

From competitive to cocreative democracy

Our vision for the future of democracy

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The Present

Democracies are dominated by **parties** and **lobby groups** that try to gain political majorities for their **unilateral goals**.

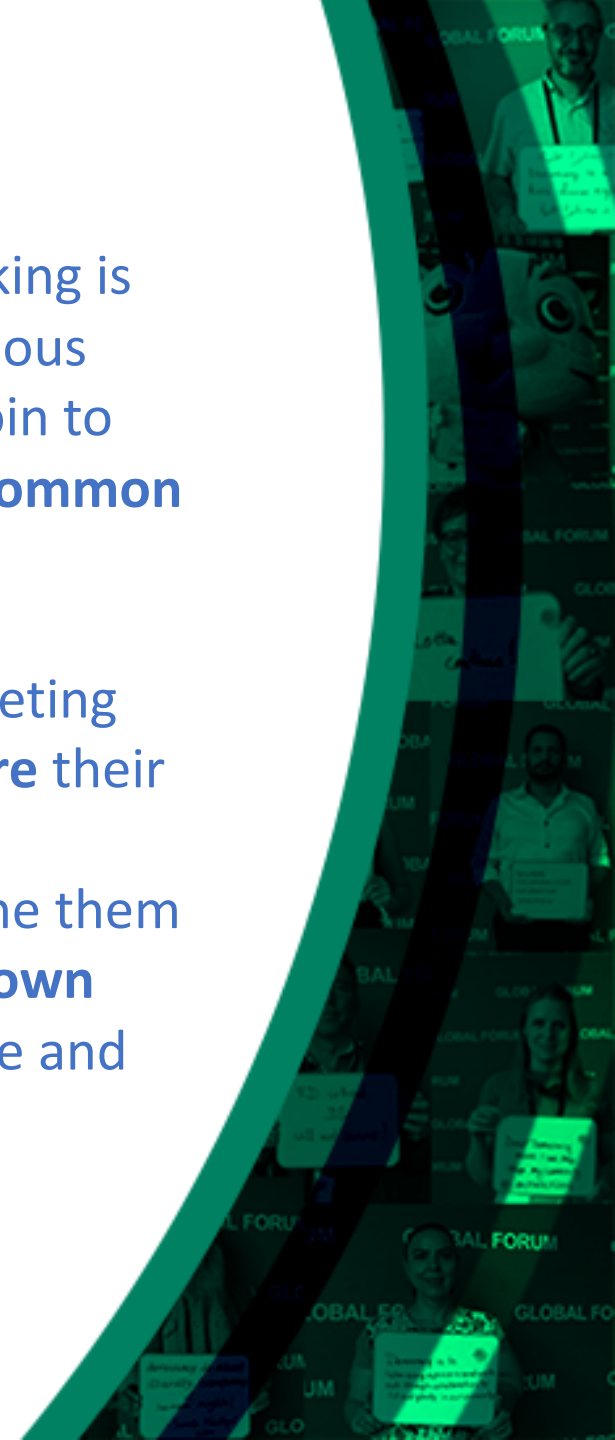
Politics often appears as a **strategic struggle** not for the common good but for **one-sided and biased claims** of powerful groups that take their limited perspective as paramount.



The Future

Democratic decision making is dominated by heterogenous **groups of citizens** that join to discuss and act in their **common good**.

Instead of forming competing interest groups they **share** their manifold views and **perspectives** and combine them to **create new and unknown solutions** in an innovative and cocreative environment.





From Utopia...

Discontent with today's politics together with **increasing public demand** for changes in democracy and a more open approach to public decision making suggest

**Cocreative
Democracy** to be a highly
desirable future.

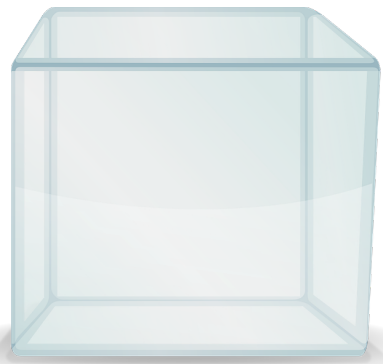
*But is it within
reach?*

...to Reality...

Four Reasons why cocreative
democracy will be shaping the future



Complexity Decisions formed by strategy and ideology no longer fit into the framework of a global, plural, complex and volatile 21st century.



Transparency Biased and one-sided solutions can and will be questioned and challenged within minutes in increasingly transparent and politically fragmented societies.

...to Reality...

Four Reasons why cocreative
democracy will be shaping the future



Collective Intelligence Resilient solutions to the more and more systemic problems of our global present and future will most likely be found by diverse and multifaceted groups that consider as many aspects as possible.



New Directions Leading social scientists have been pointing out for decades that the best solutions to complex problems come from bottom-up cooperation whereas top-down-management is more and more grappling with resilience and distrust.

Cooperative Communities concept

(finalist of
„The Global Challenges Prize 2017/2018:
A New Shape“)

Five basic principles:

- Keep it simple.
- Use existing structures.
- Minimize representation, maximize participation.
- Let local go global.
- Put trust in people.

Six main ingredients:

- Sophisticated participation toolbox
 - Local level as a beginning but not an end
 - Diverse experimental settings
 - Global participation network
 - Self-adapting evolutionary process
 - Introduction of parallel structures

Seven Toolbox contents:

Hybrid Platform*

Open Spaces

Random Selection*

ASK*

(Agile Socio Konsensing)

Artistic approaches

Advocati*

AI-enhancement

* Part of the Cooperative Communities concept

Interesting Links:

Cooperative Communities concept (and related materials):

<https://www.epics.eu/downloads/>

Some basic information about SK (in German):

<https://www.smarterlife.de/blog-beitrag/entscheidungen-elemente/>

Online-Tool for SK:

<https://acceptify.at/de/start>



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- *EPICS.eu*

is an open initiative for everyone: a social participation platform that places the needs of the people first and lets us all become cocreators of our common future.

The technical possibilities already exist. The financial expenditures are small in comparison to the benefits. The ability of people to jointly achieve great goals has been proven. And the dynamic of movements such as Fridays for Future shows that people's desire for meaningful participation is continuously growing.

- *denkzentrum|demokratie*

is an independent not-for-profit think tank focusing on the future of democracy. We see tremendous potentials in modern democracies: They could develop and flourish in many ways by employing innovative instruments of decision making that give citizens a fair chance to engage in politics in a respectful and effective manner.

This is why denkzentrum|demokratie has been supporting *EPICS.eu* from the start and is engaged in several other initiatives aimed at renewing democracy.