Opening Political Parties

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Opening Political Parties
Parliaments are populated by parties.

Parliamentary life is permeated by political parties and its realities. Parties are the beating hearth and brain of Parliaments.

How does that happen? What is the role of parties in Parliament?
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- Parties represent politically groups of citizens united around some common ideas

- 1. Represent ➔ This is what happens inside Parliament

- 2. Unite ➔ This is what happens outside Parliament

Hence, if we are aiming at changing how Parliament relate to citizens, we need to change how parties relate to citizens.
What are the challenges for parties today?

- Decreasing membership / changing forms of membership.
- Volatility / uncertainty of political landscape
- Lack of trust of citizens
- Attacks to democratic principles
- De-intermediation
But parties are stepping up their game, either with new formations or with renewal of party politics.

This might inspire Parliaments to open up to citizens

- Transparency and openness
- Increasing participation
- Internal Democracy
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Transparency

Some parties are actively embracing Open Government Principles, and disclosing all its information, including:

- Funding: Income and expenditures, with invoices
- Salaries and income of individuals from other activities
- CV and assets declarations of elected officials
- Agenda of all elected officials
Free software for citizen participation.

See code on github
Eres una pieza clave para los presupuestos participativos

Presenta tus proyectos a los presupuestos participativos 2019

Propuestas más activas

**Pérgolas metálicas para sombras en el CEIP ALFREDO DI STEFANO (Valdebebas)**
El Ceip Alfredo Di Stefano no cuenta con zonas de sombra en el patio. No se han proyectado en ninguna de las 3 fases de construcción del colegio, la instalación de estos elementos.

**Personalizar placas de aparcamiento de discapacitados en el domicilio**
Los conductores con movilidad muy reducida necesitamos que la placa de reserva de aparcamiento para discapacitados que solicitamos cerca del domicilio esté personalizada con con la matrícula.

Debates más activos

¿Mejores horarios en Centros Deportivos?
¿Por qué hay proyectos aprobados y con presupuesto que no se han realizado?
Unificación propuestas sobre autónomos
Pérgolas metálicas para sombras en el CEIP ALFREDO DI STEFANO (Valdebebas)

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ROTULAR LAS CALLES EN TODAS LAS ESQUINAS

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Internal Democracy

- Many political parties are opening their selection process to the outside, with the help of technology sometimes

- TS-LKD, a conservative party in Lithuania opened a process to elect its leader opening the election outside membership

- The Democratic Party in Italy re-founded itself through a primary election

- The Popular Party in Spain selected the two candidates capable of running for President of the Party by an internal election.
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Is this working?

- Difficult to assess as innovation is happening in all parties.

- Yet, parties staying idle are in general decreasing support in many countries

- Innovative parties are being successful in general when there is a real political platform behind

- Government openness is also setting an standard that needs to be followed by parties
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Two questions for discussion:

- How much openness can we have?
- Will Parliaments jump in the wave of innovation?