



The Future of Government 2030+ A Citizen Centric Perspective on New Government Models

Workshop Objective and Agenda

CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

CONTEXT | Contemporary society is rapidly changing. The emergence of social inequalities, migration, and the use of new technologies to access, communicate, produce and exchange information, among others, deeply affect European citizens' lives and the complex interactions among citizens, businesses and governments. The present changes are influencing power relations in the society and might lead to new forms of democracy and governance. The role and form of government could change as well. Exploring possible future scenarios helps identifying requirements for future governments and allows us to rethink their layout and working mode, to explore how they might look like in the future and how public services will be delivered.

INVITATION FOR A DIALOGUE | The European Commission's Joint Research Centre wants to discuss with you and your students possible future transformations in the relationship between citizens, business and government and learnings for today. With your participation you will experience a new engagement tool which will be open source.

OBJECTIVES |

- Exploring the future of government and rethink relations between government, citizens and business
- Reflecting the learnings from future models for today and
- Developing strategies for today to be prepared for the future

AGENDA

30 min	Welcome, aim of the workshop, presentation and discussion of the Future of Government scenarios
90 min	Speculating about the future of government and the power relationships between interest groups (breakout groups)
20 min	<i>Coffee break</i>
60 min	Presenting group results
	Discussion of learnings for today, strategies to be prepared for the future
15 min	Wrap up and next steps

Four scenarios presented below are based on the dialogue workshops with citizens in six Member States and with civil society organizations and think tanks in Brussels, on their fears and expectations about Europe in 2030+.

DIY Democracy

Imagine that... the societal gap increases drastically, governments are no more able to provide proper public services and citizens have to look after themselves?

The societal gap has increased; the state power has diminished; public services have become very limited. However, citizens feel strong and empowered; they are engaged in public life by co-creating DIY public services. Digitalisation helps the grassroots initiatives to reach out widely, but people also consider offline physical gatherings and work important. Citizens' participation in politics is strong at the local level and only transferred indirectly to the national and supra-national governments, who have to balance between the companies' and citizens' interests.

Key drivers of the scenario

- Increasing societal gap
- Decreasing financial capabilities of states
- Rise of a sharing society empowered by digital platforms
- Decentralization of government

Private Algocracy

Imagine that... the power over data, data analytics and thus decision making have fully moved to multinational data companies and taken over the regulation in their exhaustive digital ecosystems?

Individual data are collected everywhere mainly by monopolistic digital tech companies, because the implementation of GDPR failed and big digital companies refused to obey to it. Surveillance is strong and there is no transparency. The logic of algorithm-based political decision-making processes and deals between government and companies are opaque. Citizens' political interests are interpreted from their data profile.

Key drivers of the scenario

- Power accumulation of global digital giants, mainly from the US and China
- Advancements in data integration in an Internet of Everything (AI, IoT, Big Data, etc.)
- Expansion of business ecosystems of the giant digital companies into public services
- Diminishing role of the state in public life and protection of public interest

SuperCollaborative Government

Imagine that... all the promises of open governance and digital government and public sector innovation come true?

The rise of AI in government and the concept of citizen centrism brought a new design of the government. Governments have a real-time understanding of socio-economic problems; public services can be offered predictively and individualized to citizens. Participation in decision making is easily possible via virtual platforms. Citizens are sovereign over their data, privacy is key.

Key drivers of the scenario

- Technical advancements in AI and real-time Data Analytics
- Push for open and innovative government
- Push for Data protection and privacy
- Increasing valuation of non-remunerated work
- Increasing inclusion of citizens in governmental decision making

OverRegulatocracy

Imagine that... the state is powerfully engaging for the wellbeing of individuals and economy but the processes became so intricate and complicated that public benefits are hard to claim for?

Leading digital platforms have been nationalized and put under control of the democratic government. Social security is good, but difficult to get. Similarly, human rights are important but difficult to be obtained. Citizens are relatively well informed, but tied with bureaucracy. Trust in political institutions and media as well as the level of engagement is rather low.

Key drivers of the scenario

- Rising critique on the influence of oligopolistic global digital companies
- Raising societal challenges leading to the need for strong social policies
- Needs for justification of public spending and accountability – raising bureaucratic hurdles

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