The Dark Sides of Electronic Democracy

Abstract: This paper deals with the mainstream understanding of electronic democracy as a contemporary translation of the traditional ideal of direct democracy. The analysis on the theoretical presuppositions of e-democracy is followed by a critical overview of the outcomes provided by the experience. Several risks of a plebiscitary drift within digital democracy are also sketched out.

Keywords: Direct democracy, ICT, Deliberative model, General interest, Particular interests, Rule of law.

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