



## CITIES AS ARENAS OF POLITICAL INNOVATION IN THE STRENGTHENING OF DELIBERATIVE AND PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

How is our project helping to advance the quest for more participatory and deliberative democracy?



### In theory

In our **Conceptual Framework**, we have identified several conceptual ambiguities, potential problems to be faced by the EUARENAS project, and inspiring debate topics in the fields of discourse studies, argumentative public policy, radical democracy, populism, leadership.



In addition, the latest research in progress on the topics of participation and deliberation are collated in an editorial called the **EUARENAS Working Papers Series**, published every December. Check out last year's **Working Papers Series** on "apoliticalness" and COVID-19.

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### In practice

To investigate emerging innovative and experimental governance practices and the main actors and strategies involved, we have exemplified **11 governance innovations** in European cities.

The way people consume and make sense of media can be a source of foresight for the future of democracy. The **Media Discourse Foresight Guide** walks you step-by-step through how to use media discourses as source material for signals about our future and to explore the drivers of change in society.

Lack of involvement of decision makers, not collecting feedback from participants or exploiting inadequate facilities may ultimately taint the stakeholders' perception of the pursued activities. Governing our case study and piloting works are the **Stakeholders' Inclusion Guidelines**, which seeks to foster diversity, engagement, inclusion, and influence.



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### In policy

With the **Preliminary Policy Brief** to the European Commission, we mapped out the three dimensions of policy-making and explored how deliberative democracy at the local level can enhance relevant policy issues related to civic life.



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### In person

To further knowledge exchange, we have launched a horizontal learning platform called the "**EUARENAS Community of Practice**". This community is composed of people from different professional backgrounds who share the same interest: networking, learning and sharing of data and practices on participatory and deliberative democracy in urban settings

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For all EUARENAS deliverables: [euarenas.eu/deliverables](http://euarenas.eu/deliverables)

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## What's next?

### See you in Reggio Emilia!

We are looking forward to our next Project Conference in Reggio Emilia – one of our piloting cities. Packed in three days are workshops, site visits, our first in person Community of Practice meeting, and an Urban Climate Justice Day with policy and academic panels on the topic of participatory and deliberative democracy.

### Future deliverables in the next six months:

D5.2 Lived Experience Foresight Guide – May 2022  
D1.2 State of Democracy Debate Chapter – Aug 2022  
D5.3 Social Media Foresight Guide – Sep 2022

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## About us

EUARENAS investigates the ways in which social movements coupled with local government reform initiatives manifesting themselves in local-level experiments, create momentum for political change that include more inclusive and participatory forms of governance.

### Our consortium



Get your EUARENAS postcard here!



### EUARENAS

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