



## Cohort Deliverables Summary

Cohort Title: Deliberative Democracy and Citizens' Assemblies

Cohort Co-Leads: [Government of Ireland & European Commission](#)  
*(NGO lead – newDemocracy Foundation)*

In the spaces below please provide a summary (MAX 250 words) of your cohort's deliverables, which will contribute to an Executive Summary. Please also rank the deliverables from first to last to indicate which deliverables the Summit team should prioritize to be highlighted during the Summit, where possible. After completing this form, please send it back to [DemocracySummit@state.gov](mailto:DemocracySummit@state.gov) by 28 February. In addition to the form, please attach the final, complete deliverables in one document. For example, a full list of your cohort's model commitments/recommendations, text of a Call to Action, a Best Practices document, policy reports, and/or toolkits, etc. If the deliverable is intended to be endorsed by countries or other stakeholders, please identify countries and other stakeholders who have already endorsed some or part of the deliverable and any efforts underway to secure additional endorsements.

Summary of Cohort Deliverables: (MAX 250 words)

Many people legitimately feel like they do not have a voice, nor power, in shaping the decisions affecting their lives. Trust in experts has been declining, misinformation and disinformation are prevalent, and political polarisation – partly driven by electoral incentives – weakens our cohesiveness as societies.

The cohort's objective was to spread interest in the most successful innovation to counter these factors - Citizens' Assemblies – where the Irish Government and European Commission experiences are at the forefront. Randomly selected everyday people get the chance to discuss issues with people different to themselves and work to find common ground solutions.

The focus was to help governments take a first step to adoption, with the goal of giving citizens the most visible and substantive role in public decisions.

National commitments we pursue:

1. informational workshops for elected representatives
2. driving adoption and distribution of guidelines in the OECD 'Deliberative Wave' report
3. conduct a national-level Citizens Assembly, as the cohort co-leads have successfully done.

'Democracy' seems all too frequently to be featured in news stories lamenting its decline, threat and erosion. So another key objective has been to highlight that ways exist to reverse that narrative, with the best defense being a good offence. Therefore we have worked to build support for more far-reaching international commitments:

1. the need for a 'Marshall Plan for Democracy': building new institutions for a new world.
2. make citizens around the world central to solving this problem by initiating a Global Citizens Assembly on Democracy.
3. a global "What Works" Centre for deliberative democracy

The activity of the cohort has seen an already growing field expand its reach. Across the world expertise and advice to operate this process can be connected with governments as needed.

Cohort POC for Deliverables(name and email):

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