



## **Global Catalysts**

The Worlds Most Innovative Cities - Past | Present | Future  
An Initial View – 1 September 2017





## **Context – Innovative Cities**

Cities are where innovation happens, where most ideas form and economic growth largely stems. The world's most innovative cities act as global catalysts for change. As more cities seek to have impact, we need to understand what drives success.





### **Approach – Getting Clarity**

Over the past two years we have been researching which are the most innovative cities in the past, the present and potentially in the future. Exploring multiple criteria, we have identified what we believe to be the key global catalysts for change.



World's Most Innovative Cities of the Past



World's Most Innovative Cities of the Present



Key Elements of a World-Leading Innovative City



World's Most Innovative Cities of the Future

### **Structure of This Talk**

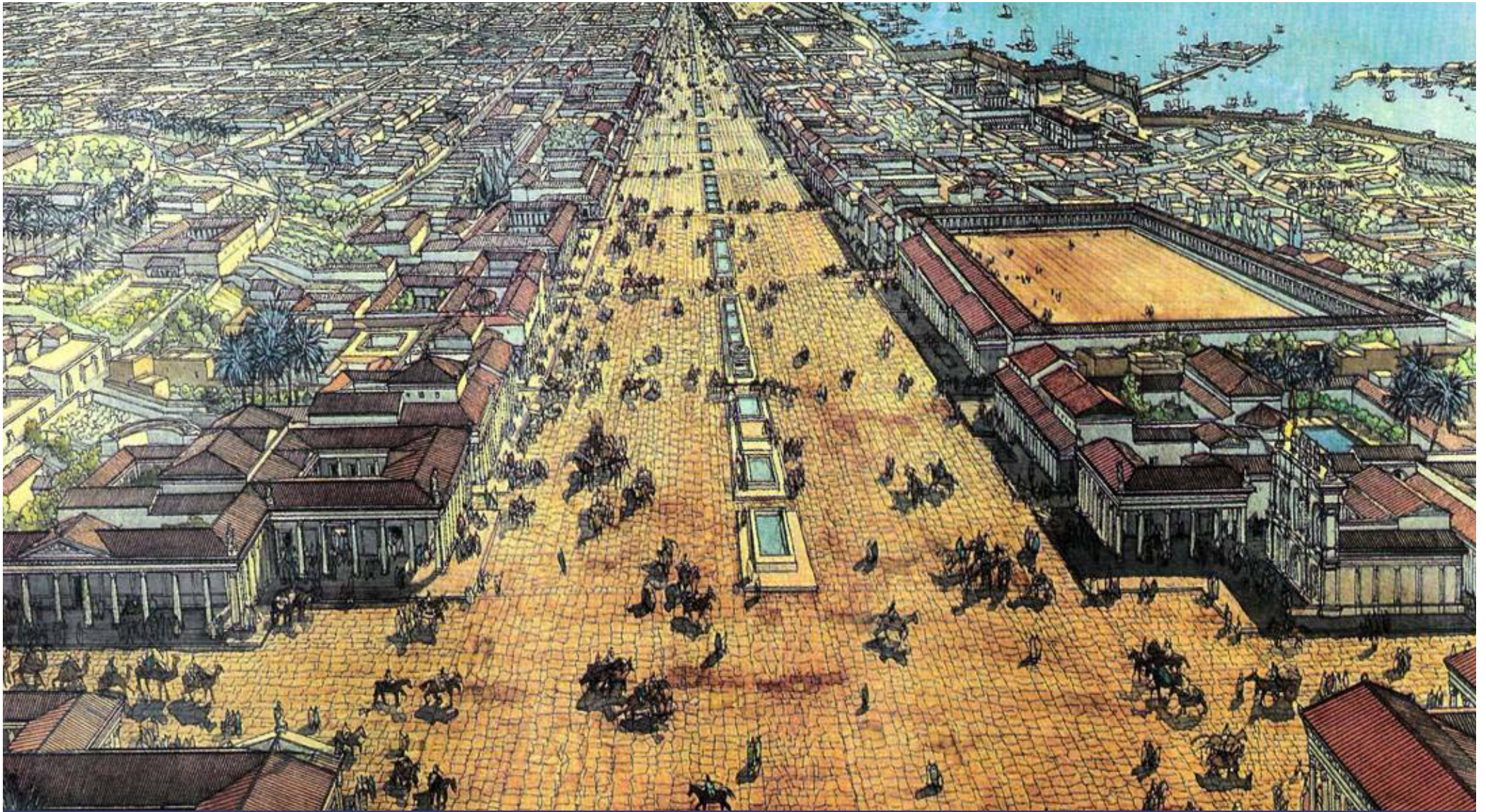
This presentation shares the insights. It profiles the 10 most innovative cities of the past, the 10 having greatest impact today, the key elements that contribute to a city being so innovative and, lastly, suggests candidates for future global leadership.





THE WORLD'S MOST INNOVATIVE CITIES OF THE PAST





## ALEXANDRIA

Home to the most significant library of ancient times as well as the Pharos lighthouse - one of the Seven Wonders of the world - the capital of Egypt for nearly 1000 years was a leading trading centre and a hub of international shipping.

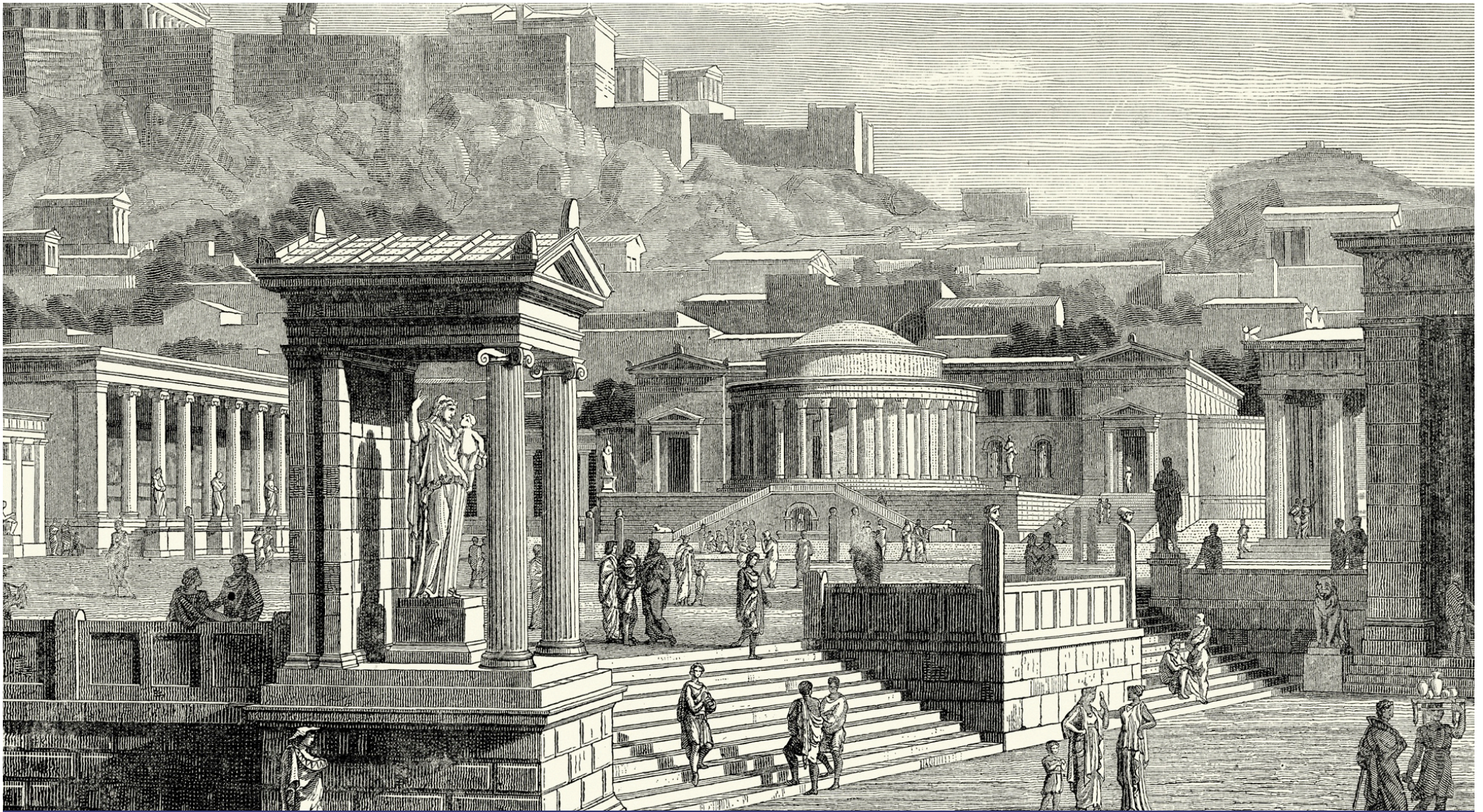




## AMSTERDAM

Amsterdam originated as a fishing village in the c12<sup>th</sup> and became one of the world's most important ports and a leader in innovative trade in the c17<sup>th</sup> - it created the world's first stock exchange and was the wealthiest global city for over 100 years.





## ATHENS

The complex Ancient Greek capital was the birthplace of democracy and centre of learning. It attracted talent and led development across architecture, astronomy, cartography, geometry, medicine and philosophy. The Agora was a key focal point.





## CONSTANTINOPLE

The capital of the Byzantine and Ottoman empires, Constantinople was capital of the Roman Empire from 330AD. From the c5<sup>th</sup> to c13<sup>th</sup> it was the largest city in Europe – a centre of East-West trade, famed globally for its massive defences and its architecture.





## FLORENCE

The birthplace of the Renaissance, Florence was the leading hub for major developments in commerce, patronage, art and architecture. It was also a centre for technology, scientific, legal and civic leadership innovation with lasting impact.





## HANGZOUH

Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang Province, was a major city for the Tang dynasty – one of the ancient capitals of China. A bastion of culture during the c10<sup>th</sup>, it became a global trade hub during the Song dynasty and then seat of the imperial government in c13<sup>th</sup>.





## HONG KONG

This British colony became the leading Asian financial and trading centre and retained that position for 150 years well beyond handover. It is a unique melding of Eastern and Western influences that pioneered high density urbanisation and infrastructure.





## PARIS

Reaching its peak in the c18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> as a hub of finance, commerce, publishing, fashion, science and the arts, Paris - the epicentre of the Age of Enlightenment – was significantly remodelled by Haussmann - reducing over-crowding, crime and disease.





## **VARANASI**

The birthplace of Buddhism and famous for its silks, Varanasi has been a cultural centre of North India for several millennia. It was the hub of activity for intellectuals and theologians throughout the middle ages and again in the c16th.





## VENICE

Created from scratch as a sanctuary in the c6<sup>th</sup> Venice proactively became an iconic destination and a major centre of trade with the East. As trade declined, it became the end of the Grand Tour for three centuries and a centre of cultural exploration.





THE WORLD'S MOST INNOVATIVE CITIES OF TODAY





## **BENGALURU**

India's leading IT hub has attracted many of the world's leading technology firms, as well as nurturing successful start-ups. Seen as the Silicon Valley of India it boasts leading research institutions as well as numerous aerospace and defence companies.





## **BOSTON**

Home to some of the world's most respected universities, Boston is a global leader in innovation, research, technology and life sciences thanks to the concentration of human capital and quality of research institutions - including MIT and Harvard.





## LONDON

London has a host of leading universities with centuries of track-record, a progressive open collaborative culture and access to capital. A city that has realigned around new opportunities multiple times in the past is yet again refocusing itself for the future.





## MUNICH

The Bavarian capital is a post-war German economic powerhouse and HQ for global leaders in manufacturing and finance. A centre for universities and many international bodies, Munich is a fast-growing city and a major destination for migration.





## **SAN FRANCISCO**

The world's foremost innovation ecosystem continues to attract talent, business and capital. A popular tourist destination with a very open culture, it is a global centre of education, invention and venture capital and home to many world-leading companies.





## SEOUL

Home to half the South Korean population, Seoul is now the world's 4<sup>th</sup> largest metropolitan economy. It has build leading transport infrastructure, is a leading technology hub and the most wired city in the world: A city constantly on the move.





## SINGAPORE

A magnet for talent, investment and trade that, since its independence, has looked forward, grown its economy and provided steady improvement in public services for its fast-evolving population that mixes people from multiple immigrant populations.





## STOCKHOLM

Ranked as the 2nd best ecosystem in the world for start-ups, Stockholm is HQ for a wide range of technology firms. With highly open city governance, it has connected every citizen to fibre and is one of the cleanest, healthiest metropolises in the world.





## TEL AVIV

Israel's technology hub, Tel Aviv is a global centre for healthcare, security, green tech and automation. Seen by some as close to rivalling California as the world's start-up capital, it has a strong beach culture and attracts many young nomadic entrepreneurs.





## TOKYO

A city that embraces its past yet continuously reinvents itself to fit the future, Tokyo is a place literally on the edge that pushes new technology to create one of the most connected and interconnected urban infrastructures in the world.





KEY ELEMENTS OF A WORLD-LEADING INNOVATIVE CITY





### **Innovative Cities – The Key Elements**

From the analysis undertaken, we see ten key criteria that have had greatest impact to date. As urban leaders seek to address the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, these help to highlight which cities may be the most innovative in the future.





THE WORLD'S MOST INNOVATIVE CITIES IN THE FUTURE?





## The Future Shortlist

From our analysis we see 20 cities that are all potential candidates be one of the world's most innovative cities in the future. As we continue the research and explore these in more depth we will detail and announce the top 10 shortly.





<https://www.slideshare.net/innovationleaders>



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### **More Information**

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