

open  
revolution

James Smith - @floppy





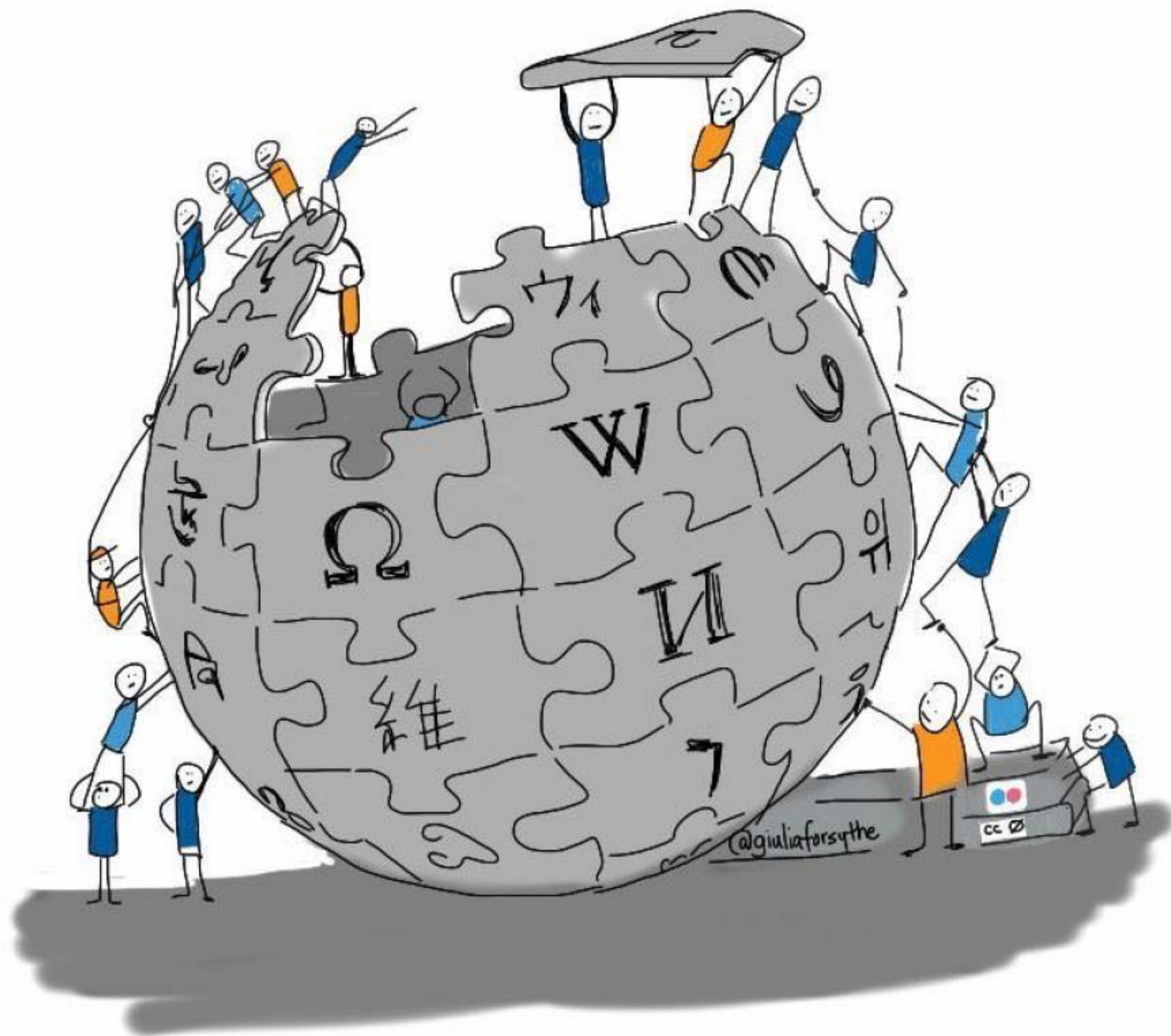
James Smith - @floppy

What can Democracy  
learn from Open  
Source?



**open source**

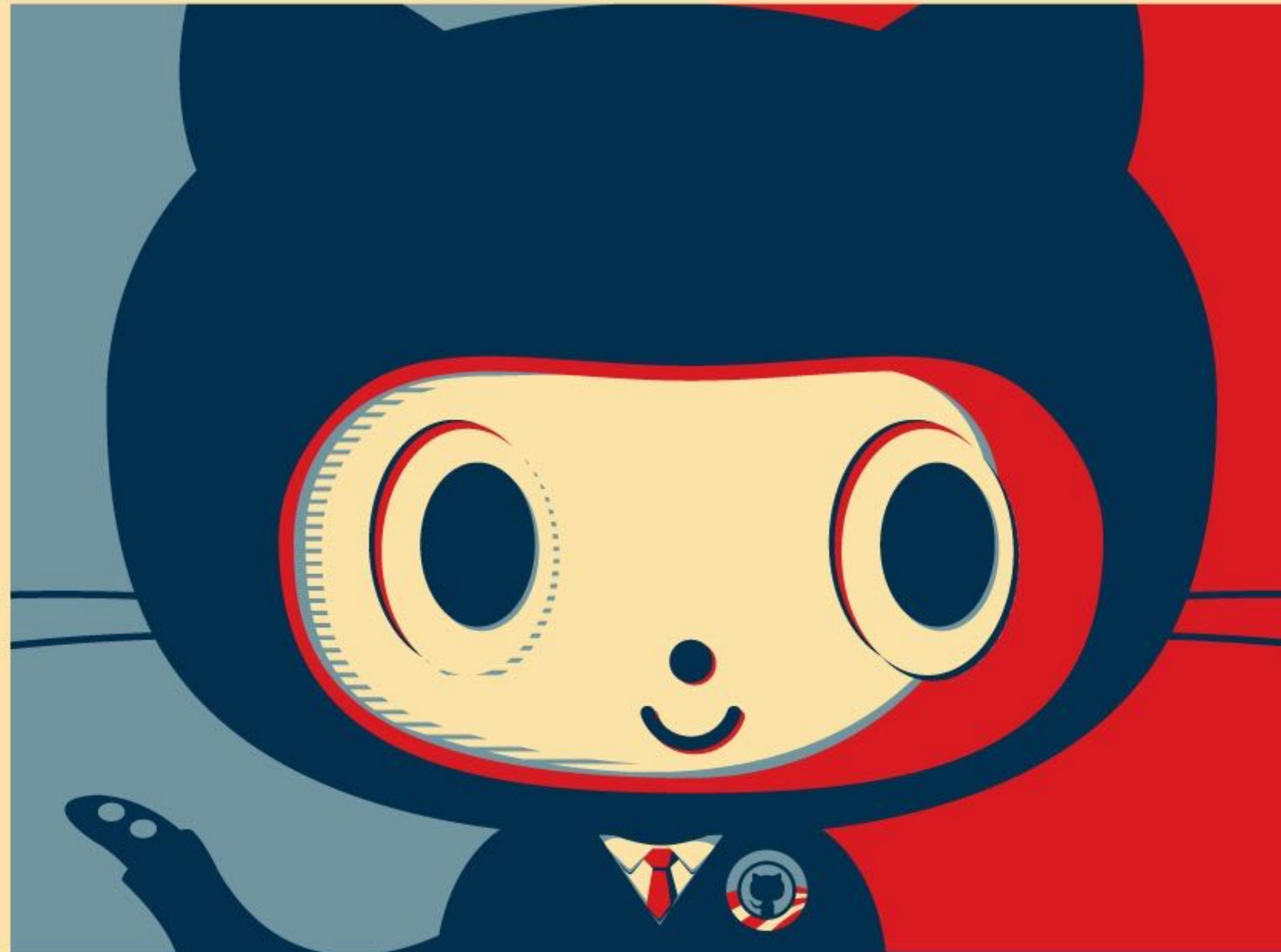












**YES WE CODE**



Start Small



**DO YOU WANNA**



**WRITE A MANIFESTO?**



# The OpenPolitics Manifesto

"The Book Thief: Markus Zusak" by Melissa

We believe that government should serve the people, and that 'the state', so often derided, is simply the way that citizens work together to enhance the public good.

We believe that government should be:

- Open, transparent and accountable, with no hiding place for backroom influence.
- Rational, with decisions and policy based on sound evidence, not media pressure.
- Courageous, able to make difficult decisions without pandering to short-termism.
- Ethical: dedicated to creating a sustainable society and economy with progressive moral values.
- Bottom-up: People should be telling the government what they want from a local level, rather than being told from the top.

We believe that individuals should be:

- Free to act in any manner that does not harm another individual, and does not infringe upon the rights of other individuals.
- Enjoy a fundamental right to privacy from the state or their agents.

In short, we wish to ensure government remains open and transparent, whilst individuals retain liberty and privacy.

We believe that we are heading towards a better future, and that government has an essential role in taking us there. We also believe that as a country, we can self-govern *better* in the future, and will create policy that hopes to re-engage citizens in our democratic process.

openpolitics.org.uk - @OpenPoliticsUK



# Low Barriers to Entry





# Democracy

"House of Commons" by Berit Watkin

We believe that the UK should be a truly democratic country, where the state is properly accountable to its citizens. In the short term, this means improving the existing system in various ways, such as by improving the electoral system, changing how parties are funded, curbing the influence of the lobbying industry, and replacing the House of Lords with an elected chamber. In the long term, we believe that the UK should be a secular republic rather than a monarchy, and that at some point in the future technology will allow us to make decisions using some form of direct democracy rather than needing to elect representatives.

## 1. Written Constitution

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1.2. The constitution could either be created by a citizens' panel, with approval and adoption subject to a referendum, or created as a "blank slate", with every addition done as an amendment by Parliament with a super-majority vote (e.g. 75% in favour).

1.3. Provision for calling a national constitutional convention to alter the constitution should be made in statute law. The law should call a constitutional convention if a super-majority (75%) of members of the Scottish Parliament, the Welsh Assembly, the Northern Ireland Assembly, and the English Grand Committee (if no English Parliament exists) vote for such a convention to be held. In the case one is called, members should be elected on a non-partisan ticket under a proportional electoral system, and it should have free power to make amendments to the constitution.

[Written Constitution](#)

[Party Funding](#)

[Transparency](#)

[Lobbying](#)

[Devolution](#)

[House of Lords Reform](#)

- [Cease all new appointments](#)

- [Cut membership to 650](#)

- [House of Citizens](#)

[MPs pay and expenses](#)

[Separation of Powers](#)

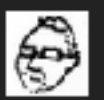
[Government Posts](#)

[Royal Secrecy](#)

[City of London](#)

[Republic](#)





🔔 Make your changes in the editor below, then hit "Submit changes"

```
---
title: Democracy
---

* table of contents
{:toc}

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## Party Funding

Limit all donations and loans to political parties to a maximum of £5,000 from individuals who appear on the electoral register.
```

Submit changes



🔔 Write a short summary that describes what you changed. For instance, "Fixed spelling mistakes", or "Added a new section about ducks".

write a short summary of your change here

🔔 If you want to, you can add a more detailed description that describes the background to your change, or explains to reviewers why it should be accepted.

write a more detailed explanation here if you want to

Submit changes



# Open Review Process



# No killer robots please #375

Edit

🔗 Open

Floppy wants to merge 1 commit into master from 20151204222243

💬 Conversation 5

🔑 Commits 1

📄 Files changed 1

+7 -1



Floppy commented on 4 Dec 2015

OpenPolitics member

+😊



Having a second try at submitting this one. This is coming ever closer, with auto-firing drones and so on starting to pop up in the news.



👤 No killer robots please

✖ 4f7aee



👤 Floppy added the in progress label on 4 Dec 2015



philipjohn commented on 17 Jan

OpenPolitics member

+😊



I want to question the premise that "machines [have] the power to decide who lives and dies".

What machines currently have the power to decide who lives and dies, without human intervention?

Does any machine have the ability, on it's own, to circumvent international rules on warfare?

Labels



in progress

Milestone



No milestone

Assignees



No one — assign yourself

Notifications

🔊 Unsubscribe

You're receiving notifications because you authored the thread.

3 participants





Floppy wants to merge 1 commit into master from 20151204222243



Conversation 5



Commits 1



Files changed 1

Showing changes from all commits ▾ 1 changed file ▾

+7 -1

Diff options ▾

8 military.md



View



@@ -28,4 +28,10 @@ Reviews of defence budgets should be tied to a review of commitments, not just e

28 28

29 29

We will establish a regulatory body for private military and security companies (PMSC) registered in the UK. All PMSCs will be required to register with this body and they will then either receive approval to operate as a PMSC or not. PMSCs will have to seek approval with the regulatory body before accepting operational deployments. A list of private military contractors that have been killed whilst in the service of these PMSCs will also be collated and published annually.

30 30

31

-We will push for an international regulatory body and statutes for PMSCs around the world, possibly administered through the UN. The international body could potentially incorporate both the [Montreux Document] (<https://www.globalpolicy.org/images/pdfs/0917montreuxdocument.pdf>) and the [International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers] ([http://icoca.ch/sites/all/themes/icoca/assets/icoc\\_english3.pdf](http://icoca.ch/sites/all/themes/icoca/assets/icoc_english3.pdf)).

31

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32

+

33

+## Lethal Autonomous Robots

34

+

35

+Giving machines the power to decide who lives and dies on the battlefield is an unacceptable application of technology<sup>[1]</sup>. Development of lethal autonomous robots will be made illegal in the UK. We will work with the UN and other international bodies to create an international treaty banning the development and use of lethal autonomous robots.

36




+

37

+<sup>[1]</sup>: [Campaign to stop killer robots] (<http://www.stopkillerrobots.org/the-solution/>)



Voting is done using special symbols in the comments for a change:

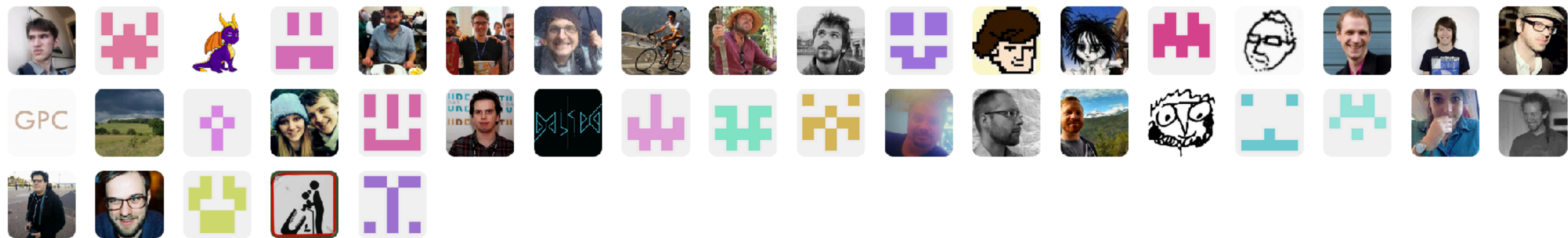
Text	Symbol	Meaning
<code>:+1:</code>		Agree
<code>:hand:</code>		Abstain
<code>:-1:</code>		Block

For a change to be accepted, two existing contributors must agree to the change, and it must have been open for 7 days. If a change is amended, votes are reset and are only counted for the latest version of the text.



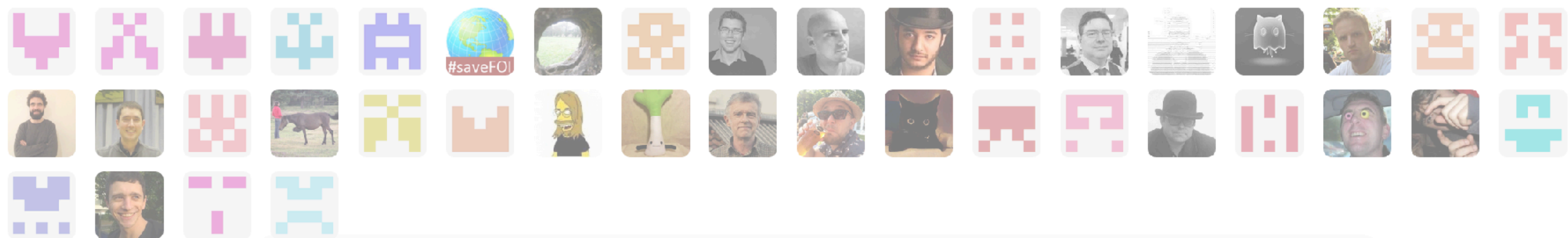
# Contributors (41)

Contributors have had a proposal accepted, and thus under the rules, get voting rights on future proposals.



# Other participants (40)

Other participants have either submitted a (so far) unsuccessful proposal, or just taken part in the discussion, and do not yet have voting rights.





Fail:  $\text{block} > 0$

Pass:  $(\text{agree} - \text{abstain}) > 2$  AND  
 $\text{age} > 7$  AND  $\text{age} < 90$







# Version Control





## OfCom replaced with IPSO ...

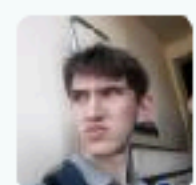
OliverJackson1 committed on GitHub on 30 Jun ✗



ef08f66



### Commits on Jun 29, 2016

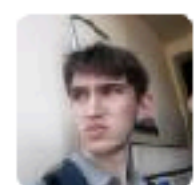


## Provision for calling constitutional convention ...

andrewdwilliams committed on GitHub on 29 Jun ✗



91e7525

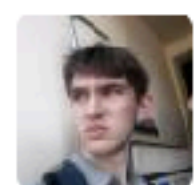


## DRIP Repeal ...

andrewdwilliams committed on GitHub on 29 Jun ✗



f673137



## Overseas Territories section update ...

andrewdwilliams committed on GitHub on 29 Jun ✗



8abad64

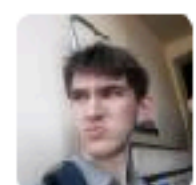


## Merge pull request #386 from andrewdwilliams/patch-1 ...

Floppy committed on GitHub on 29 Jun ✗



75df0ae



## Remove unnecessary section of foreign policy ...

andrewdwilliams committed on GitHub on 29 Jun ✗



6e4740c



### Commits on Jun 28, 2016



## Included hydrogen as an alternate fuel as well as electricity.

glynnchaldecott committed on 28 Jun ✓



29cbc36










## Added a new section



---










		35	
 <b>Stamp duty reform</b> Floppy authored on 8 Jan 2014	<a href="#">d7774b5</a>	36	<b>## Housing</b>
		37	
 <b>Rental rights</b> frabcus authored on 5 Oct 2014	<a href="#">3291170</a>	38	Improve rental rights, such that residential tenants cannot be evicted
		39	
 <b>Adopt land value taxation</b> digitalWestie authored on 4 Dec 2014	<a href="#">3614859</a>	40	<b>## Land Value Tax</b>
		41	
 <b>Merge branch 'gh-pages' into robin...</b> Floppy authored on 10 Jan	<a href="#">dd63d32</a>	42	Adopt Land Value Taxation (LVT)[^3], a charge on the rental value of l
		43	
 <b>Calculating Corporation Tax and In...</b> PaulJRobinson authored on 9 Jan 2014	<a href="#">b27d407</a>	44	<b>## Business</b>
		45	
 <b>Add paragraph on proposed reme...</b> timcowlishaw authored on 11 Jan 2014	<a href="#">a70c51e</a>	46	Personal income tax is calculated on income generated prior to expense
		47	
 <b>Digital economy suggestions</b> philipjohn authored on 15 Jan 2014	<a href="#">3607b0a</a>	48	Given that there is a current tax gap (between tax due and tax recieve
		49	
		50	<b>## Digital Economy</b>
		51	
		52	We will extend the requirement on basic, affordable telephony to broad
		53	
		54	Enshrine net neutrality in law, protecting the fundamental principle o
		55	
		56	Any data or research that is government funded will be required to be

























# Automation



# Open Proposals

State	Title	View						
<div>⌚ Waiting</div>	Expand UK airports and make them carbon neutral.		1	38d	0	0	0	
<div>Dead</div>	Open data in science		2	119d	2	0	0	

# Closed Proposals

State	Title	View						
<div>✓ Accepted</div>	Tidying		0	38d	0	0	0	
<div>✓ Accepted</div>	Fix broken links		0	38d	0	0	0	
<div>✓ Accepted</div>	Fix a whole load of spelling errors		0	38d	0	0	0	
<div>✓ Accepted</div>	Add working test suite		0	38d	0	0	0	
<div>✓ Accepted</div>	Policy Introduction: Reopen the Sure Start Centres		2	69d	2	0	0	
<div>✓ Accepted</div>	Continuing Education		3	118d	2	0	0	
<div>✓ Accepted</div>	Funding		2	118d	2	0	0	
<div>✓ Accepted</div>	Built upon the drugs policy		2	118d	2	0	0	





## Some checks haven't completed yet

1 pending and 1 successful checks

[Hide all checks](#)



**votebot/votes** — The change is waiting for more vot...

[Details](#)



**votebot/time** — The change has been open long eno...

[Details](#)



## This branch has no conflicts with the base branch

Merging can be performed automatically.

**Merge pull request**



You can also [open this in GitHub Desktop](#) or view [command line instructions](#).



Anyone Can Help

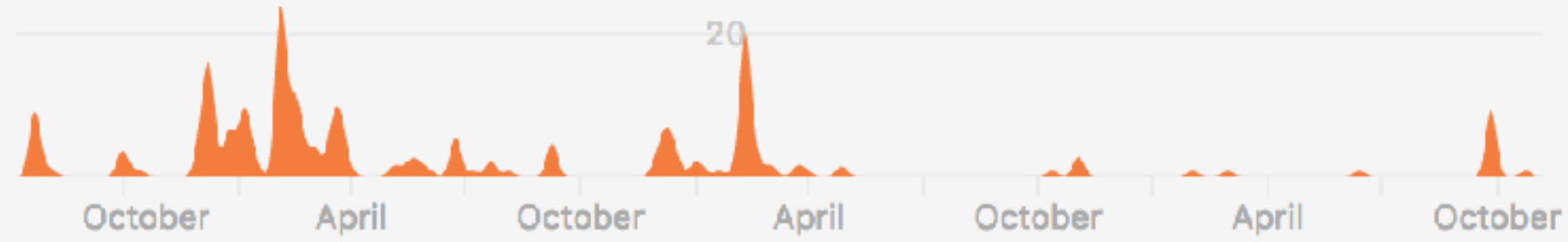




**Floppy**

287 commits / 4,791 ++ / 4,321 --

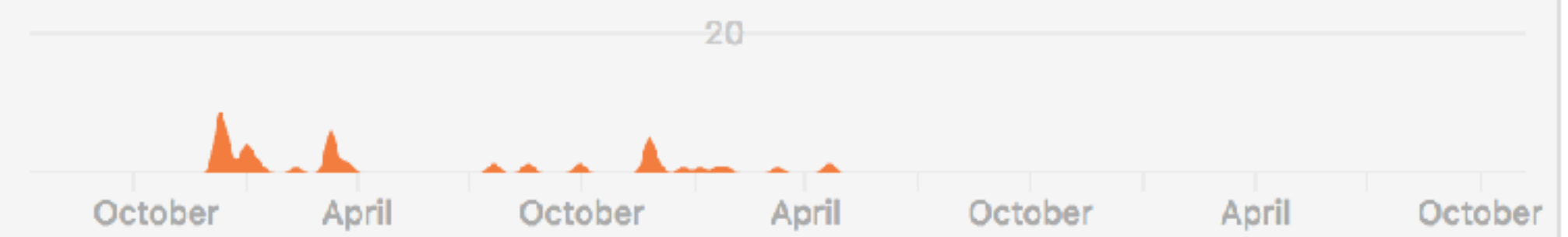
#1



**philipjohn**

61 commits / 372 ++ / 57 --

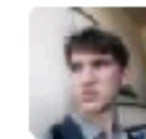
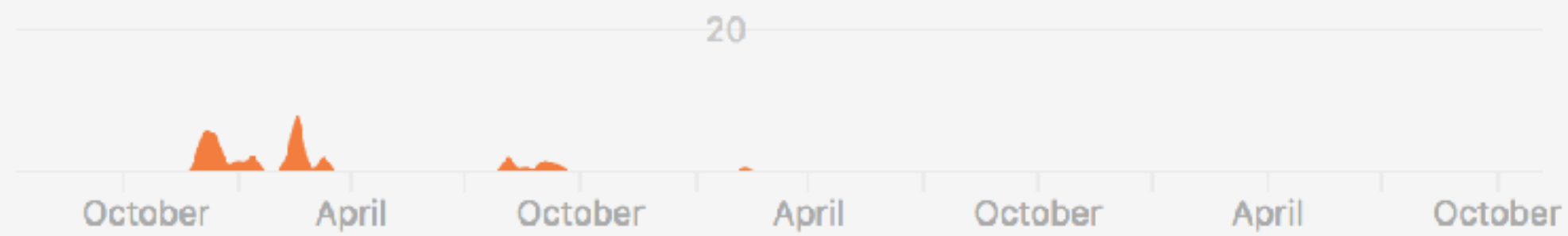
#2



**PaulJRobinson**

50 commits / 260 ++ / 50 --

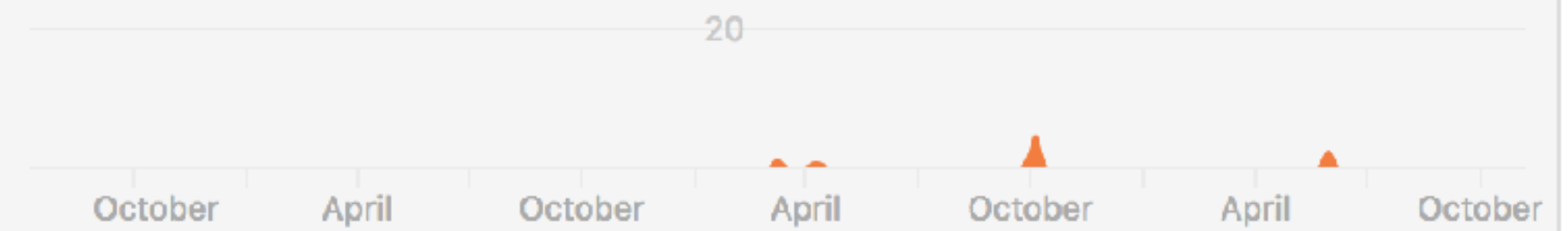
#3



**andrewdwilliams**

16 commits / 216 ++ / 163 --

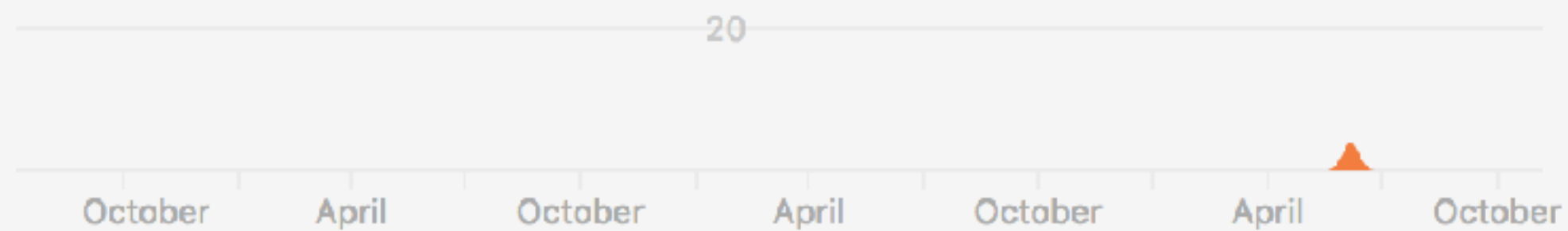
#4



**OliverJackson1**

9 commits / 22 ++ / 6 --

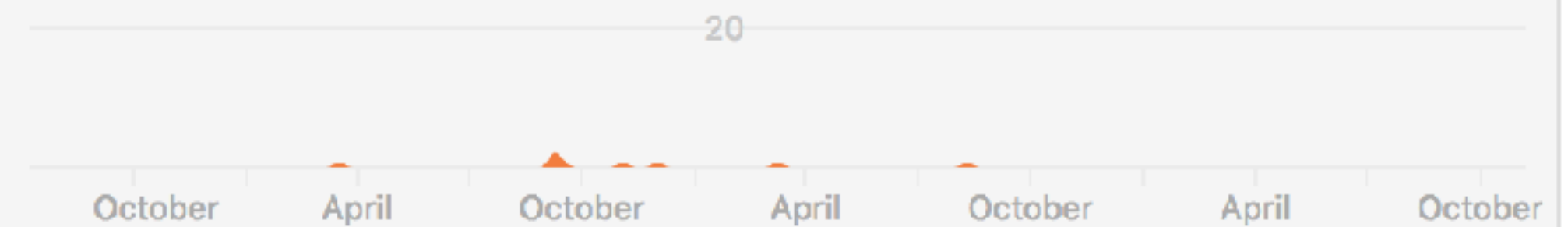
#5



**digitalWestie**

9 commits / 76 ++ / 17 --

#6



# Continuous Delivery





# Democracy

"House of Commons" by Berit Watkin

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[Written Constitution](#)

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- [Cease all new appointments](#)

- [Cut membership to 650](#)

- [House of Citizens](#)

[MPs pay and expenses](#)

[Separation of Powers](#)

[Government Posts](#)

[Royal Secrecy](#)

[City of London](#)

[Republic](#)



# Small Iterations



- *Anything* can be changed.
- All contributions and discussions should be public, ideally on GitHub.
- Plain English is essential - follow the GDS style guide if you can, or use [Hemingway](#) to test readability. Try to avoid political weasel-words.
- Make changes small, self-contained, and simple. Large changes will take a lot longer to get agreed upon and merged. Small is agile.
- Changes need not be fully detailed or final. In fact, accepting partial improvements which we then build upon is encouraged, as it keeps things moving faster.
- All content is public domain. Please sign the [Contributor License Agreement](#) when you make a contribution. See [the full license](#) for details.

# Minimum Viable Product



**Communications**



**Crime & Justice**



**Culture & Media**



**Democracy**



**Economy**



**Education**



**Elections**



**Energy**



**Environment**



**Foreign Policy**



**Health**



**Housing**



**Infrastructure**



**Local Government**



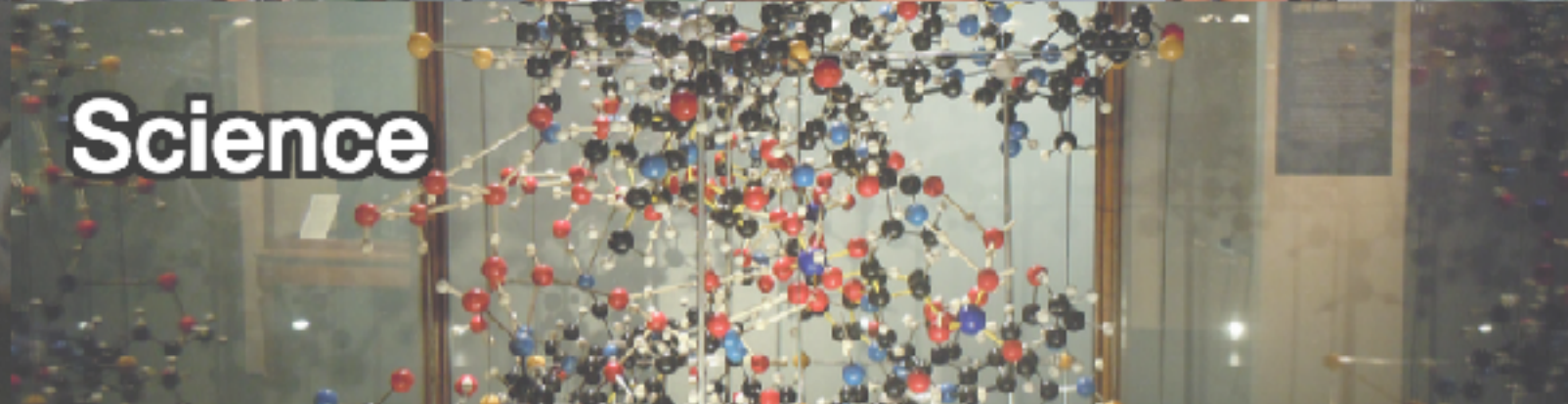
**Military**



**Poverty**



**Science**



**Society**



**Transport**



**Your Local Area**





# DEMOCRACY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Vote James Smith for a new kind of MP

*"I want a future where everyone has a real voice in our democracy, and where our leaders truly listen to citizens. Where government isn't something that's done to people, but something that we can all build together."*



**SOME THING NEW**

My MP 2015  
Election Communication for Parliament  
#votesomethingnew  
somethingnew.org.uk

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Election Communication for Parliament  
#votesomethingnew  
somethingnew.org.uk





[somethingnew.org.uk](http://somethingnew.org.uk) - @havesomenew



Open Democracy

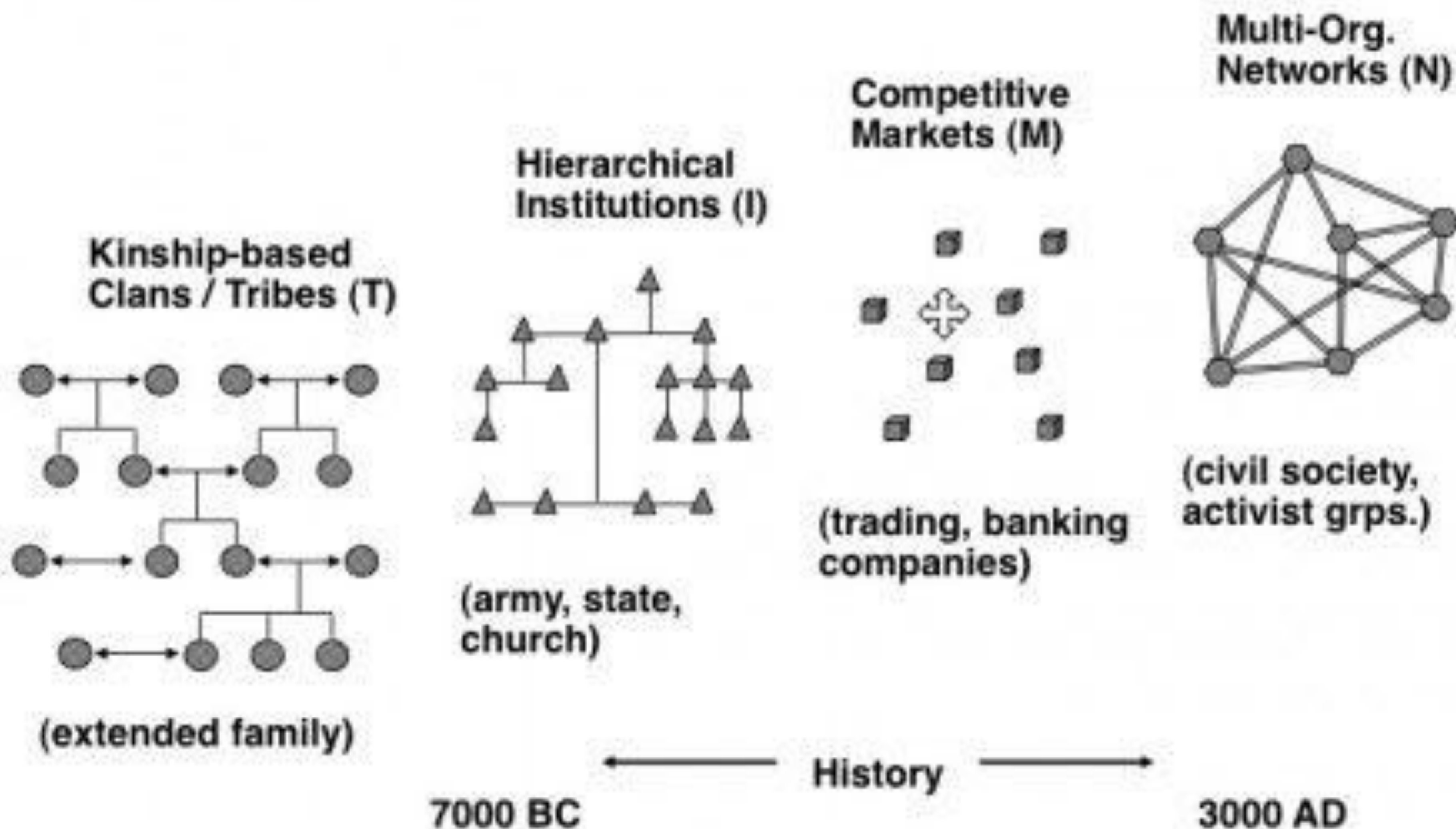


Digital Democracy  
**is NOT**  
the 18th century on a  
smartphone

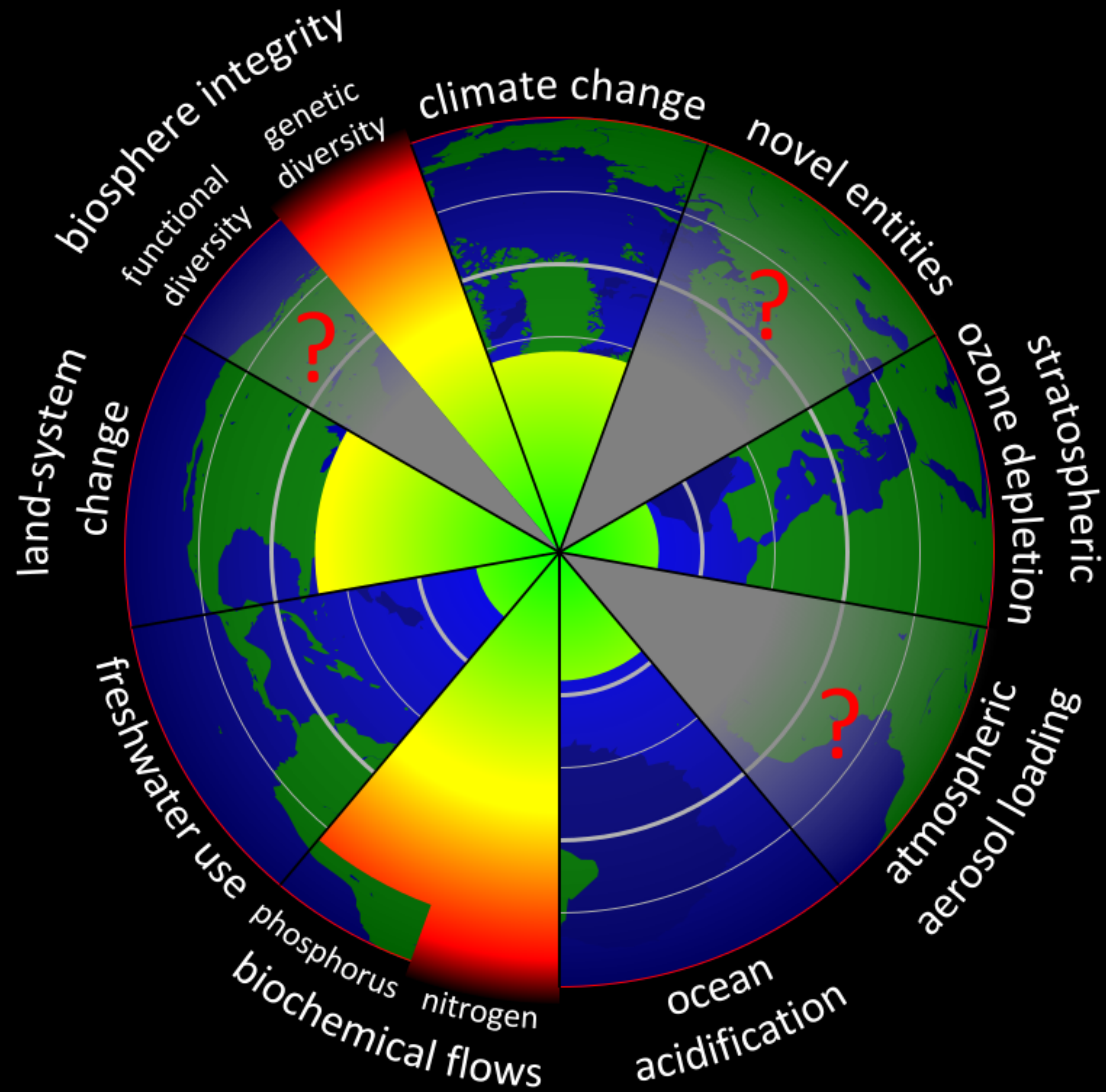


# Four Forms Behind the Organization and Evolution of All Societies – TIMN

---













**OPEN  
IS A POLITICAL  
STATEMENT**



**Collaborative**

**Global**

**Species**

**Distributed**

**Open**



# Voltron

DEFENDER OF THE UNIVERSE











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