

# Support Letter

## Monitoring Electoral Democracy (MEDem)

### The MEDem MISSION

Monitoring Electoral Democracy (MEDem) aspires to be added to the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures' Roadmap 2026 and become the dedicated European Research Infrastructure for Democracy Research that will serve as a catalyst for comprehensive, impactful, and innovative comparative research on democracies. MEDem will leverage the power of interconnected and harmonized data, unlocking vast amounts of research data in the Social Sciences and Humanities and ensuring their interoperability. By harnessing this networked approach, MEDem will enable ground-breaking discoveries in Democracy Research that surpass the limitations of individual research groups or projects that are often restricted in resources.

Operating within an open science and open data framework, MEDem unites and guides quantitative democracy research networks and researchers across countries, institutions, and disciplines, offering a framework for pre- and post-harmonization of a wide range of democracy research data that will lay the groundwork for large scale interoperability. It will provide a one-point entry that enables seamless integration, linking, and comprehensive analysis of all types of democracy research data, dealing with the intricacies of micro-level mechanisms to the broader meso- and macro-level determinants that shape democratic systems throughout Europe, while also securing resource efficiency.

MEDem will generate the necessary synergies within the field of Democracy Research that are needed to acquire a comprehensive understanding of democracies, encompassing their processes, developments, and future prospects. MEDem will emerge as the infrastructure that brings clarity and depth to the study of democratic systems and their challenges, extending its impact to researchers and the broader society.

In short, MEDem aims to become:

***The European infrastructure for unlocking the true potential of data-driven Democracy Research.***

## **Support Letter**

### **Monitoring Electoral Democracy (MEDem)**

With this letter, \_\_\_\_\_ endorses the mission of MEDem and supports its inclusion in the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI) Roadmap, thereby recognizing MEDem as a crucial infrastructure towards advancing research excellence, collaboration, and the study of democratic systems. We recognize the importance of this infrastructure, its potential to foster international collaboration and to further strengthen the European research and infrastructure landscape. We believe that MEDem will play an invaluable role in advancing Democracy Research, fostering a comprehensive understanding democratic processes and institutions, and promoting the principles of Open Science, FAIR data, and data-driven research.

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**Signatory full legal name:**

**Acronym:**

**Name of the person authorized to sign (Title, Family name, First name):**

**Position:**

**Date:**

**Signature:**

**Stamp or seal of the Signatory:**