

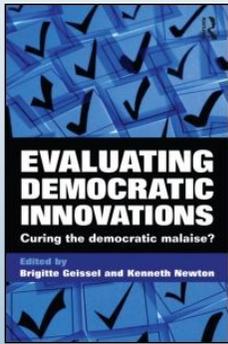
## PUBLICATIONS

**Geißel, Brigitte; Joas, Marko**

**2013:**

Participatory Democratic Innovations in Europe.

Opladen: Barbara Budrich.



**Geißel, Brigitte; Newton, Kenneth**

**2012:**

Evaluating Democratic Innovations. Curing the Democratic Malaise?

London, New York: Routledge.

**Rinne, Jonathan R.**

Die multivariate Themen-Wahl. Überlegungen zu einem neuen direktdemokratischen Instrument.

Münster: LIT-Verlag.

**Gherghina, Sergiu**

Party Organizations and Electoral Volatility in Central and Eastern Europe: Enhancing Voter Loyalty.

London, New York: Routledge.

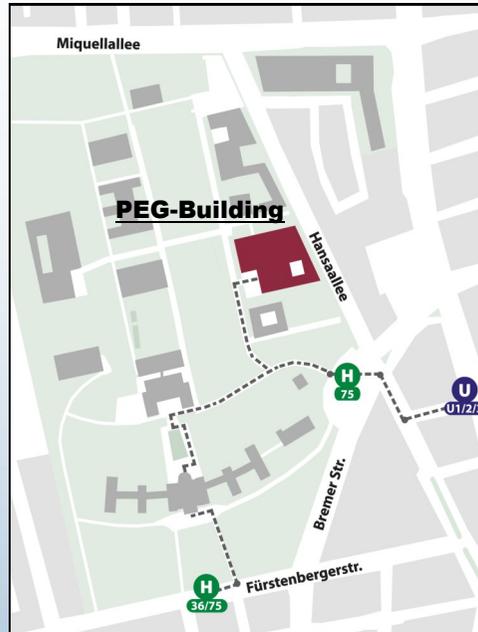
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## Research Unit 'Democratic Innovations'

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## About Us



The Research Unit 'Democratic Innovations' was established by Professor Brigitte Geißel in 2012 at Goethe University Frankfurt.

Professor Geißel and her team analyze various democratic innovations

in the context of representative democracy.

## WELCOME WORD

“Nowadays, a number of democracies are coping with serious problems of public disappointment and dissatisfaction by experimenting with new forms of participation. Systematic and in depth research on this topic, which is one of the most crucial and salient research questions in contemporary democratic theory, is still lacking and at the same time needed. Hence, the recently established Research Unit on ‘Democratic Innovations’ at Goethe University Frankfurt in Germany, which addresses this topic on the development of new participatory procedures, will play an especially significant role in filling this gap.”

Prof. Leonardo Morlino (LUISS, Rome), President of the International Political Science Association (IPSA) 2009-2012

The research unit seeks to answer - but is not limited to - the following questions:

- ⊗ What are democratic innovations?
- ⊗ Are democratic innovations necessary?
- ⊗ What are the effects of democratic innovations?
- ⊗ What is the future of democratic innovations?
- ⊗ How can democratic innovations and representative mechanisms be combined?



The team

More information:  
[www.demokratische-innovationen.de](http://www.demokratische-innovationen.de)

## Research Program

Despite the worldwide triumph of democracy, the quest for an optimal form of government has not yet reached the “end of history”. Modern representative democracies are confronted with several challenges. A variety of democratic innovations were developed and tested to cope with these challenges, e.g. direct democratic procedures or dialogue-oriented procedures. The Research Unit examines these innovations.

### PROJECTS (SELECTION)

- ⊗ Evaluation of the participatory budgeting process in Frankfurt/Main
- ⊗ Effects of direct democratic elements in representative democracy
- ⊗ Meta-analytical pilot study on dialogue-oriented processes
- ⊗ Conditions for success in online will formation (Alma Kolleck)
- ⊗ How do participatory procedures influence local policy making? (Martina Neunecker)
- ⊗ Citizens' vote on policy programs - a feasibility study (Jonathan R. Rinne)

### CONSULTING (SELECTION)

- ⊗ Second Report on Civic Engagement, Federal Ministry of Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ)
- ⊗ Committee of Inquiry (Enquête Kommission) “Active Civic Participation for a strong Democracy”, state parliament (Landtag) of Rhineland-Palatinate