Call for Experts / Project Leaders
in Computational Social Science methods and/or quantitative research on democracy to participate in and guide a research project at the

BIGSSS Summer School on Computational Social Science of Democratic Debate

We are looking for **experts and project leaders** in our computational social science (CSS) **summer school on modeling of opinion dynamics and democratic decisions** to take place in **Bremen** (Germany), hosted by Constructor University from **July 3 to 12, 2023**. **Female experts are particularly encouraged to apply.**

The ten-day summer school is also a **research incubator.** Besides attending keynotes and expert lectures, participants and experts from eight teams will be working on specific research projects. Each team consists of three to four junior researchers and two senior experts as project leaders, ideally one with expertise in CSS methods and the other with strong topical expertise. The goal is to train the participating junior researchers in CSS methods and to give them hands-on expertise in a research project on the democratic debate using CSS methods. Each team works through the whole research process with the aim to prepare a manuscript for publication. The output of former schools was published as an edited volume and in scientific journals. This school should produce a topical contribution to the study of opinion dynamics, the democratic debate, and their relations to democratic decision-making.

What we are looking for:
As project leader/expert you design and guide a research project of your own interest that combines CSS methods with a topical focus on opinion dynamics, democratic debate, or democratic decisions in a broad sense. Further on, you give one lecture or a hands-on workshop to all participants. The project may involve data-driven and theory-driven modeling, make use of simulation or prediction, or it might look into the consequences of (dis)agreement, for instance, its relation to polarization or conflict. Being a project leader/expert requires a commitment to stay the full period.

What we offer:
Our research incubator is an opportunity to work with motivated students on a publication project. You can choose to be involved in the assessment process for participants. We cover travel expenses (economy class), accommodation on campus, and meals (half-board) will be covered. A small honorarium can be granted if needed.

This edition of the summer school is followed by the three-day **Interdisciplinary Workshop on Opinion Dynamics and Collective Decisions** taking place at the same venue. Please visit odcd2023.janlo.de for more information.

The summer school receives generous funding from the Volkswagen Foundation as part of its program *International Research in Computational Social Sciences*. It was preceded by summer schools on conflicts in Bremen (Germany),on migration in Sardinia (Italy) and on social cohesion in Groningen (the Netherlands).

Please visit bigssscss.janlo.de for more information.

If you want to be an expert and lead a project please write to css@bigsss-bremen.de and state
- Your **motivation** and **expertise** (CSS methods and/or topical focus).
- A (draft) **project proposal** including title, research questions, data, methods, and description (see former project descriptions). Applications as a **team of two** with a common project idea are welcome. We may try to match single experts.
- A proposal for a **lecture or hands-on workshop** you would like to offer.
- A link to **CV and publication list**.

Admission happens on a **rolling basis**. We aim to release a call for participation, with all projects listed on the website, by the **end of March 2023**.

Organizers: Jan Lorenz, Bruce Edmonds, Marijn Keijzer