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section needs expansion with: The lead is too short and it should be expanded. You can help by adding to it. (October 2021) E-democracy, is the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in political and governance processes.
[1] The term is believed to have been coined by digital activist Steven Clift.[2][3][4] E-democracy incorporates 21st-century information and communications technology to promote democracy; such technology and government technology. It is a form of government in which all adult citizens are presumed to be eligible to
participate equally in the proposal, development and creation of laws.[5] E-democracy encompasses social, economic and cultural conditions that enable the free and equal practice of political self-determination. Goals The examples and perspective in this section may not represent a worldwide view of the subject. You may improve this section,
discuss the issue on the talk page, or create a new section, as appropriate. (June 2016) (Learn how and when to remove this template message) Expanding democracy The Internet has several attributes that encourage thinking about it as a democratic medium. Electronic voting should be done with a proper purpose and with achieving a common
constitutional goal. Most importantly, expanding democracy should help outweigh the advantages of e-voting compared to traditional ballots.[6] E-democracy would contribute to the access to knowledge. The lack of centralized control makes censorship difficult. There are other parallels in the social design in the early days of the internet, such as the
strongly libertarian support for free speech, the sharing culture that permeated nearly all aspects of Internet use, and the outright prohibition on commercial use by the National Science Foundation. Another example is the unmediated mass communication on the internet, such as through newsgroups, chat rooms, and MUDs. This communication
ignored the boundaries established with broadcast media, such as newspapers or radio, and with one-to-one media, such as letters or landline telephones. Finally, because the Internet is a massive digital network with open standards, universal and inexpensive access to a wide variety of communication media and models could actually be attained.
Some practical issues involving e-democracy include: effective participation; voting equality at decision stage; enlightened understanding; control of the agenda; and inclusiveness. Systemic issues may include cyber-security concerns and protection of sensitive data from third parties. Improving democracy The examples and perspective in this section
deal primarily with the United States and do not represent a worldwide view of the subject. You may improve this section, discuss the issue on the talk page, or create a new section, as appropriate. (August 2017) (Learn how and when to remove this template message) Modern democracies are generally representative democracies, where citizens
elect representatives to manage the creation and implementation of laws, policies, and regulations on their behalf, in contrast to direct democratic democratic democratic in which citizens retain that responsibility. They may be referred to as more or less "democratic democratic democratic in which citizens retain that responsibility. They may be referred to as more or less "democratic in which citizens retain that responsibility."
democracy would in effect devolve political power from elected representatives to the individual. In America, politics have become reliant on the Internet educates people on democracy, helping people stay up to date with what is happening in their
government. Online advertising is becoming more popular for political candidates and group's opinions on propositions.[7] For many the Internet is often the primary resource for information. The reason for this, and especially among younger voters, is that it is easy and reliable when used correctly, thus lowering an individual's workload. The innate
usability of search engines, such as Google, results in increased citizen engagement with research and political issues. Social networks allow people to express their opinions about the government through an alias, anonymously and judgment-free.[8] Due to the Internets' size and decentralized structure, any individual has the potential to go viral and
gain influence over a large number of others. The Internet enables citizens to get and post information about politicians, and it allows those politicians to get advice from the people in larger numbers. This collective decision making and problem-solving gives more power to the citizens and helps politicians make decisions faster. This creates a more
productive society that can handle problems faster and more efficiently. Getting feedback and advice from the American population is a large part of a politician's job and the Internet allows them to function effectively with larger numbers of people's opinions. With this heightened ability to communicate with the public, the American government is
able to function more capably and effectively as a Democracy.[9] The American election of 2016 is an example, Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton made good use of Twitter, attempting to shape perceptions on their behalf, whilst using social media to transmit the idea that authorities are also 'normal', and they can communicate through a Twitter
account just like everyone does. In other words, nowadays, any ordinary person can research on political beliefs through interactive chats and online posts on social media, such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, connects
people who part one's same views.[citation needed] Generation X became disillusioned that even large-scale public protests such as the UK miners' strike (1984–1985) were seen to fail a decade before information technology became generally available to individual citizens.[10] E-democracy is sometimes seen as a remedy to the insular nature,
concentrated power, and lack of post-election accountability in traditional democratic process organized mostly around political parties. [citation needed] Tom Watson, the Deputy Leader of the UK Labour Frontbench is further away from our members than at any point in our history and the digital revolution can help
bring the party closer together ... I'm going to ask our NEC to see whether we can have digital branches and digit
democracy E-democracy or digital democracy or digital democracy platforms expand the opportunities to exercise voting rights in political elections, but they are also vulnerable to disruption. For instance, digital voting platforms have received attacks that tried to change a political elections, but they are also vulnerable to disruption.
and government institutions are, quite uncomfortably, more intangible."[12] On the other hand, ballots are the safest ways to approach an election but digital voting gives citizens the advantage to vote electronically and constant innovations and inputs from third parties is needed. Digital inclusion Digital inclusion is essential for citizen participation
in public policy formulation for a healthy digital democracy through equal participation of all sections of society in any democracy irrespective of citizen's income level, gender, religion, color, race, language used, physical and mental health etc. During the elections of 2020, multiple communities created a sense of inclusion through
digital forms of communication.[citation needed] Effects "E-democracy offers greater electronic community access to political processes and policy choices. E-democracy development is connected to complex internal factors, such as political processes and policy choices. E-democracy offers greater electronic community access to political processes and policy choices. E-democracy development is connected to complex internal factors, such as political processes and policy choices.
democracy is therefore highly influenced by both internal factors to a country and by the external factors of standard innovation and diffusion theory.[7] People are pressuring their public officials to adopt more policies that other states or countries have regarding information and news about their government online. People have all governmental
information at their fingertips and easy access to contact their government officials. In this new generation where internet and policies through this form of communication. E-democracy has, in fact, endorsed a better and faster political
information exchange, public argumentation and involvement in decision-making (Djik, 2006, pp. 126[14]). Social media has become an empowerment tool, especially for the youth, who are encouraged to participate in elections. Social media has also allowed the politicians to interact with civilians. A clear example was the 2016 United States
presidential elections and how Donald Trump tweeted most of his policy announcements and goals, as most world leaders have Twitter accounts, including Justin Trudeau, Jair Bolsonaro, and Hassan Rouhani. Moreover, some people[who?] genuinely believe that the government posting public information online makes them more vulnerable and
therefore more evident in people's eyes, which favors surveillance on the part of the public, thus distributing power more evenly among society.[15] In Jane Fountain's (2001) Building the Virtual State, she describes how this widespread e-democracy is able to connect with so many people and correlates it to the government we had before. Fountain's
framework provides a subtle and nuanced appreciation of the interplay of preexisting norms, procedures, and rules within bureaucracies and how these affect the introduction of the modern administrative state as regular electronic
consultations involving elected politicians, civil servants, pressure groups, and other affected interests become standard practice in all stages of the policy process (Sage). Cities in states with Republican-controlled legislatures, high legislatures, high legislatures, and more active professional networks were more likely to embrace e-government and e-
democracy.[16] Occupy movement Following the financial crisis of 2007-08 a number of social networks proposed demonstrations such as the Occupy movement The 15-M Movement The
article: Arab Spring During the "Arab Spring," online activists led uprisings in a dozen countries across North Africa and the Middle East. At first, digital media allowed pro-democracy movements to use the internet against authoritarian regimes; however, these regimes eventually worked social media into their own counter-insurgency strategies
Digital media helped to turn individualized, localized, and community-specific dissent into structured movements with a collective consciousness about both shared grievances and opportunities for action. [20] Egyptian Revolution Main article: Egyptian Revolution of 2011 On 25 January 2011, mass protests began in Cairo, Egypt, protesting the long
reign of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, the high unemployment rate, government corruption, poverty, and oppression within society. This 18-day revolution did not begin with guns, violence, or protests, but rather with the creation of a single Facebook page which quickly gained the attention of thousands, and soon millions, of Egyptians,
spreading into a global phenomenon.[21] The internet empowered protesters and allowed for anyone with access to the internet be involved in the democratic, free nation, all information that can be shared, should be shared. Protestors communicated, organized, and collaborated
through the use of this technology with real time, real impacts. [22] Technologies played an enormous role on the world stage during this time. Even when the regime eliminated all access to the Internet in a failed attempt to halt further political online forums, Google and Twitter teamed up, making a system that would get information out to the
public without having access to the interactivity of media during this revolution and the democratization of an entire nation. The revolution in Egypt has been understood by some as an example of a broader trend of transforming from a
system based on group control to one of "networked individualism". These networked societies are constructed post -"triple revolution" is "the turn to social networks", step two: "the proliferation of the far-flung, instantaneous internet", and step three: "the even
wider proliferation of always-available mobile phones".[24] These elements play a key role in change through the Internet. Such technologies provide an alternative sphere that is unregulated by the government, and where construction of ideas and protests can foster without regulation. For example, In Egypt, the "6 April Youth Movement"
established their political group on Facebook where they called for a national strike to occur on 6 April. This event was ultimately suppressed, however; the Facebook group remained, spurring the growth of other activist parties to take an online media route. The Internet in Egypt was used also to form connections with networks of people outside of
their own country. The connections provided through Internet media sources, such as Twitter allowed rapid spread of the revolt to be known around the world. Specifically, more than 3 million tweets contained six popular hashtags alluring to the revolt, for example, #Egypt and #sidibouzid; further enabling the spread of knowledge and change in
 Egypt.[24] Kony 2012 Main article: Kony 2012 The Invisible Children's Kony 2012 video was released 5 March 2012, initiating an online grassroots campaign, was founded on the mission to bring awareness to the actions of the
continue the hunt for him.[25] So, Invisible Children's purpose for the video was to raise awareness by making Kony famous through the ever-expanding market of social media and to use the technology we have today to bring his crimes to light. On 21 March 2012, a group of 33 Senators introduced a resolution condemning "the crimes against
humanity" committed by Joseph Kony and the LRA. The resolution supports the continued efforts by the US government to "strengthen the capabilities of regional military forces deployed to protect civilians and pursue commanders of the LRA, and calls for cross-border efforts to increase civilian protection and provide assistance to populations
affected by the LRA." Senator Lindsey Graham, a co-sponsor of the resolution stated that "When you get 100 million Americans looking at something, you will get our attention. This YouTube sensation is gonna help the Congress be more aggressive and will do more to lead to his demise than all other action combined".[26] India Against Corruptions to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other action combined to lead to his demise than all other actions action to lead to his demise than all other actions action to lead to his demise than all other actions action to lead to his demise than all other actions action to lead to his demise than all other actions action to his demise than a
2011–2012 India Against Corruption (IAC) is an anti-corruption movement in India which was particularly prominent during the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was particularly prominent during the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012, the central point of which was debate concerning the anti-corruption protests of 2011 and 2012.
corrupt society in India. Divisions amongst key members of the IAC's core committee eventually led to a split within the movement. Arvind Kejriwal left to form Jantantra Morcha. Long March (Pakistan) In December 2012, after living for seven years in Toronto,
Ontario, Canada, Qadri returned to Pakistan and initiated a political campaign. Qadri called for a "million-men" march in Islamabad to protest against the government's corruption.[27] On 14 January 2013, a crowd marched down the city's main avenue. Thousands of people pledged to sit-in until their demands were met.[28] When he started the long
march from Lahore about 25,000 people were with him. [29] He told the rally in front of parliament; there is a group of looters, thieves and dacoits [bandits] ... Our lawmakers are the lawbreakers.".[30] After four days of sit-in, the Government and Qadri signed an agreement called the Islamabad Long March Declaration,
in Italy, chose its candidates to Italian and European elections through online voting by registered members of Beppe Grillo's blog. Through an application called Rousseau reachable on the web,[32] the registered users of M5S discuss, approve or reject legislative proposals (submitted then in the Parliament by the M5S group).[33] For example, the
M5S electoral law was shaped through a series of online votes, [34] like the name of the M5S candidate for President of the M5S even if the final decision was against the opinions of Grillo and Casaleggio. [36] The partnership with
the UK Independence Party was also decided by online voting, although the given options for the choice of European Parliament group for M5S were limited to European Parliament group for M5S were limited to European Parliament group for M5S were limited to European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR) and "Stay independent" (Non-Inscrits). The option of joining the Greens/EFA group was discussed,
but this option was not available at the time of the voting due to that group's prior rejection of the M5S.[37][38] When the COVID-19 pandemic The COVID-19 pandemic has made e-
democracy more relevant and influential than ever before.[citation needed] In 2020,[40] COVID-19 forced countries around the world to implement safety measures according to public health officials. The sudden change in society limited social movement activities, leading to a momentary pause in political issues. However, through digital platforms,
 individuals continue to voice their opinions, create exposure for social movements, and intend to foster change and raise awareness through democracy in social media. According to news analysis firm The ASEAN Post, the advent of the pandemic, where access to conventional democratic spaces such as public meetings is constrained and limited, has
caused Filipinos to turn to social media, collaborative platforms and the like in carrying out public affairs and exercising "active engagement in social, written, or visual interaction and correcting misinformation virtually. [citation needed] Requirements E-Democracy is made possible
through its role in relevancy of participation, the social construction of inclusiveness, sensitivity to the individual, and flexibility in participation. The Internet provides a sense of relevancy in participation is also provided through a wide variety of Internet
sites, groups, and social networks, all representing different viewpoints and ideas. Sensitivity to the individual opinions publicly and rapidly. Finally, the Internet is an extremely flexible area of participation; it is low in cost and widely available to the public. Through these four
directions, e-Democracy and the implementation of the Internet are able to play an active role in societal change. [41] Internet access Main article: Right to Internet access
 advocate government moves to close this gap. [42] The disparity e-governance and e-democracy between developed and developing worlds has been attributed to the digital divide. [43] Practical objections include the digital divide between those with access and those without, as well as the opportunity cost of expenditure on e-democracy innovations
There is also skepticism of the amount of impact that they can make through online participation. [44] Security and the protection of privacy Main article: Internet security The government must be in a position to guarantee that online communications are secure and that they do not violate people's privacy. This is especially important when
considering electronic voting. An electoral voting system is more complex than other electronic transaction systems and the authentication mechanisms employed must be able to prevent ballot rigging or the threat of rigging. This may include the use of smart cards that allow a voter's identity to be verified whilst at the same time ensuring the privacy
of the vote cast. Electronic voting in Estonia is one example of a method to conquer the privacy-identity problem inherent in internet voting systems. However, the objective should be to provide equivalence with the security and privacy of current manual systems. Government responsiveness In order to attract people to get involved in online
consultations and discussions, the government must respond to people and actively demonstrate that there is a relationship between the citizen's engagement and policy outcome. It is also important that people are able to become involved in the process, at a time and place that is convenient to them but when their opinions will count. The
government will need to ensure that the structures are in place to deal with increased participation. In order to ensure that issues are debated in a democratic, inclusive, tolerant and productive way, the role that intermediaries and representative organizations may play should be considered. In order to strengthen the effectiveness of the existing
 legal rights of access to information held by public authorities, citizens should have the right to effective public deliberation and moderation. [45] Types of interaction and trade-off between the size of the group that participates in the
democratic process and the depth of the will expression (see Figure). Traditionally, large group size was achieved by limiting the number of participants through representative
democracy (see Table). The social media Web 2.0 revolution has shown to achieve both, large group sizes and depth of will expression, but the will expression, but the will expression in social media are not structured and it is difficult (and often subjective) to make sense of them (see Table). New information processing techniques, including big data analytics and the
semantic web have shown ways to make use of these possibilities for the implementation of future forms of e-democracy is carried out by technologies such as electronic mailing lists, peer-to-peer networks, collaborative software and apps like GovernEye, Countable, VoteSpotter, wikis, Internet forums and
blogs. Forms of democracy trade-off table[46] E-democracy has been analyzed with regard to the different stages of the democratic process, such as "information provision, deliberation, and participation in decision-making.",[47] by the hierarchical level of government, including local communities, states/regions, nations and on the global stage[48]
and by its reach and scope of involvement, such as the involvement of citizens/voters, the media, elected officials, political organizations, and governments. [49] As such, "its development is conditioned by such pervasive changes as increased interdependency, technological multimediation, partnership governments. [49] As such, "its development is conditioned by such pervasive changes as increased interdependency, technological multimediation, partnership governments. [40] As such, "its development is conditioned by such pervasive changes as increased interdependency, technological multimediation, partnership governments. [40] As such, "its development is conditioned by such pervasive changes as increased interdependency, technological multimediation, partnership governments. [40] As such, "its development is conditioned by such pervasive changes as increased interdependency, technological multimediation, partnership governments. [40] As such, "its development is conditioned by such pervasive changes as increased interdependency, technological multimediation, partnership governments. [40] As such, "its development is conditioned by such pervasive changes as increased interdependency, technological multimediation, partnership governments. [40] As such as a 
sites, such as Facebook, Twitter, WordPress and Blogspot, are playing an increasingly important role in democracy, as well as related technological developments, such as argument maps and eventually, the semantic web.[46] Another related
development consists in combining the open communication of social networking with the structured communication of closed panels including experts and/or policy-makers, such as for example through modified versions of the Delphi method (HyperDelphi) to combine the open communication of self-organized virtual communities with the structured
communication of closed panels, including members of the policy-community. [53][54] This approach addresses the question of how, in electronic democracy, to reconcile distributed knowledge and self-organized memories with critical control, responsibility and decision. The social networking entry point, for example, is within the citizens'
environment, and the engagement is on the citizens' terms. Proponents of e-government use of social networks as a medium to help government act more like the public it serves. Examples of state usage can be found at The Official Commonwealth of Virginia Homepage, [55] where citizens can find Google tools and open social networks as a medium to help government act more like the public it serves. Examples of state usage can be found at The Official Commonwealth of Virginia Homepage, [55] where citizens can find Google tools and open social networks as a medium to help government act more like the public it serves.
forums. Those are seen as important stepping stones in the maturation of the concept of e-democracy. [46] Civic engagement Civic engagement includes three dimensions: political knowledge of public affairs, political trust for the political system, and political participation in influencing the government and the
decision-making process.[56] The internet aids civic engagement by providing a new avenue to interact with governments of e-democracy believe that governments of e-de
Many studies report increasing use of the internet to find political information. Between 1996 and 2002, the number of adults who reported that the internet was significant in their choices increased from about 14 to 20 percent. [60] In 2002, nearly a quarter of the population reported having visited a website to research specific public policy issues
Studies have shown that more people visit websites that challenge their point of view than visit websites that mirror their own opinions. [citation needed] Sixteen percent of the population has participated in online political culture by interacting with political websites through joining campaigns, volunteering time, donating money, or participating in
polls. According to a survey conducted by Philip N. Howard, almost two-thirds of the adult population in the United States has had some online experience with political news, information, or other content over the past four election cycles.[60] They tend to reference the websites of special interest groups more than the websites of specific elected
 leaders, political candidates, political parties, nonpartisan groups, and local community groups. The information capacity available on the Interactivity of the medium allows for new forms of communication with government, i.e. elected officials
 and/or public servants. The posting of contact information, legislation, agendas, and policies makes government more transparent, potentially enabling more impacts government in two main ways, empowering individuals, and empowering groups of people
[62] The internet gives interested citizens better access to the information which allows them to impact on public policy. Using online tools to organize, people can more easily be involved in the policy-making process of government, and this has led to increased public engagement. Social media sites support networks of people; online networks affect
the political process, including causing an increase in politicians' efforts to appeal to the public in campaigns. For e-democracy provides a forum for public discussion. An e-government process improves cooperation with the local populace and helps the government focus in upon key issues the community wants addressed. The theory is that every
citizen has the opportunity to have a voice in their local government. E-democracy works in tandem with local communities and gives every citizen who wants to contribute the chance. What makes an effective e-democracy is that the citizens not only contribute to the government, but they communicate and work together to improve their own local
communities.[63]:397 E-democracy is the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) to support the democratic decision-making processes. ICTs play a major role in organizing and informing citizens in various forms of civic engagement. ICTs are used to enhance active participation of citizens and to support the collaboration between
actors for policy-making purposes within the political processes of all stages of governance. [64][65] The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development lists three main factors when it comes to ICTs promoting civic engagement. The first of these is timing; most of the civil engagement occurs during the agenda-setting in a cycle. The
 second key factor is tailor; this refers to the idea of how ICTs are changing in order to allow for more civic engagement. The last of these factors is integrations; integration is how new ICTs are combining the new technological ways with the traditional ways in order to gain more civic engagement. [66] ICT creates the opportunity for a government
that is simultaneously more democratic and more expert by creating open online collaboration between professionals and the general public. The responsibility of gathering information and making decisions is shared between those with technological expertise and those who are professionally considered the decision-makers. Greater public
participation in the collaboration of ideas and policies makes decision-making is more democratic. ICT also promotes the idea of pluralism within a democracy, bringing new issues and perspectives. [67] Regular citizens become potential producers of political value and commentary, for example, by creating individual blogs and websites. The online
political sphere can work together, like ABC News did with their Campaign Watchdog effort, where citizens by the polls reported any rule violations perpetrated by any candidate's for the United States presidential race frequently used their websites to encourage their voters to not only vote, but to encourage their
 friends to vote as well. This two-step process, encouraging an individual to vote and to tell his or her friends to vote, was just emerging at that time. Now, political involvement from a variety of social media is commonplace and civic engagement through online forums frequent. Through the use of ICTs, politically minded individuals have the
opportunity to become more involved.[68] Youth engagement Main article: Youth activism Young people in the USA under the age of 35, or Generation X and Generat
participation, and political knowledge in youth.[70][71] The notion of youth e-citizenship seems to be caught between two distinct approaches: management and autonomy. The policy of "targeting" young people so that they can "play their part" can be read either as an encouragement of youth activism or an attempt to manage it.[72] Autonomous e-
citizens argue that despite their limited experience, youth deserve to speak for themselves on agendas of their own making. On the contrary, managed e-citizens regard young people as apprentice citizens who are in a process of transition from the immaturity of childhood to the self-possession of adulthood, and are thus incapable of contributing to
politics without regulation. The Internet is another important issue, with managed e-citizens believing young people are highly vulnerable to misinformation and misdirection. The conflict between the two faces of e-citizenship is a view of democracy as an established and reasonably just system, with which young people should be encouraged to
engage, and democracy as a political as well as cultural aspiration, most likely to be realized through networks in which young people engage with one another. Ultimately, strategies of accessing and influencing power are at the heart of what might first appear to be mere differences of communication styles.[72] The Highland Youth Voice
demonstrated the attempt to increase democratic involvement, especially through online measures, in Scotland.[73] The youth population is increasingly more prominent in governmental policy and issues in the UK. However, involvement and interest have been decreasing. In 2001 elections in the United Kingdom to Westminster, the turnout of 18-
24-year-olds was estimated at only 40%, which can be compared to the more than 80% of 16- to 24-year-old who have accessed the internet at some time in their life.[74] The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the nation in which they live in, and
promote the participation and active politics which they can shape through debate and communication. The Highland Youth Voice aims to increase the involvement of the younger generation through understanding their needs and wishes for their government, through an understanding of their views, experiences, and aspirations. Highland Youth
Voice gives young Scots a chance to influence the decision makers in the Highlands.[73] The members age from 14 to 18 and the parliament as a whole is an elected body of around 100 members. They are elected directly through schools and youth forums.
prominent democratic aspect of the website is the elections for members, which occur every other year. These three contents of the website allow for an online policy debates, or experience a model of e-democracy in the ease of online voting. Civil society Main
article: Civil society Citizens' associations play an important role in the democratic process, providing a place for individuals to learn about public affairs and a source of power outside that of the state, according to theorists like Alexis de Tocqueville. Public policy researcher Hans Klein at the Georgia Institute of Technology notes that participation in
such forums has a number of barriers, such as the need to meet in one place at one time. [75] In a study of a civic association in the northeastern United States, Klein found that electronic communications greatly enhanced the ability of the organization to fulfill its mission. The lower cost of information exchange on the Internet, as well as the high
level of reach that the content potentially has, makes the Internet an attractive medium for political information, particularly amongst social issue groups and parties with lower budgets. For example, environmental or social issue groups and parties with lower budgets. For example, environmental or social issue groups and parties with lower budgets.
media outlets, such as television or newspapers, which require heavy financial investment. Due to all these factors, the Internet has the potential to take over certain traditional media of political communication, such as the telephone, the television, newspapers and the radio. The civil society has gradually moved into the online world. [76] There are
many forms of association in civic society. The term interest group conventionally refers to more formal organizations that either focus on particular social groups and economic sectors, such as trade unions and business and professional associations, or on more specific issues, such as abortion, gun control, or the environment.[77] Other traditional
interest groups have well-established organizations under common umbrella organizations that cross national borders. Novel tools are
being developed that are aimed at empowering bloggers, webmasters and owners of other social media, with the effect of moving from a strictly informational use of the Internet to using the Internet as a means of social organization not requiring top-down action. Calls to action, for instance, are a novel concept designed to allow webmasters to
mobilize their viewers into action without the need for leadership. These tools are also utilized worldwide: for example, India is developing an effective blogosphere that allows internet may serve multiple functions for all these organizations, including lobbying elected representatives, public their viewers into action without the need for leadership. These tools are also utilized worldwide: for example, India is developing an effective blogosphere that allows internet may serve multiple functions for all these organizations, including lobbying elected representatives, public functions for all these organizations.
officials, and policy elites; networking with related associations and organizations; mobilizing organizers, activists, and members using action alerts, newsletters, and emails; raising funds and recruiting supporters; and communicating their message to the public via the traditional news media. Deliberative democracy Main articles: Deliberative
democracy and Participatory democracy The Internet also plays a central role in deliberative democracy, where deliberative democracy, where deliberative process as a research tool. On the Internet, the
exchange of ideas is widely encouraged through a vast number of websites, blogs, and social networking outlets, such as Twitter; all of which encourage freedom of expression.[citation needed] Through the Internet, information is easily accessible, and in a cost-effective manner, providing access and means for change. Another fundamental feature of
the Internet is its uncontrolled nature, and ability to provide all viewpoints no matter the accuracy. A recent advancement in the utilization of e-democracy for the deliberative process is the California Report Card created by the Data and Democracy
Initiative of the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society[80] at University of California, Berkeley, together with Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom. The California Report Card, launched in January 2014, is a mobile-optimized web application designed to facilitate online deliberative democracy. After a short opinion poll on 6
timely issues, participants are invited to enter an online "café" where they are placed, using Principal Component Analysis, among users with similar views. They are then encouraged to engage in the deliberative process by entering textual suggestions about new political issues and grading other participants' suggestions. The California Report Card
prides itself on being resistant to private agendas dominating the discussion. Another example is openforum.com.au, an Australian non-profit eDemocracy project that invites politicians, senior public servants, academics, business people and other key stakeholders to engage in high-level policy debate. An alternative to the SOPA and PIPA, the Online
Protection and Enforcement of Digital Trade Act (OPEN Act) is supported by Google and Facebook. The OPEN Act website Keep The Web Open[81] provides full access to the bill. The site also incorporates user input, over 150 changes have been made by users.[82][83] The peer-to-patent project allows the public to do research and present the patent
examiner with 'prior art' publications which will inform them of the novelty of the invention so that they can determine whether the invention is worthy of a patent. The community elects ten prior art pieces to be sent to the patent examiner for review. This enables the public to directly communicate with the patent examiner. This form of e-democracy
is a structured environment which demands certain information from participants that aid in the decision-making process is made more effective by allowing experts and civilians who work together to find solutions. Beyond citizens checking a box that reduces opinions to a few given words,
citizens can participate and share ideas.[84] Voting and polling See also: Electronic voting, Voting advice application, and Open access poll Another great hurdle in implementing e-democracy is the matter of ensuring security in internet-voting systems. Viruses and malware could block or redirect citizens' votes on matters of great importance; as long
as that threat remains, e-democracy will not be able to diffuse throughout society.[citation needed] E-Voting also creates more practical issues that can affect the legitimacy of its use in elections which allows for the physical
 machine itself to be tampered with, this led to a last minute decision being made by the Dutch in 2017 for the elections to be counted by hand.[85] In addition the use of 'Direct Recording Electronic' or DRE's, which are used in many US states, are becoming guickly outdated and faulty. In a study by USENIX it found certain DRE's in the New Jerse
area had inaccuracy when counting votes and could cast a vote for the wrong candidate without the person knowing. These results they found to be consistent with that specific machine nationally.[86] Although the use of electronic voting has been seen to increase turnout, the lack of a paper trail in DRE's opens up the system to unknown errors
which may undermine its use in a digital democracy. A lack of participation in democracy may result from a plethora of polls and surveys, which can lead to survey fatigue.[87] Government transparency (behavior), Open government, and Radical transparency Through Listserv's, RSS feeds, mobile messaging
micro-blogging services and blogs, government and its agencies can share information to citizens who share common interests and concerns. Some government representatives are also beginning to use Twitter which provides them with an easy medium to inform their followers. In the state of Rhode Island, for instance, Treasurer Frank T. Caprio is
offering daily tweets of the state's cash flow. A number of non-governmental sites have developed cross-jurisdiction, customer-focused applications that extract information from thousands of governmental organizations into a system that brings consistency to data across many dissimilar providers. It is convenient and cost-effective for businesses, and
the public benefits by getting easy access to the most current information available without having to expend tax dollars to get it. One example of this is transparent gov.com, [88] a free resource for citizens to guickly identify the various open government initiatives taking place in their communities across the country. A similar
example is USA.gov, [89] the official site of the United States government, which is a directory that links to every federal and state agency. E-democracy leads to a more simplified process and access to government information for public-sector agencies and citizens. For example, the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles simplified the process of certifying
driver records to be admitted in county court proceedings. Indiana became the first state to allow government records to be digitally signed, legally certified and delivered electronically by using Electronic Postmark technology. [90] The internet has created increased government accessibility to news, policies, and contacts in the 21st century: "In
2000 only two percent of government sites offered three or more services; in 2007 that figure was 58 percent. In 2000, 78 percent of the states offered no on-line services; in 2007 only 14 percent of government sites allowed the
public e-mail a public official directly rather than simply e-mailing the webmaster (West, 2007)"(Issuu). Opposition Information and communications technologies can be used for both democratic and anti-democratic and anti-democratic and anti-democratic and participation can be fostered by digital technology)[13] George Orwell's in his Nineteen Eighty-Four
is one example of the vision of the anti-democratic use of technology. Objections to direct democracy, such as the potential for direct government to ensure the potential for direct democracy, such as the potential for direct democracy, such as the potential for direct democracy are argued to apply to e-democracy, such as the potential for direct democracy, such as the potential for direct democracy are argued to apply to e-democracy, such as the potential for direct democracy are argued to apply to e-democracy are argued to a possible argued to a possible are argued to a possible ar
censorship, e-democracy could not be utilized to its full extent. Governments often implement internet crackdown. Libya, Egypt, Bahrain, Syria, Iran, and Yemen are all countries whose leaders
implemented complete censorship of the internet in response to the plethora of pro-democracy demonstrations in their respective nations. [91] These lockdowns were primarily put in place in order to prevent the leakage of cell phone videos that contained images of the violent government crackdown on protesters.
Tucker's critics of e-democracy, social media's malleability and receptiveness may allow political desires (Tucker et al., 2017).[93] Through it, authorities are able to spread authoriti
who dissents non-desirable opinion. Secondly, flooding; diverting and occupying services with pro-regime messages. Thirdly, detaining; interrupting signals which impedes access to information. Lastly, banning; forbidding globalized platforms and websites (Tucker et al., 2017).[93] Concerns with pro-regime messages. Thirdly, detaining; interrupting signals which impedes access to information. Lastly, banning; forbidding globalized platforms and websites (Tucker et al., 2017).[93] Concerns with pro-regime messages.
elected officials in Austria's parliament, opinions were widely and strongly against e-democracy. They believed that the citizens were uninformed and that their only way of expressing their opinions should be to vote; sharing opinions and ideas was strictly the job of the elected. [94][7] Alternatively, theories of epistemic democracy have indicated that
more engagement of the populace has benefited the aggregation of knowledge and intelligence, and thus permitted democracies to track the truth better. Stop Online Piracy Act Many Internet users believed that Internet democracy was being attacked in the United States with the introduction of H.R. 3261, Stop
Online Piracy Act (SOPA), in the United States House of Representatives. [95] [96] A Huffington Post Contributor noted that the best way to promote democracy, including keeping freedom of speech alive, is through defeating the Stop Online Piracy Act. [95] It is important to note that SOPA was postponed indefinitely after major protests arose,
including by many popular websites such as Wikipedia, which launched a site blackout on 18 January 2012.[97] In India, a similar situation was noted at the end of 2011, when India's Communication and IT Minister Kapil Sibal((born 8 August 1948) is an Indian lawyer and politician) suggested that offensive content may be privately "pre-screened"
before being allowed on the Internet with no rules for redressal. [51] However, more recent news reports quote Sibal as saying that there would be no restrictions whatsoever on the use of the Internet. [98] Government models See also: Varieties of democracy Representative democracy Main article: Representative democracy The radical shift from
representative government to internet-mediated direct democracy is not likely.[citation needed] However, proponents believe that a "hybrid model" that uses the internet to allow for greater government transparency and community participation in decision-making is on the horizon.[99] Committee selection, local town and city decisions, and
otherwise people-centric decisions would be more easily facilitated. The principles of democracy are not changing so much as the tools used to uphold them. E-democracy would not be a means to implement direct democracy would not be a means to implement direct democracy, but rather a tool to enable more participatory democracy as it exists now.[100] Electronic direct democracy See also: Direct
democracy Proponents of e-democracy sometimes envision a transition from a representative democracy (EDD) (also known as open source governance or collaborative e-democracy), the people
are directly involved in the legislative function by electronic means. Citizens electronically vote on legislation, author new legislation, and recall representatives (if any representatives are preserved). Technology, [102] where the technology is used with
student organizations. Numerous other software development projects are underway,[103] along with many supporting and related projects.[104] Several of the Metagovernment project.[105] EDD as a system is not fully implemented in a political
government anywhere in the world, although several initiatives are currently forming. Ross Perot was a prominent advocate of EDD when he advocated "electronic town halls" during his 1992 and 1996 Presidential campaigns in the United States. Switzerland, already partially governed by direct democracy, is making progress towards such a system
[106] Senator On-Line, an Australian political party established in 2007, proposes to institute an EDD system so that Australians can decide which way the senators vote on each and every bill.[107] A similar initiative was formed 2002 in Sweden where the party Direktdemokraterna, running for the Swedish parliament, offers its members the power
to decide the actions of the party over all or some areas of decision, or to use a proxy with immediate recall for one or several areas. Liquid democracy Wain article: Liquid democracy with delegable proxy, would allow citizens to choose a proxy to vote on their behalf while retaining the right to cast their own
vote on legislation. The voting and the appoints B and B appoints C, and neither A nor B vote on a proposed bill but C does, C's vote will count for all three of them. Citizens could also rank their proxies in order of preference, so
that if their first choice proxy fails to vote, their vote can be cast by their second-choice proxy. Wikidemocracy is "wikidemocracy is "wikidemocracy", with a government legislature whose codex of laws was an editable wiki, like Wikipedia. In 2012, J Manuel Feliz-Teixeira said he believed the resources to implement wikidemocracy is "wikidemocracy", with a government legislature whose codex of laws was an editable wiki, like Wikipedia. In 2012, J Manuel Feliz-Teixeira said he believed the resources to implement wikidemocracy is "wikidemocracy", with a government legislature whose codex of laws and the proposed for the resource wikidemocracy is "wikidemocracy", with a government legislature whose codex of laws and the proposed for the resource wikidemocracy is "wikidemocracy", with a government legislature whose codex of laws and the resource wikidemocracy is "wikidemocracy", with a government legislature whose codex of laws and the resource wikidemocracy is "wikidemocracy".
were available. He envisions a wiki-system in which there would be three wings of legislative, executive and judiciary roles for which every citizen could have a voice with free access to the wiki and a personal ID to continuously reform policies until the last day of December (when all votes would be counted).[108] Advantages to wikidemocracy
include a no-cost system with the removal of elections, no need for parliament or representatives because citizens directly representatives and disagreements. First, the digital divide and low quality of education can be deterrents to achieve the full potential
of a wikidemocracy. Similarly, there is a diffusion of innovation in response to new technologies in which some people readily adopt novel ways and others at the opposite end of the spectrum reject them or are slow to adapt.[109] It is also uncertain how secure this type of democracy would be because we would have to trust that the system
administrator would have a high level of integrity to protect the votes saved to the public domain. Lastly, Peter Levine agrees that wikidemocracy would remove the need for representatives and formal governmental structures.
[110] Wikidemocracy is also used to mean more limited instantiations of e-democracy, such as in Argentina in August 2011, where the polling records of the presidential election were made available to the public in online form, for vetting.[111] The term has also been used in a more general way to refer to the democratic values and environments
offered by wikis.[112] In 2011, some in Finland undertook an experiment in wikidemocracy by creating a "shadow government program" on the Internet, essentially a compilation of the political views and aspirations of various groups in Finland, on a wiki.[113] Egora "Egora", or "intelligent democracy", is a free software for political opinion formation
and decision making filed under copyleft. Egora is a contraction of "electronic" and "agora". An agora is an Ancient Greek central public space in city-states. In Ancient Greek central public space in city-states. In Ancient Greek central public space in city-states.
function is to enable a new form of democratic organization, one that is rational, efficient, and incorruptible. Egora is meant to allow people to develop their own political philosophy out of various ideas, and use a simple
algorithm to find the true representatives of the public will.[114] See also Collaborative government E-participation Electronic civil disobedience Electronic Democracy Party, a political party in Turkey Emergent democracy
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