

Digital Democracy Day 2019

Harnessing the Potential of Technology in Elections

7th March 2019, BIP, Rue Royale 2-4, 1000 Brussels

 #DDD2019

Background information

Our 2019 Digital Democracy Day will take place in Brussels on March 7 and will focus on the use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to engage citizens in political elections, with a particular focus on the 2019 European Parliament elections.

Many organisations, whether institutional or from the civil society, have been developing e-voting practices, online platforms or applications to engage citizens in elections, by enabling them to share their opinion, to participate in policy debates, to identify their elected representatives and political candidates, and to have access to information on the decisions taken.

The Digital Democracy Day 2019 is being organised in the framework of the YOU VOTE EU project, under the European Union's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Commission. As part of this project, ECAS and its partners developed "Your Vote Matters", an [online participative platform](#) to engage European citizens in the 2019 European Parliament elections, by informing and connecting voters with their current representatives or new candidates.

The event will not only present the outcomes of the YOU VOTE EU platform but also allow experts and participants to discuss how digital technology can be used in elections for different purposes. It will also give recommendations on the best practices to stimulate and increase the participation of EU citizens in the 2019 European Parliament elections, as well as their knowledge and understanding of current and future EU policies.

The conference will feature two panels:

- *Connect, share and vote!* How digital technology can be used in elections;
- *Engaging the disengaged!* Reviving citizen engagement in European Elections through e-democracy.

Agenda

- 9.00 – 9.30** Registration
- 9.30 – 9.45** Keynote Speech
- **Mady Delvaux**, Member of the European Parliament, S&D Group
 - **Alexander Kleinig**, Head of the Concept & Design, European Parliament
- 9.45 – 11.15** Panel 1: *Connect, share and vote!* How digital technology can be used in elections
- Moderator: **Elisa Lironi**, Senior Manager European Democracy, ECAS
- **Federico Anghel **, Campaigner/Institutional Relations, Riparte Il Futuro
 - **Elena Gozun**, Europuls
 - **Tom de Grunwald**, Co-Founder, SwapMyVote
 - **Bogdan Iv nel**, CEO, Code for Romania
 - **Laura Bretea**, Policy Officer, Democratic Governance, DG DEVCO, European Commission
- 11:15 – 11:30** Coffee break
- 11:30 – 13:00** Panel 2: *Engaging the disengaged!* Reviving citizen engagement in European Elections through e-democracy
- Moderator: **Christopher Gl ck**, President, Young European Federalists
- **Doru Frantescu**, Director and Co-Founder, Vote Watch Europe
 - **Sam Van der Staak**, Head of the Europe Programme, International IDEA
 - **Aleksandra Kluczka**, Campaign Officer, European Elections, European Youth Forum
 - **Errikos Pitsos**, Founder and CEO, Kialo
- 13:00 – 14:00** Lunch