

LABSUS is the acronym of the **LABoratory for SUBsidiarity**, a cultural association founded in 2005 by some subjects belonging to the world of volunteering and civil society, with the aim of promoting the implementation of the **principle of subsidiarity**, enshrined in our Constitution to art. 118, last paragraph.

LABSUS publishes an **online magazine**, available at www.labsus.org, and updates daily the most complete database existing today in Italy on the subjects of subsidiarity, active citizenship, common goods and participatory and deliberative democracy. The fortnightly **newsletter “NeparlaLabsus”** also allows subscribers to always be informed about these issues. All the materials published on the Labsus website, as well as the newsletter, are available free of charge.

LABSUS **works directly on the territories**, especially at the municipal level, but also at the regional scale, promoting projects and initiatives of dissemination, elaborating ideas, collecting experiences and materials, highlighting initiatives. It could be said that all the activity of LABSUS is based on a “positive anthropology”, that is on the idea that “people are mostly with capacity and not only bringer of needs”. That capacities can be made available to the community to realize the general interest.

What LABSUS promotes is therefore an idea of **subsidiarity** which, instead of foreseeing a “withdrawal” of public subjects in the presence of citizens' initiatives, sees instead the public administration and citizens as allies, protagonists of a collaborative relationship based on mutual trust and sharing of resources and responsibilities. The principle of subsidiarity, therefore, stands as the **constitutional platform** on which to build a society of autonomous, responsible and supportive citizens, who join forces with the public administration to take care of common goods together.

One of the most important initiatives carried out by Labsus was the drafting, together with the Municipality of Bologna, of a municipal-type regulation entitled “**Regulation on collaboration between citizens and the administration for the care and regeneration of urban commons**”. On 22 February 2014 the text was officially presented in Bologna, the first Italian municipality to approve it. This pioneer text has been donated to all Italian municipalities with the possibility to adapt it to their needs and characteristics. Since then more than 300 municipalities have adopted or are adopting it: the list, which stretches every day, can be downloaded from the Labsus website.

Labsus collaborates with dozens of public bodies of various typologies, such as banking foundations, dozens of service centers for volunteering (the Italian network CSV Net in primis), numerous companies (UnipolSai for the creation of insurance instruments, for example), territorial representative bodies (Uncem Piemonte, etc.), universities and dozens of third sector entities. Every year since 2015 Labsus publishes a Report on the shared administration of common goods in Italy. Labsus and Eurisce, together with the University of Trento, founded the SIBEC - Italian School of Common Goods, the first national school for training in shared management of common goods. <http://sibec.eu/>.