

Citizenship, Involvement and Democracy

Abstract:

This module will build on existing work and is designed to investigate the growing problem in most modern democratic societies of political and social disengagement, loss of community, and a decline in trust. The module will attempt to assess which social and political conditions are most likely to encourage greater social and political involvement of citizens. It will focus on the extent and breadth of civic engagement in different societies and investigate its impact. The module will cover engagement at both a micro and macro level ('small' democracy and 'big' democracy) in order to bring out possible links between social and political participation and the impact of both on the health of a democracy.

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