



# **The potential and limitations of online participation in the context of the European Green Deal**

Real Deal Summit, Central European University Budapest,  
20.06.2024



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101037071

# Introduction of the session

1. Online participation in the context of the Real Deal project (Thomas Blanchet)
2. Presentation of the DECIDIM platform (Joel Berenguer Moncada)
3. Presentation of the Make.org platforms (Nora Kiefer)
4. General discussion on the potential and limitations of online participation in the context of the European Green Deal



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# **Online participation in the context of the Real Deal project**

Thomas Blanchet (Technical University Berlin)



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# Various forms of online participation

- Synchronous: Online tools will be used to reproduce participatory processes online, or to complement face-to-face events
- Asynchronous: Online tools will be used in parallel to or in between face-to-face events (platform)



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# The role of the Real Deal online platform

- Online participation as a support to the various deliberative processes organised in the context of Real Deal
- Real Deal platform relies on DECIDIM
- Aim of the platform is to :
  - reinforce the interactions between stakeholders and citizens through a sequential approach
  - foster debates among citizens across European countries through the multilingual add-on
  - include citizens, who would not participate in deliberations otherwise
  - support transparent communication and documentation of processes and results




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# Tools provided by the platform

Tool	Short description
<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Collection of ideas which can be endorsed, geolocalised or categorised</b>
Survey	Implementation of various kinds of questionnaires
<b>Meetings</b>	<b>Reinforce the link between digital and physical participation by informing on physical events and tracking their progress</b>
Sortition	Enable sortitions among various proposals
<b>Debates</b>	<b>Similar to proposal but allowing longer thread of comments</b>
Poll	Allow for voting on a specific topic according to rules defined by the initiator of the process
Accountability	Aims to make the progression of a process more visible
News	Allow interaction among users via comments (similar to blogs)
<b>Page</b>	<b>Allow for setting up information pages with the inclusion of various sources such as video or pictures</b>

# Myrealdeal : The general structure

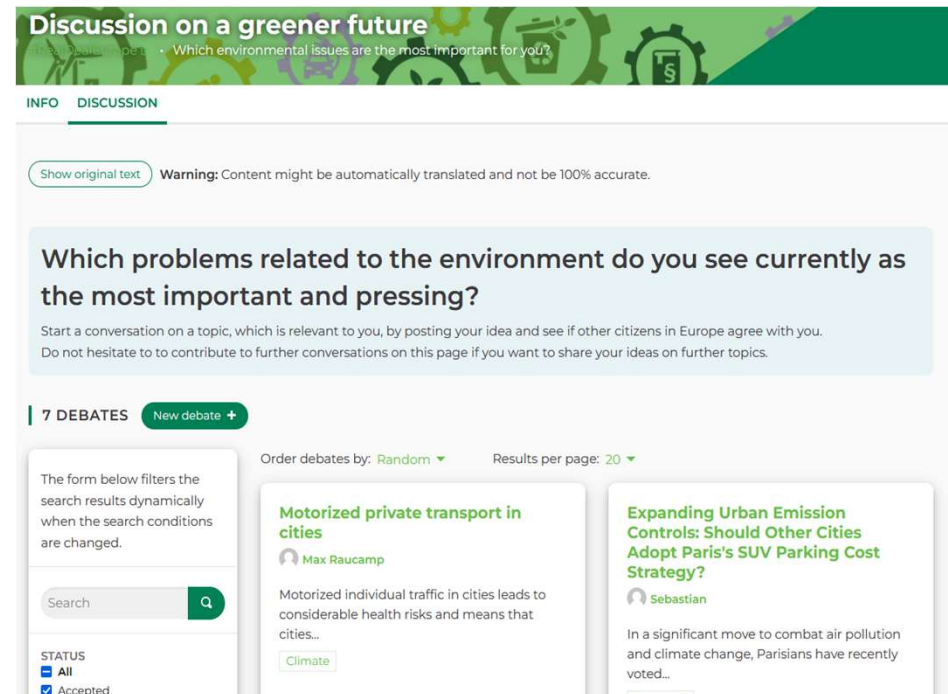


**Welcome to My Real Deal!**

JOIN CONVERSATIONS  
AROUND THE EUROPEAN  
GREEN DEAL

**ACTIVE PROCESSES**

- Feminist festival**  
Active phase Post-event: consolidate the recommendations
- Polish citizen assembly on food policy**  
Active phase Recruitment
- Skopje Climate Assembly**  
Active phase Deliberation at Climate Assembly
- Belgrade Citizens' Assembly on Food Labelling**  
Active phase Follow-Up and Closure



**Discussion on a greener future**  
Which environmental issues are the most important for you?

INFO DISCUSSION

Show original text **Warning:** Content might be automatically translated and not be 100% accurate.

**Which problems related to the environment do you see currently as the most important and pressing?**

Start a conversation on a topic, which is relevant to you, by posting your idea and see if other citizens in Europe agree with you. Do not hesitate to contribute to further conversations on this page if you want to share your ideas on further topics.

**7 DEBATES** [New debate +](#)

Order debates by: **Random** Results per page: **20**

The form below filters the search results dynamically when the search conditions are changed.

Search

**STATUS**  
☒ All  
☒ Accepted

**Motorized private transport in cities**  
Max Raucamp

Motorized individual traffic in cities leads to considerable health risks and means that cities...

Climate

**Expanding Urban Emission Controls: Should Other Cities Adopt Paris's SUV Parking Cost Strategy?**  
Sebastian


In a significant move to combat air pollution and climate change, Parisians have recently voted...



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# The participatory processes

7 PROCESSES SEE ACTIVE (5) PAST (2)



**Citizens' forum: Sustainable consumption, climate-friendly economy**

How can climate-friendly behavior become the "new normal", the "easier" choice?


What role must the s...

START DATE	END DATE
21/05/2024	05/07/2024

CREATED AT 02/05/2024 ▲ 22 STOP FOLLOWING

Current phase: Citizens' forum

**TAKE PART IN PROCESS CITIZENS' FORUM: SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION, CLIMATE-FRIENDLY ECONOMY**



**Wild Talks**

Help craft a future where people and nature thrive together


#wildtalks

START DATE	END DATE
15/05/2024	31/07/2024

CREATED AT 15/05/2024 ▲ 4 FOLLOW

Current phase: Pre-event: Online prep...

**DISCUSS HERE**



**Skopje Climate Assembly**


This is the online platform my.realeal. The platform will be a tool to support you throughout the C...

START DATE	END DATE
17/02/2024	01/10/2025

CREATED AT 14/02/2024 ▲ 18 STOP FOLLOWING

Current phase: Deliberation at Climat.

**TAKE PART IN PROCESS SKOPJE CLIMATE ASSEMBLY**



**Belgrade Citizens' Assembly on Food Labelling**


This citizens' assembly in Belgrade brings together people to discuss the significance of nutrition...

START DATE	END DATE
01/02/2024	30/06/2024

CREATED AT 04/04/2024 ▲ 18 STOP FOLLOWING

Current phase: Follow-Up and Closure

**TAKE PART IN PROCESS BELGRADE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY ON FOOD LABELLING**



**Polish citizen assembly on food policy**


A national Citizens' Assembly on food policy will be held in Poland in the Spring of 2024. The assem...

START DATE	END DATE
01/02/2024	30/06/2024

CREATED AT 04/03/2024 ▲ 21 STOP FOLLOWING

Current phase: Q&A with experts

**TAKE PART IN PROCESS POLISH CITIZEN ASSEMBLY ON FOOD POLICY**



**Feminist festival**

Help us make democracy stronger

#FeministFestival

START DATE	END DATE
01/02/2024	25/05/2024

CREATED AT 27/02/2024 ▲ 28 STOP FOLLOWING

Current phase: Post-event: consolidat...

**CONTRIBUTE HERE**

- 7 participatory processes:
  - 3 European - 4 national ones
  - 6 publics – 1 private
- Topics:
  - 2 on food and health
  - 1 on green Economy
  - 1 on Air pollution
  - 1 on biodiversity
  - 2 on the EGD in general



# Different use of the platform

**European Citizens Deliberation on the Green Transition**  
Towards a European Pact for the Future – Charting the Next Steps of Our Ecological Transition

PHASE 4 OF 4  
Closure and Follow Up  
12/02/2024 - 01/06/2024  
Process phases DISCUSS HERE

THE PROCESS TOPIC SELECTION DELIBERATION IN BRUSSELS RECOMMENDATIONS

Show original text **Warning:** Content might be automatically translated and not be 100% accurate.

A unique opportunity to deliberate with others on the future direction of the ecological transition in Europe, participating in different themed focus groups such as transforming the food and energy system, changing our economy, and protecting biodiversity.

Co-organised by the EEB and partners within the framework of the [REAL DEAL project](#), this discussion is part of a Horizon 2020 research project focused on reshaping citizens' participation and deliberative democracy in Europe. We aim to explore new formats to bring underrepresented voices to the forefront of policymaking. The insights are aimed at galvanising decision-makers to consider new modes of deliberative democracy at the EU (European Union) level, as well as propel the ideas of participants into the spotlight for future policymaking. To tackle the great challenges of our time, we need a wide-ranging and inclusive dialogue, therefore we are happy to welcome you to join the conversation.

21 Stop following

Reference: rdeu-PART-2023-11-5  
Share  
Embed

**Belgrade Citizens' Assembly on Food Labelling**  
Food Labelling in Serbia and Possible Alternatives: Road to Healthy and Environmentally Friendly Diets

PHASE 3  
Follow 15/04/2024  
Process

THE PROCESS RECOMMENDATIONS

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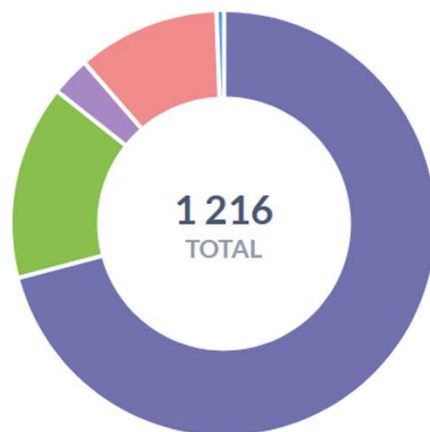
This citizens' assembly in Belgrade brings together people to discuss the significance of nutrition for health, existing legal frameworks on food safety regulation in Serbia, as well as possibilities for improving food labelling systems.

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# Activity on the platform

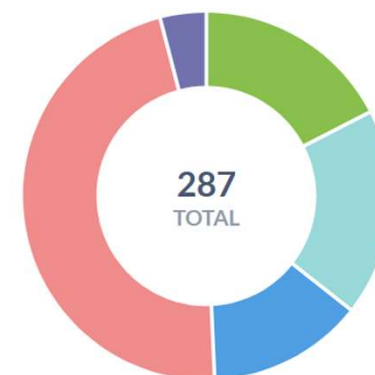
Breakdown of visits by referrer

Direct Entries	71,711%
Search Engines	14,720%
Social Networks	2,714%
Websites	10,691%
	0,164%



Breakdown of contribution types on the platform

Comment	17,42%
Endorsement	18,12%
Proposal	13,59%
Vote on prop...	47,04%
	3,83%



Metrics

Participants

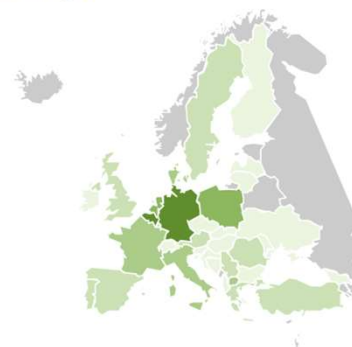
393

Proposals

66

Breakdown of visits by geographical origin

- 1 - 9
- 10 - 20
- 25 - 39
- 51 - 65
- 81 +



# Some reflections

- Importance of coordination of the online and offline activities
- Using online tools before the real event seems to be beneficial for the activities on the platform
- Platform enables participants to pursue the discussion beyond the events
- Establishing a European dialogue is challenging.
- Key challenge: Activation of users to subscribe and participate on the platform, esp. the ones not attending the events
- Difficulty of the language: Keep comments and contributions as simple as possible



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