

European AI Fund - Letter of Support

No.	Country	Organisation / Signature
1	Austria	Vienna Data Science Group (VDSG) / Rania Wazir
2	Austria	Danube University of Krems, Department for E-Governance and Administration / Peter Parycek
3	Belgium	Re-Imagine Europe (RIE) / Gianluca Misuraca
4	Czech Republic	IFES Prague / Magnus Ohman
5	France	Raphaël Pouyé (expert)
6	Germany	Democracy Reporting International gGmbH (DRI) / Michael Meyer-Resende
7	Germany	EPDE - European Platform of Election Observation / Stefanie Schiffer
8	Germany	Hertie School of Governance / Bernhard Knoll-Tudor
9	Germany	ZIF - Center for Interdisciplinary Research / Astrid Irrgang
10	Hungary	K-Monitor Association / Sandor Lederer
11	Italy	Osservatorio di Pavia / Mirella Marchese
12	Italy	EUI School of Transnational Governance (STG) / Dr. Lisa Ginsborg
13	Latvia	Inta Lase (expert)
14	Moldova	Mediapoint / Livia Turcanu
15	Montenegro	CeMI - Centre for Monitoring and Research / Zlatko Vujovic
16	Serbia	CRTA - Center for Research, Transparency and Accountability / Pavle Dimitrijevic
17	Slovenia	University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Public Administration / Janez Stare & Tina Jukic
18	Spain	University of Rovira i Virgili (URV) / Jordi Barrat
19	Sweden	Anders Eriksson (election expert)
20	Sweden	International IDEA / Therese Pearce Laanela
21	UK	University of Nottingham, REPRESENT / Fernando Casal Bértoa

Vienna Data Science Group

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attn. Proposal Coordinator
Dr. Armin Rabitsch
Chairperson Election-Watch.EU
[Verein wahlbeobachtung.org](http://Verein.wahlbeobachtung.org)
Aschergasse 45
A-1130 Vienna, Austria

Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The VDSG is a non-profit association. Our members are AI professionals at varying levels of expertise, and come from diverse areas of research and industry; many are located in Austria, but the network has followers and partnerships all over Europe. Our goal is to create a vibrant, inclusive and supportive community of data scientists and enthusiasts in Europe, to enable the wide-scale implementation of digital tools for economic growth, strengthening of institutions, and positive social impact. We organize technical talks, seminars to address issues at the intersection of AI and society, hackathons, conferences, and create opportunities for our community to connect via informal Data Science Cafes, and through various platforms (Slack, Meetup, YouTube). In addition, our data4good initiative brings together data science and NGOs, striving to provide AI solutions to social and environmental problems, and educating the broader public about the potentials and pitfalls of AI.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.

The VDSG/data4good initiative already had a very successful collaboration with wahlbeobachtung.org, which led to a deeper understanding among our technical community of the impact of social media platforms on the electoral process, and enhanced our understanding of the technical, data, and regulatory tools needed to research and safeguard democratic processes online. We would like to further strengthen this kind of mutually beneficial collaboration.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,
Rania Wazir
Vice Chairperson and data4good Coordinator
VDSG



20.01.2021



University for Continuing Education Krems (Danube University Krems)
Department for E-Governance and Administration
Dr.-Karl-Dorrek-Straße 30
3500 Krems/Donau, Austria

attn. Proposal Coordinator
Dr. Armin Rabitsch
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Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The Department for E-Governance and Administration conducts research and teaches on the effects of digital and social change on strategy, organization and processes. The department's main areas of focus are e-government e-governance, digital participation and cooperation models, information security to raise awareness of changing socio-technical and legal governance structures, and security research - in particular cyber security and security management.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.

As stated before, Department for E-Governance and Administration conducts research at the intersection of technology and society, and thus has a particular interest in the fundamental paradigm change triggered by the application of AI within the public sector and society in



general. The domain of elections, in combination with AI, directly impacts governance and thus challenges existing processes, structures, and participation patterns. To observe, understand, and adapt to these changes - from a research point of view, but also from a societal point of view - is crucial from our perspective. The resulting insights of the project "Elections and AI" thus not only help us to further strengthen our own research domains, but also to transfer this knowledge into practice – via a transdisciplinary dialog - into our master and PhD programmes.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Peter Parycek
Head of the Department for E-Governance and Administration
University for Continuing Education Krems (Danube University Krems)

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Krems, 13.01.2021

Attn. Proposal Coordinator
Dr. Armin Rabitsch
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A-1130 Vienna, Austria

Letter of Support for the project

“Elections and AI”

submitted to the

European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

I the undersigned, confirm on behalf of Re-Imagine Europa, for which I serve as Special Advisor and Member of the Task Force on Democracy in the Digital Age, our interest in the above-mentioned project.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take.

The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, I am very interested in participating in these efforts and contribute disseminating results of the research project to policy-makers across EU, gathering insights on how AI is impacting democracy. I would like to be kept informed about the progress of this project and support the project submission.

May the proposal be successful I would thus be pleased to participate in the **Stakeholder Advisory Group**. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, I express the intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

I wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Sincerely,

15th January 2021

Gianluca Misuraca



Special Advisor, Democracy in the Digital Age Task Force



Global Expertise. Local Solutions.
Sustainable Democracy.

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Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) is dedicated to advancing democracy for a better future. We collaborate with civil society, public institutions and the private sector to build resilient democracies that deliver for everyone. As the global leader in the promotion and protection of democracy, our technical assistance and applied research develops trusted electoral bodies capable of conducting credible elections; effective and accountable governing institutions; civic and political processes in which all people can safely and equally participate; and innovative ways in which technology and data can positively serve elections and democracy. Since 1987, IFES has worked in more than 145 countries, from developing to mature democracies. This includes the IFES Regional Europe Office in Prague, dedicated to strengthening the capacity of electoral stakeholders in the Europe and Eurasia region and enhancing their ability to respond to both persistent and emerging challenges to electoral integrity.

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With this in mind, IFES is very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.

Given the significant and rising role of technology permeating across sectors, IFES is increasingly attuned to the risk-reward landscape that technology creates for democratic practices globally and in the region. As evidenced by the recent hiring of our Global Senior Advisor on Technology and Cybersecurity, IFES appreciates the importance of promoting the responsible use of technology as a countermeasure to the evolving threats it may pose to democracy and the electoral process. IFES recognizes the critical role and impact that AI may have on democratic discourse and participation, as well as the challenges that it may bring to important principles such as equality, transparency and accountability. IFES remains committed to supporting the development of inclusive, informed and resilient democracies across the Europe and Eurasia region.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

Dr. Magnus Ohman
Director of IFES Regional Europe Office
International Foundation for Electoral Systems



January 26, 2021

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A-1130 Vienna, Austria

Letter of Support

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With this in mind, I am very interested in participating in these efforts, and would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participating in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, I express my intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

I wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

Raphaël Pouyé

Formerly Democracy and Innovation Expert at ‘Supporting Democracy’ – a project of the European Commission’s DG Devco (2015-2019) and Co-chair of Open Data NGO ‘Code for France’ (2019-2020).

Currently Key Expert of the Civic Tech Incubation Project ‘Connexions Citoyennes 2’ (funded by the French Development Agency AFD) & Country Manager France of Democratic Society AISBL.



20 January 2021

Democracy Reporting International gGmbH / Elbestr. 28/29 /

Attn. Proposal Coordinator

Dr. Armin Rabitsch

Chairperson Election-Watch.EU

Verein wahlbeobachtung.org

Aschergasse 45

A-1130 Vienna, Austria

Per email

European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Berlin / 25 January 2021

From

Michael Meyer

T +49 30 27 87 73 00

Regarding

Dear Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

Herewith I express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in supporting the project by co-organizing possible events, for example in the context of the German elections, and by commenting on draft papers produced by the project.

Democracy Reporting International supports efforts to democratize the online environment of public debate. We monitor social media discourses in elections, support other organisations to do so and advise on regulatory solutions to foster a democratic online space.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take.

The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts, that are complementary to our work focused on discourse. These issues are closely connected, as all aspects of online debate and many solutions for IT-based electoral infrastructure have an AI-aspect.

Therefore, we look forward to support the project.

Democracy Reporting
International gGmbH

Executive Director
Michael Meyer

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We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

Michael Meyer-Resende
Executive Director

Dr. Armin Rabitsch
Chairperson Election-Watch.EU
Verein wahlbeobachtung.org
Aschergasse 45
A-1130 Vienna, Austria

Berlin, 13.1.2021

Letter of Support

**REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI):
Project “Elections and AI”**

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

European Exchange has been set up in 2005 in order to support democratic transformation processes in the EU neighbourhood through citizen participation and public control over election processes. Since 2013 European Exchange holds the secretariat of the „European Platform for Democratic Elections (www.epde.org) a network of 14 citizen election observation organisations comprising eleven countries in the the EU and the European neighbourhood.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating

research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.


With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts.

Electoral integrity is a basic precondition for the acceptance and legitimacy of any democratically elected government. In the last years we have been witnessing increasing chances but also challenges to established electoral processes through enhanced digitalisation and new opportunities to collect data, disseminate information, influence voter behavior. These developments affect equally established democracies in the EU member states and new democracies in transformation states of the former Soviet Union.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Schiffer', with a small horizontal line above the first letter.

Stefanie Schiffer

Director European Exchange gGmbH

Chair of Board European Platform for Democratic Elections (EPDE)

attn. Proposal Coordinator
Dr. Armin Rabitsch
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Aschergasse 45
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Berlin, 12 January 2021

Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The Hertie School’s Executive Education department offers tailor-made executive programs for clients across all sectors: international organizations, public administrations, business, non-profits, think tanks and academia. Trainings are delivered on the Berlin campus, abroad or as interactive online formats. The Hertie School’s renowned international faculty bundles expertise in the fields of governance, administrative structure, processes and capacities, public sector reform, artificial intelligence, anti-corruption and good governance, international relations, conflict management and security, economics, law and health governance, amongst others. The School plays a vital role in promoting good governance and engages in public debate and discussions with experts and policymakers throughout the European Union.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind and given the Hertie School’s expanding interest in the uses of AI in the public sector, we are very interested in participating in these efforts including in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would entail participation in periodic online project

meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to support the conduct of workshops (should they be held in Berlin) and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,



Dr Bernhard Knoll-Tudor
Director / Executive Education
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REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence
(AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Letter of Support

15.01.2021

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The Berlin Center for International Peace Operations (ZIF) was established in 2002 by the Federal Government of Germany and the German Parliament to strengthen international civilian capacities for crisis prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding. It is a non-profit limited liability company, whose sole shareholder is the Federal Republic of Germany, represented by the German Federal Foreign Office. On behalf of the Federal Foreign Office, ZIF provides services and expertise on and for peace operations and election observation missions in a comprehensive approach that unites training, human resources, international capacity development and analysis.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons. ZIF is the German organisation that prepares short-term and long-term election observation experts for and sends them on OSCE and EU

Berliner Zentrum für
Internationale
Friedenseinsätze gGmbH

Geschäftsführerin:
Dr. Almut Wieland-Karimi

Aufsichtsratsvorsitzender:
Michael Roth

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Amtsgericht Charlottenburg

Berliner Volksbank
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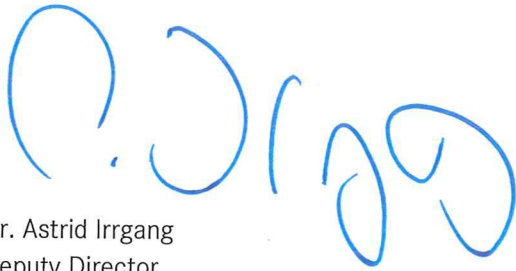
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election observation missions worldwide. It is therefore of high importance to us to be able to share our almost 20 years of experience and contribute to research and discussions on the topic of elections and democratization processes. Furthermore, ZIF is currently shaping and supporting discussions around the use of technology in peace operations and the role they can play to make missions more effective. The outcomes of this project could make a valuable contribution to this debate.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,



Dr. Astrid Irrgang
Deputy Director



K-Monitor Watchdog for Public Funds

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Letter of Support

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Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

K-Monitor Association is Hungary’s main civic tech group and top anti-corruption NGO. K-Monitor develops tools by which public expenses become trackable, decision makers can be held accountable and works on methods that allow citizens to participate in decision making. Beside tech projects, K-Monitor conducts research and advocates for legal reform both on the local and national level.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.



K-Monitor Watchdog for Public Funds

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These activities strongly connect to our belief that democracies have to be strengthened in Europe and become more inclusive. Currently elections happen according to 70-80 year old patterns while common technologies would allow more democratic and inclusive electoral processes. Debating and experimenting with tools that can strengthen our democracies and foster the participation of citizens in political decision making and elections can contribute to a democratic revival in Europe.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this endeavour.

Best regards,
Sandor Lederer
Director
K-Monitor Association

Signature
January 26 2021



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Our organization, the Osservatorio di Pavia, is an Italian media research institute with a long experience and interest in the field of electoral studies, with a focus on the role the media system plays in the process.



It is our understanding that the project "Elections and AI" will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe's digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe's digital transformation, including AI. The project "Elections and AI" focus' on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.

First of all, the Osservatorio di Pavia is more and more focusing on the social media role in shaping public opinion and influencing voting behaviour, also in relation with the use and misuse of technology to send out political messages. Our focus on misinformation and the circulation of fake news in the political and electoral domain could benefit from the Elections and AI projects achievements. Moreover, the future Parliamentary Elections in Italy, due in 2023, will be an opportunity to reflect on how artificial intelligence could be relevant in our national context.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

Mirella Marchese

Vice President

CARES - Osservatorio di Pavia

Pavia, 15/01/2021



attn. Proposal Coordinator
Dr. Armin Rabitsch
Chairperson Election-Watch.EU
Verein wahlbeobachtung.org
Aschergasse 45
A-1130 Vienna, Austria

28 January 2021

Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This letter is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and our interest in a potential collaboration with you in the organisation of a High Level Policy Dialogue at the School of Transnational Governance, EUI.

The EUI School of Transnational Governance (STG) delivers teaching and high-level training in the methods, knowledge, skills and practice of governance beyond the State. Based within the European University Institute in Florence, the School brings the worlds of academia and policy-making together in an effort to navigate a context, both inside and outside Europe, where policy-making increasingly transcends national borders. In particular the STG Thematic Cluster on Digital Politics, Economy and Society is perfectly placed in its search for modes and instruments to fill the gap where more traditional international or national forms of government and governance are increasingly challenged in an innovation driven global environment where the boundary between private and public governance of cyberspace are constantly moving and sometimes blurred.

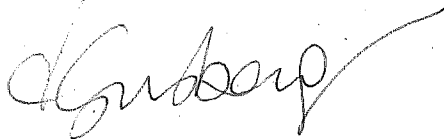
Our High-Level Policy Dialogues bring scholars and leaders from economic, political and social sectors together to discuss the most pressing issues on transnational and European agendas. The informal, private setting allows policy-makers to engage in the ideas of leading scholars, whilst collaborating with industry peers away from the constraints of traditional decision-making fora.

It is our understanding that the project "Elections and AI" will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe's digital transformation in elections should take. The focus of the project "Elections and AI" on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we welcome the possibility of organising a High Level Policy Dialogue at the STG, bringing together academics and policy-makers to discuss the topic of Elections and AI and would be interested in collaborating with the project "Elections and AI" on this event.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'L. Ginsborg', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr. Lisa Ginsborg
Teaching Associate
School of Transnational Governance

Inta Lase
Kr.Valdemara st. 24, ap.21, LV 1010 Riga, Latvia
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attn. Proposal Coordinator
Dr. Armin Rabitsch
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A-1130 Vienna, Austria

Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

I am an independent consultant in the field of elections, media, social media and democratization, and have an extensive experience in election observation with the European Union (EU) and OSCE/ODIHR. I have conducted trainings for civil society organizations and prospective EU election observers and analysts.

It is my understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts.

As an election and media expert in Latvia it would benefit my work when discussing these issues with electoral stakeholders in general and more specific the AI component.

Therefore, I would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, I express my intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

I wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Kind regards,

Inta Lase
Independent election, media and social media expert / consultant
Date 28/10/2024

Your company / institution name: Asociația Obștească "MP" (Mediapoint)
Your address: 31 august 1989, 98, of 405, Chisinau, Rep. of Moldova
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Email: livia.turcanu@mediapoint.md

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Dr. Armin Rabitsch
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A-1130 Vienna, Austria

Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

I am writing on behalf of Mediapoint, a non-profit organization based in Chisinau, Rep. of Moldova, whose mission is to innovate democratic processes by involving citizens and harnessing the potential of digital technologies. Our approach over the years has been to develop complex long-term programs that cover key priorities with an emphasis on digital solutions and social innovation. Together with our team, we developed online platforms known to the public in the country, which were visited by at least 1 million citizens, but also dozens of training and events addressing the complexity of technology and societal challenges. The issues that we mainly focus on are related to good governance, transparency, open data, and citizen participation. Recently, we monitored the use of social media to determine the impact that social networks have on the electoral process and the extent to which they serve as a platform for providing important information to voters in the Rep. of Moldova.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons. Recent events have shown that the advancement of technologies and their implications on democratic processes pose a complex debate over the benefits and threats technology brings to society. This use of technology, particularly the use of AI in elections raises ethical issues that must be addressed in a participatory way, involving policy makers, electoral bodies, but also civil society. This is why our organization is interested in sharing our local knowledge but also to provide support in raising awareness about the project’s research findings.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the

development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

Name: Livia Țurcanu

Title: President

Organisation: Asociația Obsteasca "MP" (Mediapoint)

Signature

Date: 13.01.2020



attn. Proposal Coordinator
Dr. Armin Rabitsch
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Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The Centre for Monitoring and Research – CeMI is a nongovernmental, non-profitable, Think Tank organization whose mission is to continuously provide support to reforms and strengthening of the institutions of the political system and civil society organizations through proposing and monitoring the implementation of public policies in the field of human rights and freedoms, European integration and fight against corruption in Montenegro.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.

CeMI is one of the founders and an active member of the widest existing coalition of NGOs in Montenegro “Collaborating to the Goal”. Internationally, CeMI is one of the founders and a full member of the European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations (ENEMO) and the Global Network of Domestic Elections Monitors (GNDEM). CeMI’s representative is the Secretary-General of ENEMO and the member of the Governing Board of GNDEM. Members and experts of CeMI participated in many international election observing missions as experts, short-term and long-term observers, through ENEMO and OSCE ODIHR missions.

Additionally, during the run-up to the 2020 Montenegro Parliamentary Elections, CeMI implemented the Social Media Monitoring Pilot Project aimed at improving the integrity of electoral process in Montenegro, protecting the right to freedom of expression in the digital

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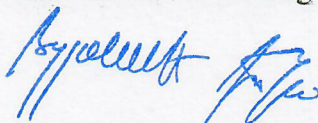
www.cemi.org.me

space, while respecting the established rules of political advertising during the election campaign, as well as other standards and rules of online community. Through this project CeMI assessed the level of impact of new technologies and online media on domestic electoral process and how it can affect the election results. Furthermore, CeMI's staff is trained to monitor social media during elections using technologies and certified in Election Technology and Cyber-Hygiene Awareness and Information Integrity.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,
Zlatko Vujovic
President of the Governing Board



15.01.2021.

CRTA

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Email: office@crt.rs

attn. Proposal Coordinator

Dr. Armin Rabitsch

Chairperson Election-Watch.EU

Verein wahlbeobachtung.org

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Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

As a civil society organization, CRTA develops mechanisms that: inform, educate, influence policies and strengthen institutions. CRTA efforts aim at strengthening democratic processes and ensuring that principles of accountability, transparency and equal participation are implemented in practice.

CRTA has a strong background and experience in supporting democracy in Serbia through public education about accountability and empowering civic engagement in decision making. CRTA's work and initiatives focus on:

- fact-checking, accountability journalism, media monitoring and disclosure of fake news and misinformation in media and digital sphere,
- independent civic election observation of parliamentary, presidential and local elections in Serbia,
- parliamentary oversight and advocacy for institutional accountability and openness.

CRTA received the OSCE 2018 Democracy Defender Award for contribution to the promotion of democracy and the defense of human rights, as well as the international recognition for innovation,

CRTA:

commitment and contribution to democracy through the W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award, awarded by the National Democratic Institute in 2013. CRTA also received the 2018 award of the Commissioner for Information of Public Importance for its strong contribution in the area of free access to information in Serbia.

It is our understanding that the project "Elections and AI" will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe's digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe's digital transformation, including AI. The project "Elections and AI" focus' on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.

Since CRTA has been observing the elections in Serbia since 2016, one of conclusions from observation is that tech policies are poorly developed not only in Serbia but also in the countries of the region. We believe that the implementation of such a project could significantly contribute to greater transparency and integrity of the election process. The development and implementation of tech policy in elections can also contribute to restoring voter confidence in the election administration and in the election process in general, which is one of the crucial problem within elections in Western Balkans region

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

Pavle Dimitrijevic

Deputy program director

CRTA



Date: 28.1.2021.

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Fax: +386 1 580 55 21
Email: tina.jukic@fu.uni-lj.si

attn. Proposal Coordinator
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Chairperson Election-Watch.EU
Verein wahlbeobachtung.org
Aschergasse 45
A-1130 Vienna, Austria

Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The Faculty of Public Administration is the central point of development of administrative science in the region (Central and Southeast Europe). It is an interdisciplinary source of knowledge in the field of public administration, which is achieved through research, collaboration with national and international business, and transfer of knowledge into teaching practice, counselling and training. The Faculty of Public Administration is committed to the development of administrative science. It is a source of knowledge, ideas and solutions related to the assurance of excellence in the performance of functions of the state, and the development of social welfare. We influence the development of the field and the formation of opinion of the professional public in the wider region with quality education, research, counselling and development work.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.

Faculty of Public Administration has a strong Department (i.e. Chair) for organisation and informatics. Researchers in the field of informatics in public administration are active in several

contemporary field of research including artificial intelligence, e-participation and e-democracy (including e-voting, social media usage in public administration etc.), digital tools supporting co-creation of public services, e-learning and others.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

Prof. dr. Janez Stare

Dean

Faculty of Public Administration

Janez
Stare

Digitally signed
by Janez Stare
Date: 2021.01.14
15:16:59 +01'00'

Dr. Tina Jukić, Assistant professor

Chair of Organisation and Informatics

Faculty of Public Administration

Tina
Jukić

Digitalno
podpisal Tina
Jukić
Datum:
2021.01.14
09:52:41 +01'00'



UNIVERSITAT ROVIRA I VIRGILI

University Rovira i Virgili

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Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The University of Rovira i Virgili (URV) is a public teaching and research institution with centres mainly in Reus and Tarragona, south Catalonia. It was founded as an autonomous entity in 1991 benefitting of previous university studies existing in the area. In 2018 and 2019 it was ranked the 78th World's Best Young University with less than 50 years (Times Higher Education World University Rankings). In 2020 it was ranked within the top 200 world's universities by the Times Higher Education 2020 ranking, which recognizes universities for their social and economic impact based on 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. At Spanish level, in 2017 URV was ranked the 4th in publication production by faculty number, and the 7th with Highly Cited Papers by faculty number. In 2014 URV obtained the HR Excellence in Research award by the EC, renewed in 2017. URV offers doctoral studies distributed in 24 programs and annually welcomes 11400 undergraduate, 1300 master and 1200 PhD students.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe's digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe's digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus' on disseminating

research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.

The University has been involved in electoral-related issues within its research and knowledge activities over the last three decades and therefore the project will contribute to reinforce such tasks. In particular, attention should be paid to two faculties where active research groups exist on elections and new technologies. Firstly, the Faculty of Law launched in 2003 research activities regarding legal challenges related to electronic voting, what intended to balance previous approaches from computer-scientists only. Further tasks led to a broader scope encompassing other new voting technologies too. Secondly, the Faculty of Computer Engineering pioneered one of the first worldwide e-voting platforms and contribute to a successful spin-off on that matter (i.e. Scytl). Moreover, the UNESCO Chair on Privacy, which is led by the URV Professor Josep Domingo-Ferrer, serves as an institutional umbrella for these contributions. Having these previous inputs in mind, a project on AI and elections will be helpful to upgrade all existing research to new challenges that elections face due to recent developments of information technologies.

The project will also allow for a greater awareness of electoral-related institutions and officials in Spain. URV has been previously involved in such tasks as expert advisors to national and regional Spanish electoral management bodies, but different factors made difficult to obtain consistent results. Among other elements, staff rotations at official entities or the evolving nature of IT issues creates a non-efficient recurrent dissemination and awareness-raising activities. This pan-European initiative would be crucial to set a up a common discourse and priorities shared by electoral related bodies and stakeholders. The University aims to become a key partner in such a strategy.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

Jordi Barrat

Professor of Constitutional Law / University Rovira i Virgili



January 15th 2021

InterElect
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attn. Proposal Coordinator
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Verein wahlbeobachtung.org
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Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

Independent consult in the field of democratization; Election observation; Technical assistance; training of civil society organizations; training of election officials in Sweden; training of election observers.

It is my understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, I’m very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons.

As an election official in Sweden it would benefit my work when discussing with stakeholders the transformation of the election system in general and more specific the AI component.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we

express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,
Anders Eriksson
Consultant
InterElect

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anders Eriksson', is positioned above the date.

2021-01-13



Stockholm, 15 January 2021

Attn. Proposal Coordinator
Dr. Armin Rabitsch
Chairperson Election-Watch.EU
Verein wahlbeobachtung.org
Aschergasse 45
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Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI):
Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter affirms our Support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and our interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

International IDEA is an intergovernmental organization that supports sustainable democracy worldwide. We develop, share and enable the use of comparative knowledge in our key impact areas of expertise: electoral processes, constitution-building, political participation and representation. We also address the important issues of gender, diversity, and conflict and security as they relate to democracy. Our efforts to support democratic change build on our convening potential. We facilitate dialogue at the country, expert and international levels. We work in the spirit of peer dialogue, in which everyone has experiences and knowledge to share.

There are currently 32 member states. They are Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Finland, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, The Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Uruguay. Japan has observer status. International IDEA's nearly 200 staff members are located in various regional offices worldwide in Wider Europe (The Hague, The Netherlands), Latin America and the Caribbean (Chile), Asia and the Pacific (Australia) and Africa and West Asia (Ethiopia). The organization's headquarters is in Stockholm, Sweden.

It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe's digital transformation in elections should take. We support this aim.

Over the last years we have seen that AI has become an increasingly relevant part of the discussion on the future of democratic development within the European Union and beyond. While AI is rapidly spreading globally, the inclusion of AI in policy making is still in its infancy. This is very much the case for the field of development cooperation and democracy support where we are active. This is why International IDEA has in recent years worked in cooperation with EU DG DEVCO to explore relevant entry points for democracy assistance. It is clear to us that the use of AI in elections is one such entry point where more in-depth research is still required. This is why we expect this project to make an important contribution. We are hoping to draw upon the results of this research not only for our work within the EU, but also in future democracy assistance projects worldwide.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Your sincerely,



Therese Pearce Laanela
Head of Electoral Processes Programme
International IDEA



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Head of School:

Professor Wyn Rees BA, MSc, PhD (Southampton)

Nottingham, 12/1/2021

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Letter of Support

REF: European AI Fund – public and policy discourse on Artificial Intelligence (AI): Project “Elections and AI”

Dear Dr. Rabitsch,

This Letter of Support is to express our support for the AI fund project “Elections and AI” and interest in participating in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The **Research Centre for the Study of Parties and Democracy (REPRESENT)** is a collaboration between the University of Birmingham and the University of Nottingham. It brings together and drives innovative and interdisciplinary research on the falling social penetration of established parties, the rise of populism, and the effectiveness of aid to support democracy. REPRESENT provides a ‘hub’ for knowledge exchange between academic researchers, policy-makers and practitioners from Africa, the Middle East, Europe and Asia. For more information, see www.represent-research.org

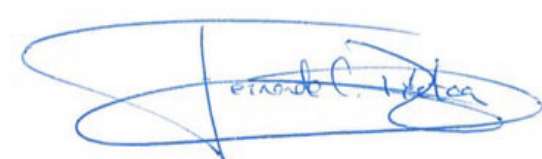
It is our understanding that the project “Elections and AI” will seek to contribute to tech policy discussion in electoral processes, and to be a more visible and more effective voice in public and policy debates about the role, form and shape that Europe’s digital transformation in elections should take. The European Commission has ambitions to forge a plan for Europe’s digital transformation, including AI. The project “Elections and AI” focus’ on disseminating research findings about AI in elections to regulators, election management bodies, policy makers and CSOs at European and country level is crucial, as without a strong civil society taking part in the debate there is the risk of missing opportunities to better society.

With this in mind, we are very interested in participating in these efforts for several reasons. First of all, it will provide with the necessary with the necessary background material to develop our research on parties, elections and democracy promotions further. Secondly, it will constitute an excellent opportunity to collaborate in the dissemination of democracy support materials at our events (e.g. ECPR/ODIHR Schools). Thirdly, it will help us in our consultative work in terms of legislative drafting and policy impact with European governments and institutions.

Therefore, we would be willing to participate in the Elections and AI Stakeholder Advisory Group. This would include participation in the periodic online project meetings to provide input into a) the development of a state-of-the-art study of the role of AI in European electoral processes and b) a policy paper on AI in elections to advocate EU policy makers. Further, we express our intention to attend or support the conduct of in-country workshops and advocacy campaigns on AI and elections.

We wish you success in the selection of your project for support by the European AI Fund, and look forward to hearing from you again about this.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fernando C. Bértoa", enclosed within a blue oval. The signature is stylized and fluid.

Fernando Casal Bértoa

Associate Professor in Comparative Politics at the University of Nottingham and Director of
REPRESENT: Centre for the Study of Parties and Democracy