

# Workshop Summary: Collaborative Technologies in Democratic Processes

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## Introduction

The present collection of papers forms the proceedings of a full day workshop on Cooperative Technologies in Democratic Processes - Beyond e-Voting. The workshop took place in conjunction with COOP 2014 on May 27, 2014 in Nice, France.

The workshop was motivated in the observation that much work on technology for democracy has been concerned with various forms of e-Voting. While information technologies, including the Internet, have hit high penetration in most western countries, opening for wide application of cooperative technologies in civic life, such as local democracy, public debate etc. E-Voting systems do not support new forms of engagement in the development of alternatives, they do not foster active citizenship. Contrarily they maintain a principle of a political elite developing the politics and the grey masses voting for a few fixed options. Thus, there seems to be a need in civil society organizations, as well as in new political movements, volunteer work, non-government organizations etc. for technologies for collaborative deliberation. The goal of the workshop was to better understand

technology support for forms of democracy such as direct and deliberative varieties by discussing the concrete cases and technologies and by exploring conceptual and technical frameworks and approaches.

The workshop attracted a broad range of participants. The day was organized as four thematic panels discussion 3-4 papers each: Arrangements, Engagement, Protocols and Discourse

We want to thank all the participants and co-authors for contributing to the workshop. We also want to thank the organizers of COOP 2014, not least the workshop co-chairs, for providing great facilities.

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