

Democracy and Media in the Digital Era - Conference

14 Nov 2019, Delegation to EU of Catalonia, 227 Rue de la Loi, Brussels

Programme

9.30 – 10.30 **Opening Keynotes - Chair:** George Metakides, President DigEnlight

- [Anna Asimakopoulou](#) (MEP)
- [Claire Bury](#) (Dep DG, EC-CONNECT)

10.30 – 10.45 **Coffee Break**

10.45 – 12.00 **Democracy Organisation - Chair:** Jacques Bus, DigEnlight

In various places activities are ongoing or have been done to analyse and strengthen involvement of citizens in political decision making. This session presents some and gives the lessons learned.

- [Marc Esteve del Valle](#) (Univ Groningen, NL) - *Platform Politics: Party Organization in the Network Society*
- [Clodagh Harris](#) (UCC, IRL) – *Doing democracy differently – lessons from Ireland’s Citizen Assembly*
- [Cato Leonard](#) (GlassRoots, BE) – *G1000 Belgian Citizens’ summit*
- [Erika Widegren](#) (Re-Imagine Europe)
- Repr. Catalanian Gov - Project Participa

12.00 - 12.30 **Keynote:** [Andrew Keen](#) – *How to fix Democracy*

12.30 – 13.15 **Sandwich Lunch**

13.15 – 14.30 **Media and Democracy - Chair:** Jo Pierson, VUB

The media are necessary for a good functioning democracy. At the same time the media and certainly also the social media with their massive data collection and use for behaviour predictability, can have negative effects on the democratic processes.

- James Morrison (TBC)
- [Wout van Wijk](#) (News Media Europe)
- Repr. Facebook (TBC)
- [Mikko Salo](#) (Founder Faktabaari)

14.30 – 15.45 **ITC for Democracy - Chair:** Stefan Klauser, ETH

Digitisation is a challenge to democratic societies. The development of AI, IoT and the collection of behavioural data lies unprecedented power in the hands of private companies. Can digitisation also be used to strengthen self-organisation and democratic processes?

- [Dirk Helbing](#) (ETH, Zürich, CH) - *Digital Empowerment: How to Make It work*
- [Ugo Pagallo](#) (Univ Turin, Chair SC AI4People)
- [Mike Kalomeni](#) (Elementus)
- Repr. Catalanian Gov. - Project Decidim

15.45 – 16.00 **Coffee Break**

16.00 – 17.00 **Final Panel: Challenges and Solutions - Chair:** Paul Timmers

This panel will look back at the discussions of the day and discuss conclusions and recommendations for policy development.

- Andrew Keen, Dirk Helbing, Ugo Pagallo, ...

17.00 **Closure** followed by informal gathering