World Forum for Democracy
STRASBOURG - 2013

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Council of Europe, 27 -29 November 2013

"Re-wiring Democracy: connecting institutions and citizens in the digital age"

Challenge

A decline in democratic participation is often viewed as a symptom of a detachment between citizens and institutions. Social media and social networks enable individuals to exchange, plan, act and interact with politicians and activists outside institutional systems. The Council of Europe is in a unique position to bring together elected politicians and civil society leaders to discuss the impact of this technological change on established democratic structures and institutions. The Forum will look into the opportunities and risks of a number of participatory initiatives and test their solidity and longevity in an open debate with elected politicians. The conclusions of the Forum should help to better identify the challenges faced by democratic institutions, political parties and leaders, and to recommend action that might need to be taken at various levels to enhance the benefits of digital participation platforms and limit the risks their use may entail.

Format

Discussions will take place in labs which will focus on achievement, issues and concerns around specific e-democracy phenomena as a starting point, leading to exchanges on broader issues. Labs will feature prominent politicians as well as other discussants with backgrounds in academia, activism, and media. The results of the lab discussions will be shared by rapporteurs with a view to enabling participants to get a better grasp of the full range of showcased initiatives. These will in turn serve as the basis for possible recommendations on how to fully utilise the benefits of the digital revolution to enhance democratic life and regain citizens' trust in institutions. The most promising initiatives, voted by participants, will be given further visibility by the Council of Europe and its partners after the Forum. Various events and debates will be organised by the Alsace region and the city of Strasbourg in the run-up to the Forum in order to involve the local community in the discussions.

Wednesday, 27 November 2013

16.00-19.00   Web Performance WJ-S by Anne Roquigny, new media curator

Official opening - Council of Europe Hemicycle

Hosted by **Thorbjørn Jagland**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

François Hollande, President of the French Republic (tbc),
Amin Maalouf, Writer, Member of the Académie française
Irina Yasina, Journalist and Civil Society Activist

Round table on citizen participation in the digital age: trends and prospects

MODERATOR: Jean-Claude Mignon, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (tbc)

Adam Nyman, Director of Debating Europe;
Mikhail Alexandrovich Fedotov, Advisor to the President of the Russian Federation and Chairman of the Council of the President of the Russian Federation for Civil Society and Human Rights
Michał Boni, Minister of Administration and Digitalization of the Republic of Poland (tbc)
Robert Bjarnason and **Gunnar Grimsson**, Co-Founders of the Citizens Foundation of Iceland;
Lois Beckett Reporter for ProPublica covering the intersection of big data, technology and politics;
Stefano Rodota, Professor, internet and society;
Mary Kaldor, Professor of Global Governance at the London School of Economics.

19.30   Reception at the Hôtel de la Région

Presentation of the Alsatian prize for democratic commitment awarded by the Alsace Region for personalities with an outstanding contribution to the development of democracy in the world

Thursday, 28 November 2013

9.00-10.00   Plenary session – Council of Europe Hemicycle
Moderator: Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Presentation of the Council of Europe No Hate Speech Movement
Presentation of "La ville phagocytée" by sculptor Laurent Reynès

10.00-10.30   Break

10.30-12.30   Lab series 1

ALTERNATIVES TO REPRESENTATIVE DEMOCRACY?

Liquid democracy and challenges to political parties
LAB 1

Used increasingly by new types of political parties, can liquid democracy be applied more broadly in the process of governance and what would be the implications for constitutional "checks and balances"?

Presenters
Mr Jens Seipenbusch, Pirate Party, Germany
Mr Matteo Renzi, Mayor of Florence, Italy
Ms Aleida Alavez Ruiz, Vice-President of the Mexican Congress, Mexico

Discussants
Mr Yusmadi Yusoff, Former Member of the Parliament, Malaysia
Mr Yannick Harrel, ISEG, France
Mr Ögmundur Jónasson, Member of Parliament, Chairman of the Constitutional Committee, Iceland

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator
Mr Michael Remmert, Deputy to the Director of Policy Planning at the Council of Europe

Online petitions and campaigning
LAB 2

How legitimate and effective are online petition tools in achieving real results without being connected to institutions and existing constitutional frameworks? Do they trigger genuine engagement or do they lead to a devaluation of participation? How transparent are their business models?

Presenter
Ms Paula Hannemann, Germany, Campaigns Director for Change.org in Germany

Ms Preethi Herman, India, Country Lead and Campaigns Director for Change.org in India
Mr Ilya Massukh, Russian Federation, Russian Public Initiative

Discussants
Mr Mark Johnson, Journalist, the Economist, United Kingdom
Mr Dmitry Dedov, Judge at the European Court for Human Rights, Russian Federation
Mr Ayman Itani, Digital Media Strategist, Lebanon

Rapporteur to the Plenary Session
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator
Mr Ulrich Bunjes, Special Policy Advisor, Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe

Fostering public debate and building a shared vision of the future
LAB 3 - *Sponsored by the International Organisation of La Francophonie*

Is it possible to harness the power of internet and social media to encourage young people to share their hopes and vision for the future? And how to make sure that these ideas are really heard by policy-makers?

Presenters
Mr Julius Maaten, Head of Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Philippines
Ms Minerva Salao, Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Philippines
Mr Pascal Derville, Questionnez Vos Elus, FACEP, France

Discussants
Mr. Moussa Laraba, Former Member of the Constitutional Council, Algeria
Ms Lina Ben Mhenni, Blogger and Internet activist, Tunisia
Mr Leonid Volkov, Blogger and Member of the City Council Yekaterinenburg, Russian Federation
Mr Andriy Shevchenko, Ukraine, Member of the Ukrainian Parliament and Co-chairman of the caucus 'For the Digital Future of Ukraine'

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator
Ms Verena Taylor, Council of Europe

Natalia project: digital human rights defenders
LAB 4

Technology empowers people to defend freedom and human rights, but it could also be used to mobilise crowds for violence and destruction of freedom. What safeguards and control mechanisms should be put in place to ensure that those who control technology are subject to transparency and democratic control themselves?

Presenters
Mr Karl Stefan Mathias Wikström, CEO of RBK Communication in Stockholm, Sweden

Mr Jan Robert Hardh, Executive Director of Civil Rights Defenders, Sweden

Discussants
Mr Nils Muižnieks, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
Ms Sharon Kang Hom, Executive Director of Human Rights in China (HRIC), Professor of law emerita, City University of New York School of Law, USA/China
Mr Peter Sam Shivute, Chief Justice, Namibia
Mr Paul Lemmens, Belgium, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator
Ms Gordana Berjan, Council of Europe

The quest for transparency

LAB 5

Can we find a balance between the quest for the transparency of democratic institutions and the respect of the rule of law, as well as the rights and safety of individuals which may be exposed by whistle-blower platforms?

Presenters
Mr Assen Yordanov, Journalist, Bulgaria
Mr Atanas Tchobanov, Journalist, Bulgaria

Discussants
Mr Jung-Won Kim, Senior Research Judge, Constitutional Court, South Korea
Ms Chantal Cutajar, France, President, Observatoire citoyen pour la transparence financière internationale
Mr Charles Onyango-Obbo, Uganda, Executive Editor, Africa and Digital Media Division at Nation Media Group Kenya
Ms Rachel Oldroyd, United Kingdom, Deputy Editor of the Bureau of Investigative Journalism

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
Ms Ellen Berends, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Council of Europe

Moderator
Ms Julia Laffranque, Estonia, Judge at the European Court of Human Rights

TOWARDS DEMOCRACY 2.0?

Crowdsourcing in policy and law making
LAB 6 - *Sponsored by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe*

Do crowdsourcing platforms – such as the Finnish "Open Ministry" platform – contribute to a more effective and relevant legislation or do they make the process slower and more complex? And is policy making improved or distorted by public opinion as pollsters infer it from large collections of online data?

Presenters
Mr Joonas Pekkanen and Ms Tanja Aitamurto, Open Ministry, Finland
Mr Mikael Jungner, Member of Parliament, Finland
Mr Paul Guyot, President Semiocast, France

Discussants
Ms Francesca Traldi, Head of Digital Agenda at Magna Carta Foundation, Italy
Professor Ben O'Loughlin, Department of Politics and International Relations, Royal Holloway, University of London, United Kingdom

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
Mme Anne Brasseur, Member of Parliament, Luxembourg, Chair of the ALDE Group to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Moderator
TBC by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Open Parliament

LAB 7

What is added value and limitations of platforms which make advocacy and lobbying transparent and should they become the norm in democracy?

Presenter
 Ms Marci Harris, Co-founder and CEO of POPVOX, USA
Mr Cyril Lage, Parlement et Citoyen, France

Discussants
Mr Wolfgang Kleinwaechter, Professor for International Communication Policy and Regulation at University of Aarhus, Germany
Mr Jeffrey Roy, Professor in the School of Public Administration, Faculty of Management at Dalhousie University, Canada
Mr Scott Hubli, Director of Governance, National Democratic Institute, USA

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator
Mr Mark Neville, Council of Europe

Virtual Agora

LAB 8 - *Sponsored by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*

As people, especially the young, tend to privilege the Internet as a source of information and space for exchange, is it possible to find ways of creating a virtual Agora or town hall to debate matters of public interest?

Presenters
Mr Anthony Zacharzewski, Co-founder of The Democratic Society, United Kingdom
Ms Catherine Howe, Expert in Digital Media and e-democracy, United Kingdom
Ms Jennifer Rowlands, Chief Executive of Lewes District Council, United Kingdom
Mr. Robert Bjarnason, Co-Founder of the Citizens Foundation, Iceland
Mr. Gunnar Grimsson, Co-Founder of the Citizens Foundation, Iceland

Discussants
Mr Vinay Gupta, Designer and Policy Adviser, United Kingdom
Mr Andranik Melik-Tangyan, Head of unit 'Policy modelling' at the Institute for Economic and Social
Research of the Hans-Böckler-Foundation, Germany
Ms Hille Hinsberg, Estonia, Expert, Governance and Civil Society Programme, Praxis Center for Policy Studies

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator
Mr. Andreas Kiefer, Secretary General of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Election alert

LAB 9 - *Sponsored by International IDEA*

How effective are on-line tools to report and aggregate data on election malpractice? How can we increase the institutions' capacity to understand, analyse, prevent and mitigate outbreaks of election-related violence and encourage partnerships with security sector agencies, civil society and other state and non-state actors to ensure take-up, sustainability and ownership?

Presenters
Mr Mark Kamau Kamotho, User Experience Lead at the iHub, Kenya
Mr Jeff Maina, iHub Web master, Kenya
Mr Sead Alihodzic, Senior Programme Officer at International IDEA, Sweden

Discussants
Mr Stephane Bijoux, Director for diversity in the news, France Télévisions, France
Mr Christian Baptiste Quentin, Constitutional Judge, Gabon

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator

Ms Jutta Gutzkow, Council of Europe

Cyber deliberation
LAB 10

Will intelligent software and platforms which are able to extract a dominant narrative from unstructured conversations remain prototypes or will they be mainstreamed by democratic institutions to include citizens in deliberation and decision-making?

Presenters
Mr. Mark O'Toole, Co- founder of CiviQ, Ireland
Ms Vanessa Liston, Co- founder of CiviQ, Ireland

Discussants
Mr Tim Hughes, Researcher at Involve, United Kingdom
Mr Khalil al-Hamar, Founder & CEO of Edges Media Company, Kuwait
Mr Giacomo Mazzone, Italy, Head of Institutional Relations and Members Relations (South), European Broadcasting Union

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator
Mr Rui Gomes, Council of Europe

12.30-14.00   Lunch

14.00-14.30   Presentation of the No Hate Speech Movement - Lobby of the Committee of Ministers

14.30-15.30   Democracy innovation fair – Lobby of the Committee of Ministers

15.45- 16.30   Presentation of the Schools of Political Studies

16.30-18.30   Learning from initiatives presented in lab series 1 and vote – Council of Europe Hemicycle

19.00   Reception - Pavilion Joséphine

09.30-11.30   Lab series 2

GOVERNING WITH CITIZENS

Direct democracy – the Swiss experience
LAB 11 - *Sponsored by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe*

Today Direct Democracy is part of the Swiss identity and contributes to the integration and the well-being of the very heterogeneous Swiss society. It might be a source of inspiration to others how to overcome the crises of democracy although there are shortcomings it its implementation.

Presenters

Mr Andreas Gross, National Councilor, Switzerland, President of the Council for Democratic Elections and Chair of the Socialist Group to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Mr Michel Chevalier, e-voting expert, Switzerland

Discussants

Mr Bruno Kaufmann, Member of a local government, President of the Initiative and Referendum Institute Europe, Sweden
Mr Gagik Harutyunyan, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Armenia and member of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe

Rapporteur to the Plenary session

PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator

Mr Alexandre Guessel, Council of Europe

Put your money where your heart is
LAB 12 - *Sponsored by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*

Is civic crowd-funding an adequate way of raising resources to fund public infrastructure and projects of cash-strapped local governments, increasing citizen engagement and ownership and giving a chance to smaller, less influential groups to promote their projects? Can it lead to weakening public authorities' responsibility in funding important services and works from the public budgets?

Presenters

Ms Kara Marie Raynor, Staff Accountant at Citizinvestor, USA
Mr Jordan Tyler Raynor, Co-founder of Citizinvestor, USA

Discussants

Ms Hala Sulaiman, Communications Consultant, Bahrain
Mr Rolf Wenzel, Governor of the Council of Europe Development Bank (tbc)

Rapporteur to the Plenary session

Mr John Warmisham, United Kingdom, Salford City Councillor and Vice President of the Bureau of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Moderator

Mr Stefano Dominioni, Council of Europe

The rise of the wikicity
LAB 13 - *Sponsored by the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe*

Giving citizens the initiative and control over policies reverses the traditional model of policy-making – what are the results of wikicity experiments so far, as well as challenges encountered?

Presenters

Mr Daniel de Andrade Bittencourt, Co-founder of Lung, Brazil

Ms Maria Clara Jobst de Aquino Bittencourt, Content Manager of PortoAlegre.cc, Brazil

Discussants

Mr Philippe C. Schmitter, Emeritus Professor at the European University Institute Florence, USA

Ms Anne-Marie Chavanon, Chair of the Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges Committee of the INGO Conference

Rapporteur to the Plenary session

PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator

Ms Maria Ochoa-Llido, Council of Europe

Participatory Budgeting
LAB 14 - *Sponsored by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*

How successful participatory budgeting is in fostering dialogue and trust between citizens and authorities? What can we learn from experience in order to avoid tokenism and avoid alienating local elected officials who may feel deprived of their influence and prerogatives or that having the process hijacked by some interest groups?

Presenter

Ms Áurea Dantas, Finance Department, Town Hall of Amadora, Portugal

Mr Joe Moore, Alderman of the 49th Ward of Chicago, USA

Discussants

Sai, Founder of Make Your Laws, USA

Mr Enrico Pace, Journalist, Italy

Mr Oliver Henman, United Kingdom, Head of the EU & International team at NCVO

Rapporteur to the Plenary session

Mr Charles-Edouard Held, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Council of Europe

<u>Moderator</u>
Mr. Mario Martins, Director General ,Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Digital local democracy

LAB 15 *- Sponsored by the Council of Europe Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform*

Thanks to e-participation platforms run by local authorities and NGOs, citizens have more opportunities to participate in the decision-making and improve governance at local level. What are the lessons learnt and the obstacles to mainstreaming such approaches? This lab will be organised in a form of a "balloon debate" during which the participants will choose the best initiative.

<u>Presenters</u>
Ms Vivien Rae Maidaborn, Loomio Social Enterprise, New Zealand
Mr Benjamin Michael Knight, Loomio Social Enterprise, New Zealand
Mr Pedro Prieto Martin, Spain, Founding President of the Asociación KyoPol - Symbiotic City
Ms Deirdre Lee, Ireland, Research Associate in the eGovernment group at Digital Enterprise Research Institute (DERI), NUI Galway

<u>Discussants</u>
Mr Sorin Ionita, Research Director of Expert Forum, Romania
Mr Steven Clift, USA, Founder and Executive Director of E-Democracy.org
Mr Toomas Sepp, Estonia, Chief Executive Officer, Tallinn City Office

<u>Rapporteur to the Plenary session</u>
Mr Clemens Lammerskitten, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

<u>Moderator</u>
Mr Dan Popescu, Council of Europe

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

Skills for Democracy
LAB 16 *- Sponsored by the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe*

E-government is supposed to improve the quality of government by providing public information and services online but is often conceived in a top-down way with little scope for citizen input and influence. Online tools now make it possible for citizens and service users to keep service providers in check by using collective intelligence and public pressure. How successful such initiatives are, what hurdles do they need to overcome and can this become a widespread practice, especially in developing countries?

<u>Presenters</u>
Ms Goretti Zavuga Amuriat, Senior Program Officer for the Gender and ICT Policy Advocacy Program of Wougnet, Uganda
Ms Otika Brenda Akite, Rural Projects Manager with Women of Uganda Network, Uganda

Ms Mariam Memarsadeghi, Iran, Co-founder and co-director of the E-Collaborative for Civic Education and Tavaana: E-Learning Institute for Iranian Civil Society

Discussants
Ms Anne Wizorek, Blogger, Digital Media Consultant, Germany
Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Ms Carolyn Bennett, Canada, Member of Parliament, Chair of Liberal Women's Caucus

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

Moderator
Ms Yulia Pererva, Head of Unit on Citizenship and Human Rights Education, Education Department, Council of Europe

Making films, making society

LAB 17 - *Sponsored by the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe*

Internet enables people, in particular the youth, to express their social and political views and aspirations by various means, including through art and games, and receive feedback by the wider community. Do these forms of expression have a real impact on public opinion, political debate and decision-making or are they just an outlet for the emotions of a frustrated youth?

Presenters
Mr Tarak Tabka, Founder of the Ness El Fen Association, Tunisia
Ms Syhem Belkhodja, Artist choreographer, Tunisia
Mr Aldo Arce, Mexico, Founder of Puerta Joven

Discussants

Mr Ahmed Driss, Professor of Law at the Faculties of Law and Economic Sciences and Management, Tunisia
Mr Michal Mlcousek, Slovakia, Executive Producer at Time for Words
Ms Patricya Sasnal, Poland, Head of the Middle East and North Africa Project, Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM)
Mr Petre Roman, Romania, Former Prime Minister of Romania and Member of the Club de Madrid

Rapporteur to the Plenary session
Mr Engin Soysal, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the Council of Europe

Moderator
Mr Roberto Olla, Executive Director, Council of Europe

"Solution journalism" in action
LAB18

Can harnessing collective intelligence and knowledge make media a more constructive and relevant participant in the democratic debate? The Guardian believes it can.

<u>Presenters</u>
Mr Yasir Mirza, Head of Diversity & Inclusion, Guardian News & Media, United Kingdom

<u>Discussants</u>
Mr Jason Mills, United Kingdom, Journalist at ITN
Mr Waichi Sekiguchi, Japan, Editorial writer and columnist of Nikkei Newspaper
Mr Shahidul Alam, Bangladesh, Photographer, Blogger and Human Rights Activist

<u>Rapporteur to the Plenary session</u>
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

<u>Moderator</u>
Media Representative

What is empowerment and how to fix it: EU global trends 2030
LAB 19

<u>Presenters</u>
TBC

<u>Discussants</u>
TBC
Prominent politicians (MFA, Minister, MP, Mayor)

<u>Rapporteur to the Plenary session</u>
PACE member, or Permanent Representative or Youth Activist

<u>Moderator</u>
TBC

11.30-12.30   Democracy Innovation Fair - Lobby of the Committee of Ministers

12.30-14.00   Lunch

14.00-16.00   Learning from initiatives presented in lab series 2 and vote – Council of Europe Hemicycle

16.30 – 18.00   Final Performance by the artist collective AV.Exciters working with devices that incorporate sound, image and projection techniques

Closing session – Council of Europe Hemicycle

Key points from the debate

Ambassador Janez Lenarcic, Director of ODIHR
Mr Andrew Bradley, Office of International IDEA to the EU

Mr Jean-Claude Thebault, Director of the Bureau of European Policy Advisors (tbc)
Representatives of international organisations

The way forward & Democratic innovation awards

Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Fringe Program

• Conference of the French Federation of European Houses, Strasbourg, Council of Europe, Agora Building, 23 November

• Prize for democratic commitment awarded by the Alsace Region to a person with an outstanding contribution to democracy

• International Film Festival on Human Rights, Strasbourg, 23 November - 6 December 2013

• Documentary Festival with the French/German TV channel ARTE

• E. Cité-Europe Colloquy - Strasbourg, 26 November 2013

• Joint seminar between the Council of European Municipalities and Regions and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe "1953-1988-2013: Decentralisation at a crossroads", Strasbourg, 26 November 2013, Palais de l'Europe

• Joint conference of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and the City of Strasbourg on the participation of foreign residents at local level - "Residence-based participation: a new reality of modern democracy", 27 November 2013

• Conferences organised in co-operation with a national media

• NGO initiatives sponsored by the City of Strasbourg in the framework of a call for projects

APPENDIX

Initiatives to be presented in the labs

LAB1

The German Pirate Party

Bringing new forms of participation to the political scene is the aim of liquid democracy. The German pirate party experiments with different materialisations of the abstract concept of liquid democracy to explore the possibilities of Internet-based political discussion and decision processes. This is not only inside the organisation itself but also for including and servicing civil society or regional institutions. A key aspect is the integration of formerly divided concepts of representational and direct democratic participation and features of social internetworking of the participants.
Website: https://www.piratenpartei.de/

Representatives of mainstream parties

LAB2

Change.org, Transnational

Change.org is the world's largest petition platform with more than 30 million Change.org users in 196 countries. Whether it's a mother fighting bullying in her daughter's school, customers pressing banks to drop unfair fees, or citizens calling corrupt officials to account, thousands of campaigns started by ordinary citizens have won on Change.org. Change.org provides the tools and the know-how to campaign for a cause, and by inspiring everyone to discover what's possible when they stand up and speak out.
Website: http://www.change.org

Russian Public Initiative, Russia

The Russian Public Initiative is an online system introduced by the Russian authorities for the public presentation and balloting of proposals from Russian citizens. The government will consider all proposals garnering the support of at least 100,000 citizens. It is in line with authorities' efforts to ensure that on the one hand people have some degree of participation in legislative or normative initiatives and on the other hand that the government can monitor people's concerns.

LAB3

It's all about Freedom, Philippines, by Friedrich Naumann Foundation

The initiative targets Filipino youth and activists in - and potential supporters of - political parties and NGOs. The campaign capitalises on programs that generate participation, connote sustainability and trigger ripple effects. In addition, they aim to foster debate on different issues related to the concept of freedom, identify social and legislative restraints to freedom, and develop and promote policies to enhance political and economic freedom.
Website: http://www.fnf.org.ph/

Questionnez Vos Elus, FACEP, France

FACEP is a French non-profit association created in October 2012, whose aim is to reinforce civic education & participation, in particular through the use of information technology and communication. The first project of the association was to implement in May 2013 questionnezvoselus.org, a platform enabling French citizens to question elected people and candidates to elections. The goal of this initiative is to create trust between citizens & their elected people through more transparency, empowerment & accountability. Specific programs will be developed to help young citizens better understand local, national and European institutions.
Website: http://questionnezvoselus.org/

LAB4: Natalia Project, Civil Rights Defenders, Sweden

Civil Rights Defenders has launched a potentially life-saving personal alarm, the Natalia Project that uses GPS and social media to inform of a kidnapping within seconds. What makes the Natalia Project unique is

the connection to social media. Within minutes after an attack has taken place, people around the world will know and be able to take action. The bracelet uses a mobile signal to notify of an attack and issues a real-time GPS location of the victim to Civil Rights Defenders' headquarters in Stockholm and to 3-5 nearby contacts (called shields), so that they can instantly act. Civil Rights Defenders then forward the information to social media followers who are also urged to take action.
Website: http://natalia.civilrightsdefenders.org/

LAB5

Balkanleaks, Bulgaria

Following the example of the whistle-blowers site Wikileaks, Balkanleaks promote transparency and fight organised crime and political corruption in the Balkan states. The site is accepting confidential documents related to political, criminal or financial topics in a secure, anonymous way, through a secured and encrypted upload server. The documents are reviewed and published by experimented journalists after checking the information. Balkanleaks are now working on a new, distributed approach, which can extend and remodel the concept of whistleblowing platform.
Website: http://www.balkanleaks.eu/

LAB6

Legislative crowdsourcing, Finnish Parliament & Open Ministry, Finland

This session features two models in which crowdsourcing is used in law-making in Finland. On the Open Ministry (www.avoinministerio.fi) online platform citizens propose petitions online. According to the Citizens Initiative Act those petitions have to be discussed in the Parliament if they gather 50,000 signatures in 6 months. Apart from gathering signatures, Open Ministry drafts the actual bills based on petitions with volunteer lawyers and other experts.

In another Finnish model, crowdsourcing is applied in law-making process in first mapping problems regarding the law and then finding solutions to those problems. Crowdsourcing as problem solving is used in off-road traffic law preparation on an online platform (www. suomijoukkoistaa.fi) with gamification features such as gathering points and badges. The project is a pilot project of the Finnish Ministry of Environment and the Committee for the Future in the Finnish Parliament.
Website: http://www.avoinministerio.fi/; http://www.suomijoukkoistaa.fi/

Semantic polling

Semantic polling is a technique to analyse large collections of online data, based on specific search words in tweets or similar texts exchanged on the social networks, in order to draw up conclusions of public opinion on varied subjects. Companies such as Linguamatics ou Semiocast are specialised in this semantic polling, which can be used, for example, in the framework of election campaigns, but also during political debates covering questions of a general nature. A new way of informing (virtually in real time) political parties and decision-makers what citizens think, but in itself raising new questions.

LAB7:

Popvox, Popvox, USA

POPVOX is a neutral and transparent advocacy platform for civic engagement and legislative information. POPVOX begins with all bills pending in the U.S. Congress, displaying the statements of advocacy groups, trade associations and other organisations on the issues. Individuals can write an informed message to Congress, which POPVOX delivers to the appropriate Congressional office, with delivery confirmation. All input is aggregated publicly so that the media - and the People - can "hear what Congress is hearing."
Website: https://www.popvox.com/

Citoyen et Parlement, France

Website: https://www.parlement-et-citoyens.fr/

LAB8:

Networked Networks, The Democratic Society, United Kingdom

Every place is a network of interconnected networks. This laboratory will consider how we can use existing free tools to create connections and democratic conversations between government, campaigners and influential active citizens such as school association chairs, bloggers and parish councillors. It will revolve around the work of the Democratic Society and Lewes District Council (UK) in a mixed urban-rural district of about 100,000 people, comprising 41 towns and villages.
Website: http://www.demsoc.org/

Your Priorities, Citizens Foundation, Iceland

The Citizens Foundation of Iceland believes democracy is in trouble. Lack of trust and participation especially by young people is a big problem. Your Priorities is a powerful open source eDemocracy web application designed by the non profit Citizens Foundation to help groups of people speak with one voice. The Citizens Foundation won the European e-Democracy Awards in 2011 and has won numerous Icelandic awards for innovation and participation. Your Priorities is nominated for United Nations WSA awards in 2013. The award winning Better Reykjavik website in Iceland uses Your Priorities. It has record breaking participation and political representatives processing ideas from citizens every month.
Website: https://www.yrpri.org/home/world

LAB9

iHub, Kenya

The iHub User experience laboratory has designed methods for encouraging citizen participation in governance and opening up the democratic space in Africa. Recently the ihub UX laboratory worked with Ushahidi for the citizen reporting platform Uchaguzi.co.ke, a tool that allows local citizens to report on governance and/or electoral malpractice to keep the process honest, but also help organisations like the red cross, the police and other emergency services respond to incidences. The information is citizen driven and that is the power of the platform. Uchaguzi uses both a mobile application and simple SMS short code for citizens who can't afford a smart phone.
Website: www.ihub.co.ke/

Electoral risk management

International IDEA's Electoral Risk Management Tool (ERMTool) is designed to empower those who have immediate responsibility for, or specific interest in, preventing and mitigating election-related violence, such as Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs), security sector agencies, civil society and other state and non-state actors. The tool is a software application with three modules that allows for a three step system: research/learn, analyse and act. The information gathered helps the user build capacity to understand, analyse, prevent and mitigate outbreaks of election-related violence. The ERMTool has been tested and piloted in partnership with national stakeholders from Colombia, Sri Lanka, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kenya, including the Department of Political Affairs of the African Union, and will be launched as a global public good in October 2013.

LAB10: CiviQ, Ireland

The goal of CiviQ is to enable fair and transparent engagement of all social perspectives during consultations and deliberations on a policy issue in order to enhance the sustainability of the outcome. The process captures and analyses a broad stream of naturally expressed opinion on an issue (e.g. in newspapers, radio interviews, interviews etc.) and opinions expressed during consultations. A small number of participants are asked to subjectively evaluate the statements by ranking them in a particular grid. From these data they extract the main narratives or social discourses on an issue. During live deliberations, this method is used to support visualisation of opinion positions and changes during the course of the meeting.
Website: http://www.civiq.eu

LAB11: Direct democracy – the Swiss model

Between 1848 and 1868 the Swiss regional "Democratic people's movements" were advocating popular rights leading to the creation of new democratic instruments that transformed the Swiss polity into a direct democracy: cantonal and federal Governments and Parliaments had to share the political power with the

citizens. Citizens could not only elect their representatives but could also decide in law-making and constitutional reforms (Referenda and Popular Initiatives). Today Direct Democracy is part of the Swiss identity and contributes to the integration and the well-being of the very heterogeneous Swiss society. It might be a source of inspiration to others how to overcome the crises of democracy although there are shortcomings in the Swiss use of direct democracy (exclusion of too many non-citizens; insufficient constitutional interface between democracy and human rights; lack of adequate rules and limits concerning the financial transparency). Especially interesting are also the e-voting experiments under way in order to enable especially the Swiss far abroad to participate in the Swiss direct democracy.
Website: http://www.ge.ch/evoting/english/welcome.asp

LAB12: Citizinvestor, USA

There are countless government projects in the U.S. and around the world that are not completed due to lack of funding. These are projects like building new parks, renovating neighbourhood pools and adding bike lanes - projects that governments want to take on and citizens want to invest in, but often can't. Crowdfunding focused on government projects is sprouting up in the U.S. and abroad, giving citizens a direct say in where government spends their money for the first time in history. In this lab, Citizinvestor – a crowdfunding platform for government projects in the U.S - will present the different models for civic crowd funding and will lead a discussion on the biggest questions surrounding this new form of civic participation.
Website: http://www.citizinvestor.com/

LAB13: PortoAlegre.cc, Brazil

PortoAlegre.cc is based on the concept of wikicity, designed to provide visibility for causes created by the population, promoting stronger citizenship, social commitment and shared responsibility. The platform's operation is based on the methodology of social intelligence, formed by four axes: Culture of Citizenship, Ethics of Care, Shared responsibility and Civic Engagement. Through these joint axes, the team responsible for PortoAlegre.cc mobilises face-to-face and digital actions through social networks, volunteers' meetings and events.
Website: http://www.portoalegre.cc/

LAB14:

Municipality of Amadora, Portugal

Participatory Budgeting is an instrument of participatory democracy characterised by being universal and direct, allowing citizens to participate in the discussion of local public policies. It is directed at residents and workers in the municipality of Amadora, who may present their proposals in public meetings in the Parish Councils of the county and/or through the Internet (website of the Municipality). Proposals are selected according to criteria of relevance, contribution to strengthening social and territorial cohesion, which is a strategic objective of development of the city, and of economic and financial rationality.
Website: http://www.ward49.com/

49th Ward of Chicago, USA

In an innovative experiment in direct democracy, transparency, and economic reform, the residents of the 49th Ward of Chicago are asked to participate for the third year in the Participatory Budgeting process. The first year, over 100 volunteers worked to develop 36 projects. Of these 14 were selected in a vote by over 1600 members of the community to receive a total of $1.3 million in funding–the entire capital infrastructure budget from the wards' Menu Fund. In 2012, 21 projects made it onto the ballot in addition to a separate question on the percentage of the Menu Fund that should be dedicated exclusively to street resurfacing. The 49th Ward is the first political jurisdiction in the nation to implement a participatory budgeting process.
Website: http://www.ward49.com/

LAB15:

Loomio, New Zealand

Loomio is an online platform for community governance and collaborative decision-making, developed by a co-operative social enterprise in Wellington, New Zealand. More than 3,000 people in hundreds of groups in more than 20 countries are already using Loomio as early adopting beta-testers. Users range from businesses to community organisations, software projects and social movements, to local and national government organisations. In New Zealand, Loomio is working closely with local government, providing a tool for large-scale citizen collaboration with Wellington City Council.
Website: https://www.loomio.org/

Kyopol, Spain

The project aims to provide a free non-partisan environment to foster municipal civic participation. NGOs, citizens, civil servants, politicians & media are provided with tools to communicate, discuss, carry out participatory processes, coordinate internal work, etc. This environment, whose name is KyoPol (acronym for: "Symbiotic City"), is being constructed as Free Software and the aim is to make it sustainable both in developed and developing countries. The research, design and construction of the system are characterized by their interdisciplinary and collaborative approach, incorporating socio-political, technical and participative components.
Website: http://www.kyopol.net/

Puzzled by Policy, Ireland

Puzzled by Policy (PBP) aims to strengthen citizen voices through an engaging and easy-to-use eParticipation platform to learn about and discuss important policy issues such as immigration - an area that directly impacts often hard-to-reach and socially exclude groups within society, and yet rarely incorporates their voices. PBP combines innovative and interactive online tools to engage citizens in the immigration and policy-making process. An immigration profiler helps users learn more about immigration issues and shows them where they stand in comparison to other stakeholders and users. The profiler can be embedded on any website/blog/social-media site. There is also a discussion forum, which enables citizen deliberation. Summaries of this participation are then passed onto interested policy-makers, who in turn provide feedback on the comments, increasing citizens influence on decision-making.
Website: http://www.puzzledbypolicy.eu/

LAB16:

Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET), Uganda

The goals of this initiative are to create awareness of the need for good governance and service delivery among the grassroots communities and local Community based Organisations in five districts of Northern Uganda. The aim is to improve their capacity in ICT skills, to enable them to collect, package and disseminate information on corruption and poor public service delivery from their localities to the wider public, and to document and disseminate voices of the grassroots communities so as to raise awareness on corruption and poor service delivery.
Website: http://wougnet.org/

Tavaana: E-Learning Institute for Iranian Civil Society, Iran

Tavaana is Iran's pioneer e-learning institute for civil society. Tavaana – meaning 'empowered' and 'capable' in Persian – was launched in 2010 with a mission to support active citizenship and civic leadership in Iran through a multi-platform civic education and civil society capacity building program. Tavaana bridges the worlds of live, interactive e-learning with broad-based public education for democracy. Tavaana has successfully trained over 1,800 Iranians in live e-classrooms on topics ranging from digital safety to trauma healing to women's rights and has distributed learning resources – including e-books and manuals, translations, video and podcast lectures, and case studies – to thousands more. Tavaana's television programming reaches over nine million Iranians each week.

LAB17:

Tunisie4.0, Nesselfen, Tunisia

The association is participating in the debate about the future of Tunisia by producing documentaries and docu-fiction films which present different scenarios of Tunisian society's evolution along four main axes: Islam (radical vs. moderate), technology – freedom of expression on the internet vs. police state (one of the films features the new Tunisian pirate party), democracy and geopolitics. So far 40 documentaries and 20 docu-fiction films have been produced. In the run-up to the (hypothetical) elections of 23 October, the association is inviting young people to film their vision of democracy in Tunisia and encourage them by offering a price of 2500€ for the film that will gain the most votes. They are using Facebook and other social media, as well as traditional media to reach out to people. There are about 2500 visitors per day on the website.

Website: http://www.tunisie4.org/

Lenguas Jovenes (Languages of Youth), Puerta Joven, Mexico

Lenguas Jóvenes (Languages of Youth) is a project that fosters youth cultural expressions through mobile phones for intercultural dialogue. Puerta Joven, a youth-led organization, visits schools and community centres with young professional filmmakers to teach the use of arts and new technologies as a way to promote cultural interaction and appreciation of cultural diversity. The young filmmaker teaches the beneficiaries, aged twelve to twenty years old, how to use creative tools found in mobile phones (photo, audio and video) to develop short films. Young people from different cultural identities cooperate with each other to generate shared cultural expressions and express their ideas about youth engagement, cultural diversity and peace. The project serves urban communities where indigenous youth groups have migrated and are being discriminated because of their cultural identity or the use of an indigenous language.

Website: http://www.puertajoven.org/web/lenguas-jovenes/

LAB18: The Guardian Global Citizen Journalism Programme

The Guardian Global Citizen Journalism Programme discovers and develops the best writing talent among oppressed and marginalised communities around the world. Through training, support and dissemination it educates, empowers and amplifies the voices of these people and bring to the attention of a global audience previously unheard stories.

The Guardian works with communities to develop stories and help provide solutions to some of the most affecting social, political, and environmental issues of today. By empowering disadvantaged people through journalism they hope to achieve real social progress in their communities.

Lab 19: What is empowerment and how to fix it: EU global trends 2030

To date, there is no universally accepted definition of the term empowerment or easy way to measure its evolution over time. While the idea that technological progress and particularly ICT is a factor, it is only one facet of the empowerment diamond. The first part of the lab will look at drivers of empowerment (The Education, health and wealth fix, The gender equality fix, The political participation fix); the second part will be devoted to imagine policies and tools to support individual empowerment (ex. media literacy? Citizen's juries? Free access to broadband internet? Collective intelligence networks?) This lab aims to discuss and build on the results of ongoing work undertaken in the context of the major and only EU inter-institutional foresight project on global trends 2030, titled "European Strategy and Policy Analysis System" (ESPAS) [http://europa.eu/espas/]. The results of this lab will also contribute to the drafting of a policy report with options and challenges for the EU in the next decade.

Website: http://europa.eu/espas/