This meeting is a follow up from the June 2013 meeting in Uppsala, which considered the possibilities for assessing deliberative capacity at the national level.

The objective is to advance the thinking around the challenge of assessing deliberative systems, including a range of diagnostic tools that are appropriate. The outcome of the meeting will be a position document that will be submitted to a major journal in the field of political science.

The meeting is structured around the task of clearly identifying and conceptualising the major tasks and challenges involved in assessing deliberative systems. There will be a mix of large and small group work.

Following an informal field trip on the 19th February, the first day of the meeting will involve a warm up task where participants will link their current research to their understanding of the task of assessing deliberative systems/deliberative capacity. This will facilitate a common understanding of the task, and the capabilities and understandings that the participants each bring to the field.

Morning teas and lunches will be provided during the meeting, with a group dinner on Thursday evening. There will be an optional local tour on the 19th February.
Evaluating Macro-Deliberative Systems

Programme

Wednesday, 19 February 2014: Informal Warm Up

10:30 Morning Tea. Street Theatre Cafe — with other members of the Centre. (Approx 45 min)

12:30 pm: Lunch: Regatta Point. (Meet either at Street Theatre Cafe 12:15 or Liversidge Apartment 12:20)

Followed by small group winery tour.

Thursday, 20 February 2014: Meeting Day 1

Session 1: 9:00am - 9:30: Welcome and Introductions

Session 2: 9:30 - 12:30: Introductory Presentations

with 30 minute morning tea break at 10:30 am

Each participant will address questions pertaining to how we each understand the idea of measuring deliberative systems (or whether we prefer to look at deliberative capacity), our past and present research — highlighting how it might inform the task, what we would like to contribute (or not), major challenges, opportunities.

Presentations will be 10 minutes maximum, with 5 minutes for questions.

12:30-1:30 PM: Lunch

1:30-3:30PM: Large Group Session: Overview of the task

This session will involve large group discussion, bearing in mind the synopsis from the Uppsala meeting as well as the morning presentations the goal will be to identify key questions in relation to the task of assessing deliberative systems. This will include discussion on whether it is possible to find agreement on key concepts that are identified in the Uppsala synopsis. A list of key questions will be gathered at the start of the session, but it is anticipated that discussion will include:
Evaluating Macro-Deliberative Systems

- Sorting the out conceptual relationship between “deliberative capacity” and “deliberative systems”
- Overall framework for assessment (e.g. figure 1 in the Uppsala meeting follow up)
- Key themes/tasks*
- Key challenges
- Other high level questions arising from the group

*Key tasks will form the basis of working groups on day 2

3:30-4:00 PM Afternoon Tea

4:00-5:00 PM Day 1 Wrap Up & Organisation for day 2

This session will briefly revisit the discussion concerning key tasks from the previous session, which will be organised into work tasks to addressed on day 2.

involve large group discussion

Friday, 21 February 2014: Meeting Day 2

The aim for the second day of the meeting is to develop text for position document that will form the basis of the journal article. The tasks/key themes identified from Day 1 will be allocated to small groups who will further develop the outline for the paper.

Session 1: 9:00am - 9:30 AM: Paper Structure

Discussion about the main themes of the position paper and organisation into working groups (may take longer than 30 Minutes)

Task assignment: Organisation into small groups (if the group as a whole is happy with the strategy)

Session 2: 9:30am - 10:30 AM: Small group discussion

Small groups (2/3 in total) to discuss the content of the relevant sections/themes allocated to them. These groups and their topics will be developed following the discussion on Day 1.

Morning tea : 10:30-11:00 AM
Evaluating Macro-Deliberative Systems
Session 3: 11:00am - 12:00 PM: Small group discussion (continued)

Session 4: 12:00-12:30: Large Group Discussion
Reporting back to large group. Discussion about the coherence of the overall strategy so far.

Lunch: 12:30-1:30PM

Afternoon Session: 1:30-4:00PM
Small and large group sessions - the mix will decided over lunch.
The aim of this session will be to refine the overall approach of the paper and allocate tasks for the write up.

Final Session: 4:00PM-5:00PM: Wrap Up
Discussion about steps from here
• Funding opportunities
• Other contributors
• Further activities

Evening Dinner: Venue and time TBA
Recommended Reading List


Synoposis document for Uppsala Meeting

- Other reading as suggested by members of the group:

Attendees:

Simon Niemeyer (The Australian National University/Uppsala University)

John Dryzek (The Australian National University)

Kimmo Grönlund (Åbo Akademi)

Andre Bächtiger (University of Lucerne)

Julia Jennstål (Uppsala University)

Maija Setälä (University of Turku)

PerOla Öberg (Uppsala University)

Nicole Curato (The Australian National University)

Andrea Felicetti (The Australian National University)

Selen Ayirtman (Univesity of Canberra, Day 1)