



Sociedad civil organizada... y fuerte

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An organized civil society is the cornerstone of a stable and functional democracy. It is made up of a wide range of non-governmental organizations, community groups, non-profit organizations, trade unions and other actors of a rich ecosystem that is among the fundamental social space of every society, which is the family, the State and the market. These organizations often serve as the voice of the citizenry, advocating for social issues, providing services and demanding responsibilities from governments.

First, civil society provides control of state power. By organizing, it can influence public policies, propose laws, and campaign against laws or actions that may be detrimental to the public interest. It serves as a control body, ensuring transparency and accountability of the government.

Secondly, an organised civil society is essential to promote social cohesion; it can bridge the divides between different social groups by promoting dialogue, understanding and cooperation, either for common, propositional or defensive reasons; civil society organizations often represent the interests and rights of marginalized groups and work for social justice and equality.

In addition, civil society contributes significantly to economic development. Many organizations participate in the implementation of development projects, especially in areas where government outreach is limited. They can provide essential services, such as education and health care, thus complementing government efforts.

Finally, an organised civil society can foster a culture of participation, encouraging citizens to take an active role in the democratic process, which can take many forms, from voting to grassroots activism.

In conclusion, an organised civil society plays a crucial role in maintaining a balanced power structure, promoting social cohesion, contributing to economic development, improving governance and promoting democratic participation.

A good example of the fundamental role that organised civil society can play is the social outburst caused by the recent agreement between the PSOE and Catalan independence. Spanish civil society has taken to the streets to try to stop the liquidation of the rule of law.

However, one last caution must be added: it is not enough to bet on 'the Great Society' above 'the Great State'; it must also be organized naturally from the bottom up rather than artificially created from the top down.

Let us watch for a civil society that is awake, courageous and independent, for a free and strong society.