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FEDERATION FOR INNOVATION — IN DEMOCRACY EUROPE

YVES DEJAEGHERE

— FIDE

IF WE EXPERIENCE THAT DELIBERATIVE
DEMOCRACY WORKS

THEN WE WOULD WANT THIS TO BECOME A
FIXED PART OF OUR INSTITUTIONAL DESIGN.

WHAT QUESTIONS BECOME IMPORTANT AT
THAT POINT?

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→ WHEN DO YOU DO THEM AND HOW OFTEN?
(RESOURCES)

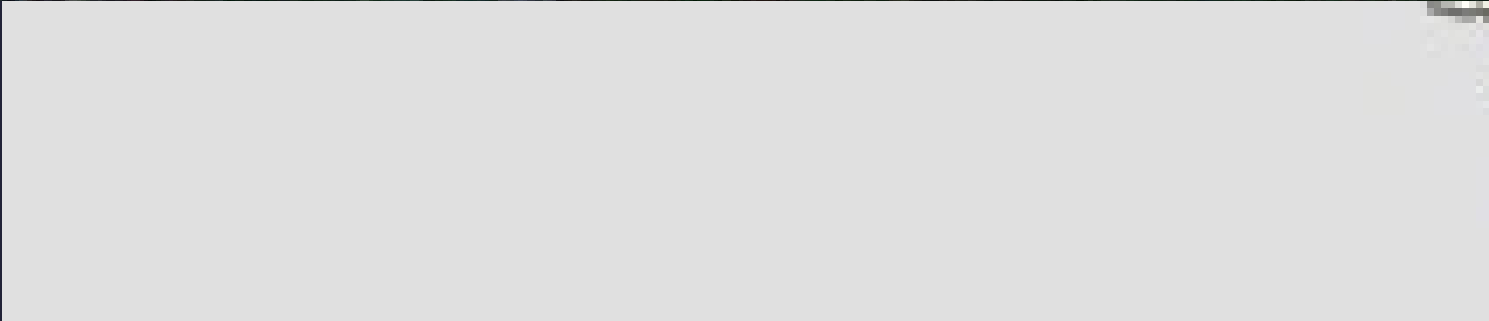
→ WHO CAN DECIDE THE TOPICS?

→ HOW DOES THIS CLICK INTO THE EXISTING "TRIAS POLITICA"?

→ WHO MUST FOLLOW-UP? UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS?

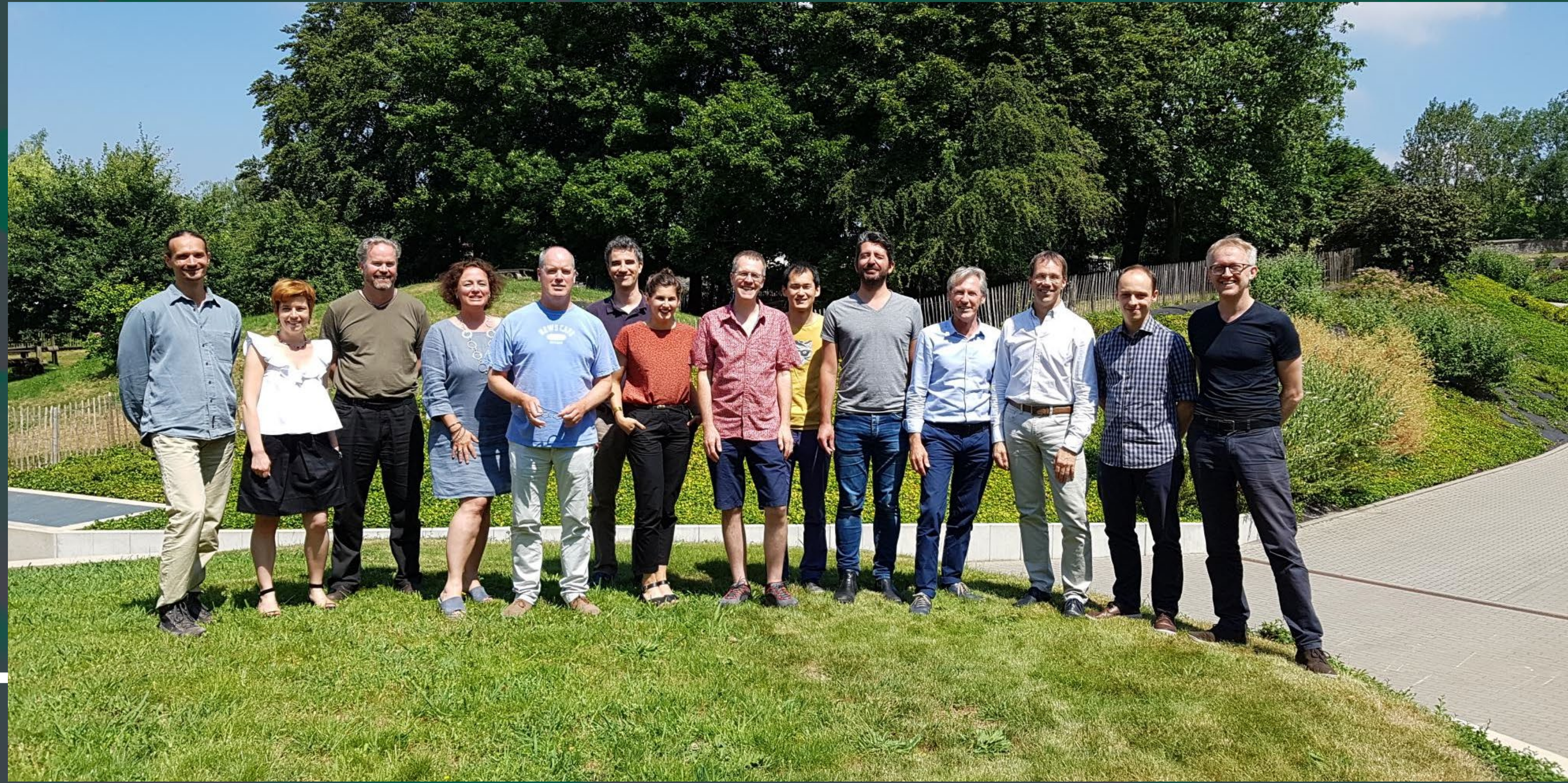
→ WHO CONTROLS THAT THIS FOLLOW-UP HAPPENS?

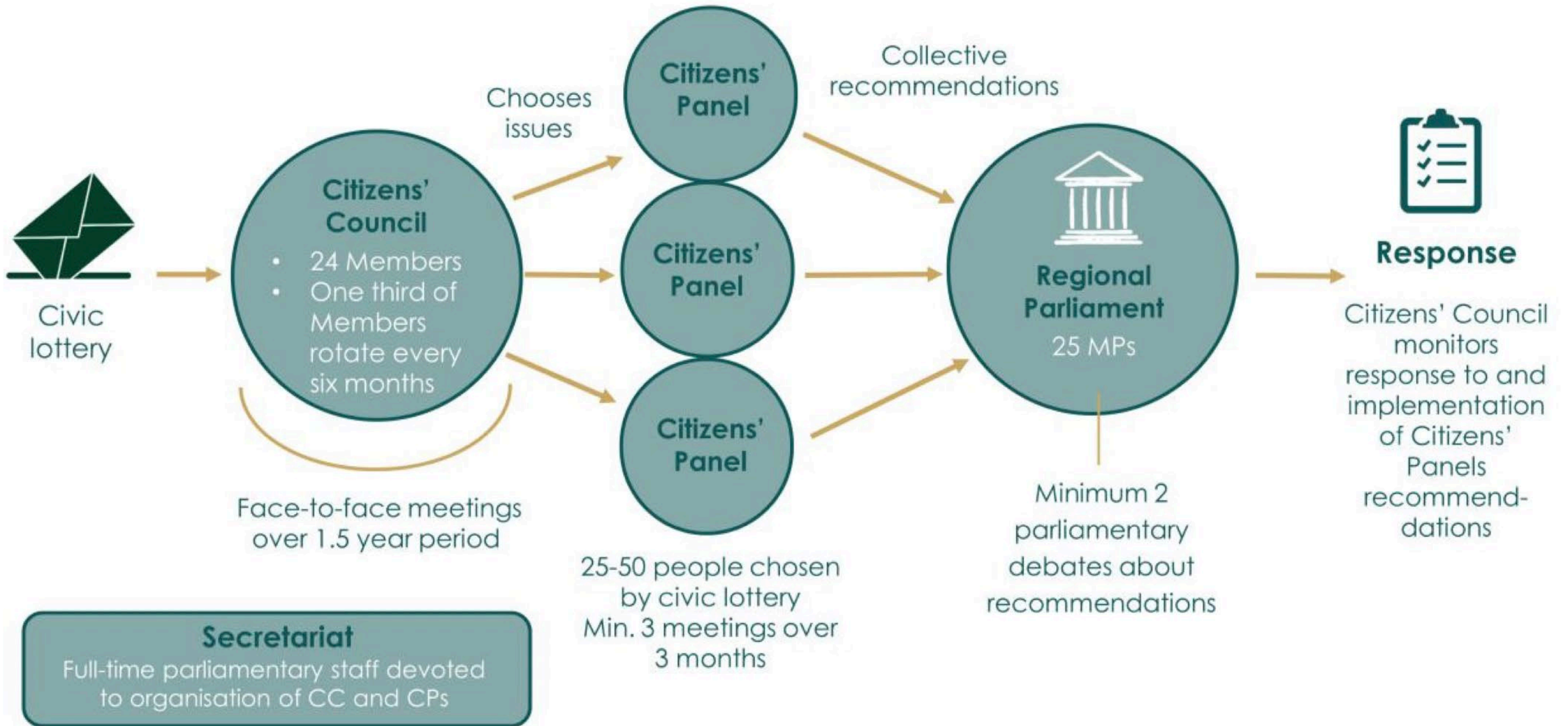
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A UNANIMOUS VOTE IN THE PARLIAMENT FOR THE BILL...FEBRUARY 2019



Europe

Oct 5th 2019 edition >

Tiny democracy

A Belgian experiment that Aristotle would have approved of

Direct democracy in action



WHAT MAKES IT UNIQUE?

- **AGENDA COMPLETELY SET BY CITIZENS**
- **FOLLOW-UP IS DONE BY A SPECIFIC BODY COMPOSED OF CITIZENS**
- **A BILL INSTALLED THIS MODEL SO UNTILL ANOTHER BILL WOULD BE VOTED TO STOP IT, ASSEMBLIES MUST BE ORGANISED**

- Until now three Citizen Assemblies have been completed, one on the working-conditions of people working in care professions (mainly in retirement homes), one about inclusive education and a third assembly on the topic of affordable housing. A fourth one digital skills (and hence digital divides) is running at the moment.
- Only one has already reached a full cycle which took about 2 years. Out of the 14 recommendations from that assembly, 9 will receive a follow-up (66%).
- Response rates have been high, with 9% of the citizens receiving an invitation willing to participate.
- The three assemblies that have taken place produced 90 different recommendations that have been handed over to Parliament (half of them came from the one on housing).
- Over 4000 citizens of the Region have received an invitation by now to participate in the process. This is over 1 in 20 adult inhabitants.
- The Citizen Council has had 39 different citizens as member and in total 84 citizens have been a member of a Citizen Assembly (from september 2019 to november 2021).

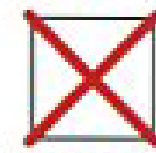
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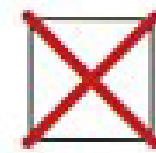
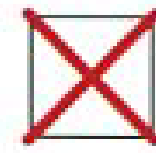
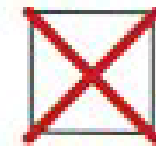
- WHY THERE? WHY
- PROXIMITY (IT'S
- A FIRST "TRIAL
- NO FULL TIME
- SMALL REGION
- SOME LUCK CO

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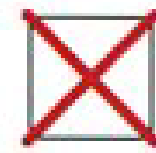
DAVID VAN REYBROUCK



CONTRA LAS ELECCIONES



CÓMO SALVAR
LA DEMOCRACIA



- LESSONS LEARNED:

- FOLLOW-UP GUARANTEED IN A BILL WORKS
- RESOURCES ARE NOT ONLY ABOUT MONEY BUT ALSO THE CAPACITY OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE FIXED COUNCIL
- STILL NEED TO INVOLVE WIDER PUBLIC MORE
- YOUNG PEOPLE REMAIN HARDEST TO GET INTO THE ROOM
- HOW TO MAKE SURE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE BETTER DESIGNED TO FIT INTO POLICY-MAKING?
- CITIZENS WHO PARTICIPATE ALSO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF COMPLEXITY OF POLICY-MAKING

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QUESTIONS



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