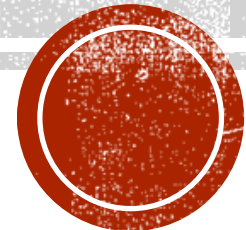


INNOVATIVE DEMOCRATIC APPROACHES AND TOOLS

E-DEMOCRACY IN GERMANY



Angoulême, France



Co-funded by
the European Union

OUTLINE



- Short History of German Democracy
- E-Democracy in Germany
 - Electronic voting
 - Online Petitions
 - Bürgerhaushalt – Participatory Budgeting
 - E-Transparency – abgeordnetenwatch.de
- The Future of E-Democracy in Germany



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SHORT HISTORY OF GERMAN DEMOCRACY

- First German democracy: Weimar Republic
- 1918 — 1933, Golden Twenties
- Constitution was flawed
- Nazi-party exploited it to gain power
- Result: third Reich 1933 — 1945



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SHORT HISTORY OF GERMAN DEMOCRACY

- Germany is divided in FRG (west) and GDR (east)
- FRG is democratic state
- GDR is not really democratic, despite its name
- Reunion in 1990
- Only since then democracy in whole of Germany



E-DEMOCRACY IN GERMANY

ELECTRONIC VOTING

- Tested on a few occasions
- E.g. online voting for federal parliament in Hamburg 2008
- Always cancelled by constitutional court
- Suspected safety risks



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E-DEMOCRACY IN GERMANY

ONLINE PETITIONS

- Possible on website of the parliament
- Every viable petition gets checked
- 50.000+ supporters: creator can speak in front of committee
- Example: petition for more climate protection 2020



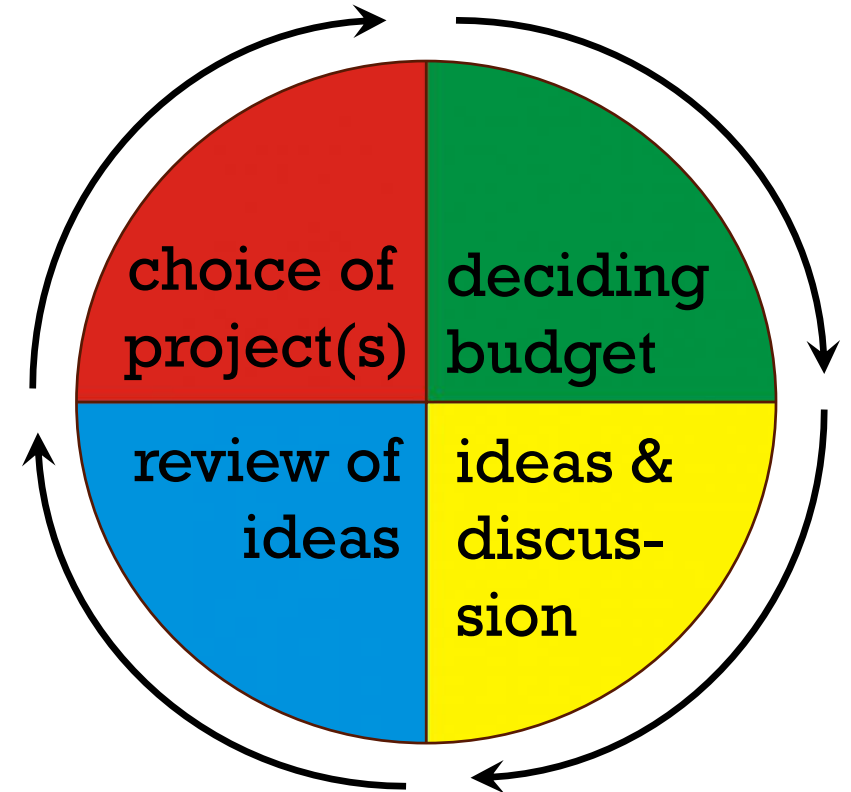
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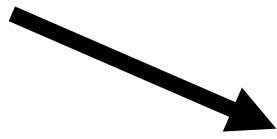
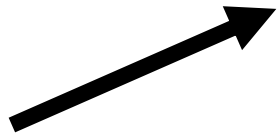


E-DEMOCRACY IN GERMANY

BÜRGERHAUSHALT – PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

- Bürgerhaushalt = citizen budget
- Citizens decide on what project money is spent on
- Iterative process
- Example: my hometown Zella-Mehlis





E-DEMOCRACY IN GERMANY

E-TRANSPARENCY – ABGEORDNETENWATCH.DE

- Abgeordneter = member of parliament
- Non-profit website
- Has information about all parliament members
- Possibility to publicly ask questions
- Enables citizens to inform themselves and control parliament members they voted for



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THE FUTURE OF E-DEMOCRACY IN GERMANY

- Germany is behind most other EU-countries regarding digital infrastructure
- Process might take a while
- Innovations like electronic ID card can help the process



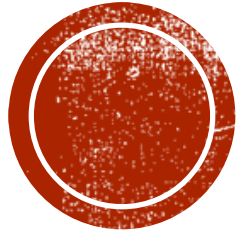
The internet is
new territory
for all of us.

- Angela Merkel, 2013



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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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