



PROTOCOL OF AGREEMENT
AMONGST
EUTOPIAN
OSSERVATORIO EUROPEO PER L'INNOVAZIONE DEMOCRATICA
OPEN CONTRACTING PARTNERSHIP
SYNAPTA

This Protocol sets forth the terms and conditions of collaboration amongst Eutopian – Osservatorio europeo sull'innovazione democratica (henceforth “Eutopian”), established in Rome, Open Contracting Partnership (henceforth “OCP”), established in Washington, D.C., and Synapta S.R.L. (henceforth “Synapta”), established in Turin.

Background

Eutopian is an independent not-for-profit observatory on democratic innovation, meaning the latter both as innovation within a democratic context and as innovation of democracy, and recognising that the two aspects are one and the same. Eutopian fosters the development of a healthy political debate around foundational areas of the information age whilst staying strictly non-partisan.

OCP is an independent not-for-profit project of the Fund for the City of New York working in over 30 countries, driving improved value for money, public integrity, and service delivery by shifting public contracting from closed processes and masses of paperwork to digital services that are fair, efficient, and 'open-by-design'.

Synapta is an Italian innovative start-up founded as a spin-off of the Nexa Center for Internet & Society at Politecnico di Torino. Synapta is focused on software development for data integration and data analysis projects. At the core of Synapta's activities there is ContrattiPubblici.org, a search engine and business intelligence tool based on a knowledge graph of more than 50 Million public contracts (and other public procurement related pieces of information).

All parties agree that transparency, openness, and efficiency in the public procurement sector is a key factor for economic growth, trust, and competitiveness on a global level.

Goals

The parties express their will to set up a collaboration relationship aimed at making public contracting fair and effective through the use of open data formats, processes, standards, innovation models.

Commitments undertaken by the parties

In order to meet the above objectives Eutopian, OCP and Synapta will collaborate in the following activities:

- **An Open Contracting Assessment**, in order to analyse the enabling environment and assess current levels of transparency and accountability in the Italian public procurement complaint system;
- **Systems and data mapping**, to provide insight into ways that OCDS could help integrate existing data;
- **Publication of existing datasets** with visualizations to facilitate analytics for monitoring procurement performance;
- **Capacity building for participation and feedback**, in order to support the use of data by various stakeholder groups, and the use of feedback mechanisms;
- **Monitoring of procurement data quality**, sharing metrics and good practices, publishing reports and organizing webinars or other dissemination and awareness events;
- **Documentation and dissemination** of implementation results and learning, including but not limited to surveys, interviews, and blog posts.

Reporting

The parties, by mutual agreement and if they deem it appropriate, will have an annual report aimed at evaluating the effectiveness and performance of this Protocol, as well as the evaluation of progress in pursuing the purposes hereby set out.

Intellectual property

The outcomes resulting from the joint activity will be the property of the three parties, who, therefore, reserve the right to use them for their own purposes, including promotional activities. In any case, the parties will always be mentioned as project partners.

Usage of distinctive signs

Each party may use the name and trademark of the other parties solely for the purposes and interests connected with this Protocol, by requesting prior authorization.

The collaboration referred to in this Protocol does not confer any right to use for advertising purposes, or for any other promotional activity, any name, trademark, or other designation of the parties (including abbreviations).

Financing

This Protocol does not provide for the payment of funds.

Governance

The parties will work under the coordination of three referents, each representing one of the parties to this Protocol.

Referrals/coordinators are:

- on behalf of Eutopian, Dr Roberto REALE, President;
- on behalf of OCP, Dr Gavin HAYMAN, Executive Director;
- on behalf of Synapta, Dr Federico MORANDO, President.

Duration

This Protocol has a duration of five years and can be modified with the mutual consent expressed by the legal representatives (or persons designated by them) of Eutopian, OCP and Synapta.

This Protocol becomes effective from the moment of signature and will remain in force until the possible withdrawal of one of the parties to be communicated with notice of three months or dissolution by mutual consent.

Confidentiality and data processing

All personal data and information of a technical, administrative, scientific nature, which the Parties may come into possession of in carrying out the Protocol, must be considered strictly confidential and therefore the Parties may not use them for purposes other than those expressly contemplated and falling within the scope of this Protocol. The Parties undertake to process personal data in compliance with the regulations in force (including, but not limited to, Regulation (EU) 2016/679), as well as provisions issued regarding the protection of personal data by the competent national authorities.

Done at Rome/Washington/Turin, 4 January 2021



Roberto REALE
President, Eutopian



Gavin HAYMAN
Executive Director, OCP



Federico MORANDO
President, Synapta