

# Reclaiming Public Services

*How cities and citizens are turning back privatisation*



Collective research by  
NGOs and public  
services unions

The summary reports  
are available in 13  
languages  
as creative commons



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# 835 (Re)municipalisations of public services



**MORE THAN 1600 CITIES AROUND THE WORLD ACTED  
TO BRING PUBLIC SERVICES UNDER PUBLIC CONTROL**

**There are better solutions than ever-more privatisation,  
ever-more austerity and ever-lower expectations**

# (Re)municipalisation sectors

**267**  
**Water**



Country	N°cases
France	106
United States	61
Spain	27
Germany	17
Argentina	8
Canada	4
Hungary	4
Italy	3
Kazakhstan	3
South Africa	3
Bolivia	2
Colombia	2
India	2
Indonesia	2
Mozambique	2
Turkey	2
Ukraine	2
Uzbekistan	2
Venezuela	2
Albania	1
Belgium	1
Central African Republic	1
Ecuador	1
Guinea	1
Lebanon	1
Malaysia	1
Mexico	1
Portugal	1
Russia	1
Sweden	1
Tanzania	1
Uganda	1



**31**  
**Waste**



Country	N°cases
Germany	13
United Kingdom	7
Canada	5
France	3
Spain	2
Norway	1

**311**  
**Energy**



Country	N°cases
Germany	284
United States	6
United Kingdom	5
Japan	4
Netherlands	3
Dominican Republic	2
France	2
Argentina	1
Denmark	1
Spain	1
India	1
Lithuania	1



**38**  
**Transport**

Country	N°cases
France	20
United Kingdom	7
Austria	3
Germany	2
Portugal	2
Canada	1
Czech rep	1
India	1
Turkey	1



**11**  
**Education**

Country	N°cases
Germany	5
United Kingdom	3
India	1
Nicaragua	1
Spain	1

**140**

**Local government**



- 24** building and cleaning
- 19** security and emergency
- 19** public (green) space
- 18** housing
- 20** school catering
- 10** sports
- 9** cultural
- 8** construction
- 4** funeral
- 3** human resource
- 5** IT
- 5** other

Country	N°cases
United Kingdom	37
Germany	26
France	21
Spain	21
Austria	13
Canada	9
Finland	3
Norway	4
Denmark	2
Netherlands	2
Armenia	1
India	1

**37**

**Health care & Social work**

- 8** social work
- 29** health care

Country	N°cases
Norway	16
Sweden	7
United Kingdom	5
Spain	4
Denmark	2
Finland	1
India	1
Montenegro	1

**(Re)municipalisation is a key strategy for energy transition, local economy and sustainability**

# SPAIN

## TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES

# 56

### Health care & social work

## 4



### Water

## 27



### Energy

## 1



### Education

## 1



### Waste

## 2



### Local government

## 21



	7	public (green) space
	5	building and cleaning
	3	housing
	2	funeral
	1	security and emergency
	1	construction and repair
	1	culture
	1	bikerental

## Highlights

- 15 local government services were brought back in house after the municipal election in 2015.
- Many cities brought several different services back in house: Rivas Vaciamadrid (3), Cabrils (2), Ciudad Real (4), Barcelona(4), Cadiz (2), Chiclana (3), Sabadell (2).

Bringing services back in-house is ultimately cheaper for local authorities

fonalia  
CENTRES AUDITIVS

fonalia

CENTRES AUDITIVS



FOR LA VOSTRA

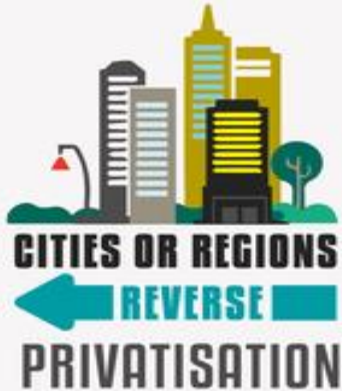
**S'ESCRIU AIGUA,  
ES LLEGEIX DEMOCRÀCIA**



# (Re)municipalisation: returning and creating local public services

## Remunicipalisation

692



## Municipalisation

143



(Re)municipalisation provides opportunities for new, diversified, democratic public ownership

- **Further global mapping on remunicipalisation** (New cases 2017-18, global south, USA)

  - Collaboration with trade unions

- **Qualitative analysis**

  - Collaboration with universities (Glasgow)

  - PSI's survey on impact of remunicipalisation for workers.

**What are outcomes of Remunicipalisation**

services, investment, participatory governance, social and environmental policies, human rights, technology

- **How democratic public ownership looks like**

- **Challenge PPPs locally and globally**

(Lagos, Jakarta, Colombia, Spain, Greece, Brazil, Japan, India elsewhere)



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