



FACTSHEET ON PUBLIC CONSULTATION

FEATURES AND HISTORY OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Public Consultation is a particularly important moment in the life of a major project: it is a **process of information, participation and public discussion on the opportunity and implementation solutions of works, projects or interventions. It is in fact an opportunity for all citizens and stakeholders to participate in the development and implementation of works**, following a feasibility project and before all the features of the intervention are defined. For these reasons, the initiative should be considered as an opportunity as well as an aid tool for the decision on the realization of a project, a preliminary evaluation on the investment, a test to measure the areas for improvement of a work, a way to encourage more useful and shared choices. Public Consultation consists of **information meetings, in-depth analysis, discussion and conflict management**, in particular in the territories directly concerned by the work, and in the **collection of proposals and positions from citizens, associations, institutions**.

In France, the Barnier law established the débat public in 1995, now revised, which established an independent authority that decides whether or not to launch a Public Consultation on a work of national interest. Since 1997, around 90 public debates have been held concerning major works and infrastructure projects. **In Italy, public debates have been tested on large-scale projects, but until now always on a voluntary basis**. The first Public Consultation on a great work took place in Genoa in 2009 for the implementation of the Gronda, a work that was successfully approved. Other public debates were organised for the enlargement of the Port of Livorno, the Bologna motorway bypass, the Terzo Valico dei Giovi railway line, the project to reopen the Navigli in Milan, in addition to the debates on private investments such as the tourist settlement of Castelfalfi, the reuse of the former Bergamasque colonies in Celle Ligure, the environmental recovery of the gypsum of Gavorrano.

Public Consultation was introduced in Italy in 2016 with the new Code of public contracts, after about twenty years of experimentation in mediation of territorial conflicts. **The implementation decree establishes the methods of application of the law, in force since 25 August 2018, and has made Public Consultation mandatory for all works above a certain threshold that are still at a preliminary stage of project implementation**, setting the criteria for identifying the projects for which the use of this instrument is mandatory.

The Public Consultation is managed by a **third party**, indicated by the competent ministries or selected by the proposer of the work through public tender procedures. In the thirty days following the expiration of the public debate, **the Coordinator submits to the proposer a final report on the progress of the entire procedure**. Once the Public Consultation has ended and having seen the Coordinator's report, the proposer has two months to present a final dossier highlighting the willingness or not to carry out the intervention, any changes made to the project and the reasons that have led not to accept any proposals.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GENOA BREAKWATER

The **Western Ligurian Sea Port Authority**, as the client of the new breakwater of the Port of Genoa, **has taken the initiative to hold a Public Consultation on this work. This Public Consultation is the first organized according to the implementation decree of 2018**: it is the first implementation of such a participatory process as expressed by the national law. The new breakwater of the Port of Genoa is in fact one of the works of national interest subject to public debate.

The project aims to **present the new breakwater project to the public and to collect comments and proposals to allow the proposer of the work, the Western Ligurian Sea Port Authority, to improve the project and assess its feasibility**. The process is open to the whole city and is organized so that all interested



parties can receive complete information on the project, request and obtain clarifications from the designers, indicate critical issues or issues to be explored and propose improvement solutions.

The Debate for the Breakwater opens on 8 January 2021 with the presentation and publication of the project dossier, and **ends in February 2021** with the presentation of the final report.

You can take part in the debate in various forms: actively participate in the meetings, which for safety reasons linked to the restrictions from Covid-19 will be organized online; **visit the project website**, where you can find detailed information on the interventions and send requests for clarification to the coordinator of the Public Consultation or to the proposer of the work; **submit suggestions and proposals** that will be uploaded on the project website under the heading "Quaderno degli attori", with the same graphic layout.

The process is designed and conducted by the Coordinator of the Public Consultation - Andrea Pillon, Head of the working group formed by Avventura Urbana srl, a company selected by the Port Authority through a public tender and supported by an additional operational technical structure - which has the task of encouraging public participation, collecting observations and proposals on the project, managing communication and information tools and **drawing up the final report to be delivered to the Western Ligurian Sea Port Authority**. At the end of the process, **the Authority will then process the dossier highlighting the will or not to carry out the intervention** and the reasons behind the choice, in light of the proposals that emerged during the debate.

This Public Consultation will be divided into **two types of meetings**:

- **public meetings** (4 in total), an information meeting and three meetings dedicated to a specific topic of study;
- **working sessions of the Technical Commission** (7 in total), composed by the Commissioner for the reconstruction of Genoa and the Port Authority, the Liguria Region and the Municipality of Genoa are also invited, with the main stakeholders of the project (associations, authorities and interest groups), with the aim of actively involving them in planning and evaluating the work.

All scheduled public meetings - lasting 2 hours - **will be held online**, in webinar mode, with the collection of questions via chat and synthesis and topics discussed by the members of the Coordinator's working group.

The results of all the meetings will be published on the website of the Public Consultation and the material produced is an integral part of the documentation of this debate.

Below the **calendar of the public debate**: (for more information on the contents of the meetings, you can visit the website of the Public Debate, at the page: <https://dpdigaforanea.it/partecipa-al-dibattito/>)



PRESS KIT

Public meetings

08.01.2021

Debate starts - Press conference

09.01.2021 (10.00/12.00)

Information meeting
Presentation of the project dossier

15.01.2021 (17.00/19.00)

In-depth meeting
The work and the territorial and economic
development

22.01.2021 (17.00/19.00)

In-depth meeting
Project alternatives

29.01.2021 (17.00/19.00)

In-depth meeting
Environmental aspects

Technical Commission Meetings

11.01.2021

Municipalities (11.00/13.00)
Port and airport bodies and organizations
(15.00/17.00)

12.01.2021 (11.00/13.00)

Port operators meeting

13.01.2021 (11.00/13.00)

Meeting with organizations, environmental
associations, committees

19.01.2021 (11.00/13.00)

Meeting with economic stakeholders

26.01.2021 (11.00/13.00)

Meeting with labour organization and trade
unions

02.02.2021 (11.00-13.00)

Meeting with bodies, environmental associations
and committees