**#POSEMNOSDACORD (LET'S AGREE)**

This hashtag was proposed by Lluís-Esteve Casellas during the round-table discussion on how to approach the digital transformation of local administrations at the II Catalan Digital Government Congress which took place on 25 and 26 January. The speech was his answer to the question about what word would define digital administration in 2017. Those of us attending the round-table talks got it at once. The radical need that for a major agreement on a nationwide level so that the new digital administration being sought should be the result of a homogeneous, coordinated, inclusive and really effective strategy cannot be expressed more succinctly. In this, naturally, the profession is aligned and fully agrees. There is no choice. We've been saying so for some time. But we still need reminding.

The 2nd Catalan Digital Government Congress proved a hit, with almost 1,400 people attending. It has been consolidated as the meeting place of all experts, professionals, managers and politicians who have something to do with the intended change of administration. In this respect, the AAC has once again made a very strong commitment to ensure its notable presence. The aim was not so much to make us visible but, above all, that our skill set should be included naturally in the areas of discussion. Without losing personality, of course. The commitment was to present our human and professional resources to help cement effective procedure and provide instruments for powerful records management. The need is being felt increasingly. The legislation on transparency and access to information, and on new administrative procedure, is opening up the way for our professionals to gain positions in public organisations. But as in everything, perception is not enough; each individual, in their own environment, should continue to push for the perception to become reality, and a widespread reality at that.

The AAC was present in the commercial area as a sponsor of the event. Incidentally, it was the only association to make an outright commitment to getting exposure in this area. Given the cluster of companies offering services and products for digital government, we made our offer of human capital. This situation did not go unnoticed, if the consultations and visits to our stand are anything to go by. Compared to the impact of the first Catalan Digital Government Congress in January 2015, this time everyone has felt we were more integrated. The commercial area has allowed us to enter more commercial agreements for the forthcoming Congress of Catalan Archivists and Records Managers which is set to take place in Reus in May. Simultaneously, we've had a strong presence in the media with interviews with the [president](https://www.arxivers.com/images/documents/Vanguardia_Joan2.pdf) and [vice president](http://www.naciodigital.cat/noticia/124180/vicenc/ruiz/no/penjar/moltes/dades/tens/ciutadania/informada) of the AAC in *La Vanguardia* and *Nació Digital*, talking about the role of records management in the new framework of the digital society.

But that's not all. We have taken part in several round-table discussions and presentations on document management and archival science. [You can see the videos of the entire conference and assess the issues discussed](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMtpvcKAsXOEkfejEo9Pu9Q). The presence of archivists from a number of areas, but especially the local administration, has been very important. We had to be there, to get all the news, establish professional contacts and to consolidate alliances. The new digital administration will be built up using records management as a method, protected by law but, above all, as a truly dynamic way of doing things and outside of the strictly theoretical. Many at the congress from outside the profession told us that the need for records management is clear, but that they don't know how to go about it, and that when they talk about it to archivists they don't quite understand what it is. Well, difficulty making people understand what records management can do and how its systems are used is nothing new. Obviously, there are areas that are practically impervious to this knowledge, but we must always be demanding of ourselves to be clearer in our discourse.

Precisely because document management is gaining ground, we must make an assessment of what it has been, how it has been built and, above all, how it provides real and not theoretical answers to the current need of the digital administration. Of course we cannot keep explaining ourselves without changing anything. If the digital administration changes, records management must also mutate and become more effective. Seeking then, for the debate to get off to a powerful start, the programme of the 16th Congress of Catalan Archivists and Records Managers in Reus is truly ground-breaking. The aim is to review records management from top to bottom, from the roots, to exceed the paradigms of the 1990s and build the records management of the 21st century, which will deal with data and information without ever losing the values of authenticity and legal reliability of documents. Stay tuned in the coming weeks to find out how the scientific committee is approaching the event. It's promising, very promising.

But, let's agree: #Posemnosdacord. We cannot inoculate the digital administration with the records management vaccine alone. It requires a major agreement. Maybe that's what the National Agreement for a Digital Society is. That remains to be seen. But we must be open to discussion, to talking, to opening discourse and listening to all concerned. Those in technology of course, but also those in the legislative and organisational areas. The political sphere also needs to be involved. Despite success in terms of positioning the profession has seen at the 2nd Digital Government Congress, there have been some serious shortcomings that we cannot afford to ignore. Most notable is the absence of the Ministry of Culture. We can't let that happen. Nor can the Ministry of Culture allow its good products, its experience in this area, to not be a regular presence at these events. The Ministry of Culture must take clear steps on this once and for all. #Posemnosdacord, however, must also mean that the Catalan Open Government Consortium has a more open dialogue with those legally responsible for promoting records management in Catalonia. Basically because without this dialogue the system short-circuits. The current of change cannot flow smoothly if there is no agreement in this regard. And electricity is expensive.

In short, #Posemnosdacord, also means let's make a virtuous circle of collaboration between provincial councils and the Government, along with the COAC and LOCALRET, so that there are no absences or shortcomings and to gain a holistic and global view. #Posemnosdacord means speaking clearly and making moves, if necessary. Moves on a board we all play on with the same colour, not in confrontation.