



European Week of
Regions and Cities

Brussels

10-13 October 2016

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Danube Civil Society Forum

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Danube Strategy
Civil Society
Forum

DATA FOR DEMOCRACY

- Platform for civil society dialogue and networking in the Danube basin under the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)
- Founding GA in summer 2011
- 26 active members (networks) from AT, BG, DE, HR, RO, RS, UA, SI and GB
- 4 WG
 - **WG 4: Strengthening the Danube Region**



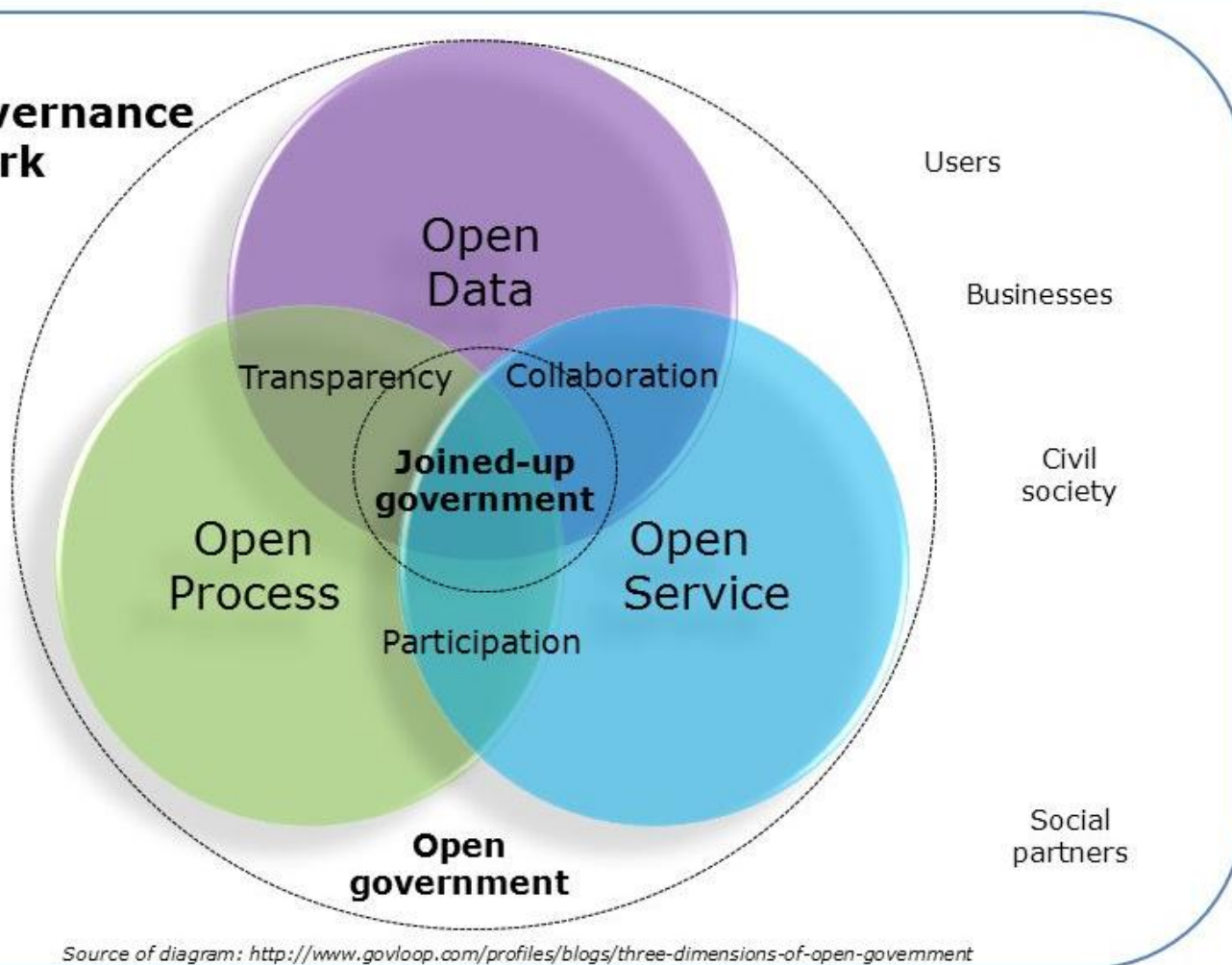
- “Civil society is dynamic and essential for the preservation of democracy” (Leopoldo Martinez, CDDA)
- Roles (some of them)
 - **Watchdog** (Transparency and accountability)
 - **Advocate** (Raising awareness of social issues and advocating the change)
 - **Service Provider** (Education, health, disaster management,...)
 - **Expert** (Bringing knowledge and expertise to shape policies and strategies)
 - **Capacity builder** (Providing training and capacity building)
 - **Representative** (Voice of marginalised and under-represented)
 - **Citizenship champion** (Encouraging citizens participation)



Open governance framework

Citizens

Private
sector



Users

Businesses

Civil
society

Social
partners

**Open
government**

Source of diagram: <http://www.govloop.com/profiles/blogs/three-dimensions-of-open-government>

'Vision for Public Services':

<https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/ict-enabled-public-sector-innovation-through-open-government>



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- Open data and Open Governance Framework as a starting point for CSO participation
- Legal and institutional framework varies throughout EUSDR countries
- Capacity building and networking are crucial
- Instead of confrontation collaboration between CSO and governmental structures on all levels should be established
- CSO should become important and respectful stakeholder of OPEN GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK
- Participation of CSO in the processes of OGF should be monitored and assessed
- Small grants supporting the activities of CSO are needed



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**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION!**

ANY QUESTIONS?

**NO? GREAT!
BYE.**