

NEXT GENERATION DELIBERATION CELEBRATION

June 10 2021

CALL FOR PAPERS

EARLY CAREER SYMPOSIUM
IN DELIBERATION RESEARCH

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE
PARTICIPATION IS FREE
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MAY 10

KU LEUVEN

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CALL FOR PAPERS

On the 10th of June 2021 the Democratic Innovations and Legitimacy Research Group at the KU Leuven organizes the NEXT GDC symposium. We invite Early Career Scholars in the field of deliberation to come together (virtually) for in-depth discussion of ongoing research, panel debates about the state and future of the field and networking.

Background

Concerns about democratic crises abound: lack of democratic legitimacy, uncivil political discourse, societal inequality, populism, polarization, and short termism. Deliberation in its many shapes and forms is often considered an answer to these problems. Ranging from participatory processes to deliberative debate styles, deliberative approaches are popular in the quest of improving the (perceived) functioning of democracy. Furthermore, a systemic understanding of deliberation has also provided a new lens to understand also traditionally non-deliberative spaces such as protests and social movements as essential parts of the wider deliberative system.

Several questions remain: What role can participatory processes play in strengthening democratic outcomes, including equality and (perceived) legitimacy? What is the deliberative quality and impact of political communication? How do new forms of decision-making and will-formation connect to existing representative systems? And many more.

We invite both empirical and theoretical work on deliberation, broadly understood. Interdisciplinary work that approaches the field from a psychological, anthropological, sociological, philosophical or communication science perspective is most welcome.

Goals

The NEXT GDC symposium aims at bringing together scholars in the wider research field of deliberation and democratic innovation. We specifically target Early Career Scholars, many of whom have had little chance in the past year to formally and informally meet their peers, receive feedback on their work and exchange ideas. Specifically, our goals are:

- **In-depth feedback** and discussion of research papers (participants will be required to read the papers in their workshops and serve as discussants)
- Giving early career scholars a **platform for meta-debates** about the state and future of deliberation research
- **Informal connecting** to peers in your research field

If you are interested in participating, please send an abstract of 300 words max before the **10th of May** to demoينو@kuleuven.be. We strive to include all voices, particularly those that are traditionally underrepresented in academia. Please decide for yourself whether you are an Early Career Scholar. There is no participation fee. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us (demoينو@kuleuven.be).

We are looking forward to a productive and fun symposium!

The organizers,

Hannah Werner & Lisa van Dijk,

Prof. Sofie Marien, Ine Goovaerts, Emma Turkenburg, Wouter Vanbroekhoven