and VR on this kind of platform to give more power to the citizens in the way that influence the policymaking of the city.

We have another very interesting pilot running now at scale at city scale which is about crowd sourcing, IUT data for citizen sensing. This is about working together with group of citizens that want to fight against noise pollution in the city and air quality. They're using open hardware together with data in a privacy preserving way. Through the DECODE project. You can day operation to give people the context on how they can collectively organize to solve a problem. This kind of action is not only about technology, the technology allows citizens to measure data, interpret data, have an understanding of the contextual situation they're in to then come together with other citizen collectively and have collective action where the city can react and help them to solve the problem.

For instance, we have a neighborhood in Barcelona where the citizens were fighting because of noise pollution. Now there is a park in front of the neighborhood. So we have more green space and we are trying to collectively solve the problem. You can really see the power of data and the power of AI just in a situation that really give communal rights to data but give people the capacity to come together to solve a problem.

This two projects also have a data common dashboard which is Barcelona now it an assistant for citizens. We are working on mixing public data which is the data that's out there that is owned by the government. Sensor data so all the IoT Internet of things data to give personalized recommendation to citizens about what is relevant to them and how they can be active, how we can foster engagement in a city. This is an interesting experiment we're running and it's about creating these engagement process for the citizens in their own city.

Together with the city of Amsterdam, we're also looking at alternative to shorten rental platforms. Amsterdam was among the cities that urged Brussels to take action on data which is the short term rental platform. The problem was how the prices of the houses were increasing in cities and the neighbors couldn't afford anymore to live in their own houses. So now the city of Amsterdam is working on a city digital registry which is a platform. Give back capacity to the public administration to know how we can regulate this platform, for instance making sure you can only rent your house for 60 days per year and making sure that the companies are paying taxes locally, all this kind of check and balances we can do if we have access to data and metadata which is about this kind of algorithmic accountability and transparency of platforms. This is a project that is now been experimented in Amsterdam.

When you see what we're building is a data ecosystem that has data commons at the core with ethical digital standards which enable citizens themselves to understand what data they can keep private and what they want to share and on what terms and working with all the stakeholders in the cities, in particular the small companies, the start-ups which have all sorts of ideas, and the talent to help us on top of the data commons understand what we can do with this data. So use Machine Learning, artificial intelligence and new type of services that we need in the city about transportation, about healthcare, about education, and so on. So it is about building this new partnerships in data commons so they can grow and scale.

Obviously if we don't have -- if we don't think about the kind of learning that we need, the kind of skill that people need, the type of empowerment in the age of AI and automation, we cannot do any of this. Cities are investing in public fab labs where kids and gender empowerments so lots of young girls that can learn about digital manufacturing, programming, learn about artificial intelligence, measuring data and they start from early on in schools. So we can really think about the future of employment and the future of education to make sure that everybody has the same opportunity to be active in the future.

And finally, we need good partnerships and a good ecosystem locally. So we have the fortune in Barcelona to have the supercomputing center which is one of the many great institutions that we have there with scientists, data scientists with large scale computation and we're working together with them to understand how that capacity and that skill set they have but also the computation capacity can be used to solve day-to-day urban challenges like gentrification and sustainable mobility and better healthcare.

And my final remark is that in order to make sure that we can use really technology for a better society and better future, we have to do a people sent Rick framework to foster in the right direction. Europe, I'm sure can also be part of the solution can lead the way.

As you know, we're going to have the GDPR coming into play now. I really bereave that the regulatory framework such as the GDPR can become a global standard in this space. We can mandate and make sure that public institutions work together to make sure that data and data accountability work together and we can run real experiments to make sure this is done in the right way. We can create all together new rules against market dominance of tech platforms and of course there is a lot of debate now at the top policy level about fair competition, the question of antitrust, the question of a possible digital tax, and the question of trade regulation. These are all very important issues.

We can put more public funding and private funding in privacy enhancing infrastructure to ensure that we have full data sovereignty of citizens. And then, of course the AI is the industry of the future. We need a strong vision for developing this new industry so it can serve society.

So I think that our competitive advantage is really rights-based democratic framework, environmental, gender standard at the core. We need all this alliance. We need to work all together with all these people have to a structural and ambitious intervention for the future so that we can make sure that really artificial intelligence and data can serve the purpose of the public good collectively. Thank you very much.

### (Applause)

>> Thank you, Francesca. I think we can agree that our three story tellers did a great job to frame some of the issues and get us all on the same page on day one of this event. We shouldn't forget that we have a fourth and final storyteller coming. So at 5:30. We have Michael Muller, director general of the United Nations here sharing his views about the SDGs and how AI is a human issue and not a technical issue. I would like to invite you to lunch now in the exhibit area. We're back here at 1:45 sharp. We can have a final round of applause for Aimee, Maurizio, and Francesca.

### (Applause)

(Lunch break).

>> Hello. This is an audio test for the captioning. Thank you, captioning.