

## **Speaking Notes - Luca Ricci PACIFICI, Member of the Regional Youth Council of the Region of Marche, Italy**

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The creation of this institutional body has a significant importance, certainly an important signal to young people who want to actively participate in the democratic life of our main territory.

The consultation gathers representatives from the political, institutional, work and school, managing to create a group of young people in their diversity are a bridge between the regional institution and the different sectors of citizenship. We play a role of information and representation, we have the right to view administrative decisions and acts by providing a non-binding opinion.

In this way, the Marche Region has made a small but very significant step, open up to the idea of involving others in decision-making.

The Marche region has fielded two important notes their own projects to increase democratic participation through the use of digital tools, on the one hand we have the project open administration and on the other side of a portal to simplify reporting. These two projects allow you to improve accessibility to information on the organization and public administration activities.

This opening of the region I think is essential in view of the future and evolution of the democratic process but there is still some way to go.

Our country for e-democracy is still far from the most developed countries of Europe, even within Italy the level of development of digital democracy is not uniform, some regions in fact are the leader and others are far behind. My work group has paid much attention to this gap and is working in this direction.

The role of the council to which I belong will also be to help the Marche Region in bridging the digital divide is still very strong, we have to point out that the advent and popularity of social helped significantly to increase accessibility to the network and today in fact, we speak of digital divide not in respect of access to the network, but we refer to the use made of it.

In the last year in my country we have seen a renewed willingness to political participation, the use of social and digital have given voice to thousands of citizens, must now think about this phenomenon and create the appropriate tools to encourage popular participation.

We think digital identity, need systems that can ensure security and user certification, we think the creation of platforms that can enable citizens to participate in decision making at all levels, from the state, through the regional and finally coming to the city and local level.

The model of representative democracy needs to be implemented, the idea that is enough a few elected representatives, perhaps through undemocratic electoral laws, is now a phenomenon destined to go down, it is already the past.

Fortunately in Italy the way for e-democracy has already been created, we have the example of a political force that in a few years, almost exclusively using the network has collected millions of voters, now the same political force through a digital platform has given the opportunity for all citizens to write laws.

Starting from the ideas and needs, citizens can make proposals that are translated into legislative proposals by a team, the same proposals can then vote from the rest of the users and get into parliament.

The road therefore has already been marked, you have to have the courage to follow it and to invest in this democratic superstructure.