Vienna Doctoral College on Digital Humanism

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Participatory budgeting and citizens

Digital democracy and misinformation

The Project

Participatory budgeting (PB) is the participation of non-elected citizens to the allocation of public funds. This means that citizens, usually in a municipality setting, can **propose projects and take a vote**.

Computer Science has formal ideas about fairness in this process and in the methods used to determine the election outcome (voting rules). The purpose of CitizenPB is to **determine what ideas of fairness citizens care about** with regards to the PB process and PB voting rules.

Interdisciplinary Approach

As **researchers from Political Science and Computer Science**, we meet frequently and aim to communicate ideas from our respective fields clearly.

We leave the space for people to ask questions and for us to learn from each other.

Research Methods

We are using surveys to **collect novel empirical data**.

Specifically, we elicit **citizens' preferences** and will aim to use this information to develop new voting rules that match these preferences.

Project Contribution

CitizenPB will contribute on a policy and social level by understanding citizens' **preferences and providing methods to reflect them better.**

The insight we aim to provide for local authorities can help in creating more engaging and popular PB processes. **We want people to participate in democracy!**