"A question of wanting to share": looking for innovative experiences of participatory museology in Europe.

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The SOMUS project (Society in the Museum) began in 2014 with the objective of identifying innovative forms of cultural participation from local populations with the museums they have at hand. Subjacent to this objective was the need to acknowledge the social and culturally stimulating work that some of the local museums have been pursuing in Europe, as well as the sharing of good practices that allow for the repositioning of these museums on the path of a cultural and ecological transition.

Henceforth, four museums located in Portugal, Spain, Finland and Sweden, whose profiles complement and differ from each other, are working on the tools, the objectives and the sense that bring life to their participative reasoning.

This exercise in introspective methodology translates into the construction of collective management formulas, which not only allows each museum insight to knowledge and sharing of its participatory museology secrets, but also to understand the formulas of other partners in the group.

Its power over the democratization of culture, its interaction networks, its social porosity or its means of putting citizenship into practice, are based on the integration of difference, on the development of a positive sense of place, and on a relationship of equilibrium and learning from nature, translating into the construction of a sustainable museology.

For this talk, we will present some of the results obtained to this date. These are a reflection of the sharing of knowledges and experiences between the scientific universe and citizen science, which is fabricated on a daily basis within these museums. They are also a reflection of the fluxes, refluxes and counter-refluxes of the world we inhabit. Simultaneously, these are also experiments in the cultural strengthening of our societies.

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