

Where now for climate assemblies?

Some background

- Climate assemblies are at the forefront of the “deliberative wave” within Europe. In the last three years or so, we have seen a first wave of climate assemblies at different levels of governance. Many of these assemblies have been organized by Democracy R&D members.



- Climate assemblies have tended to have the following characteristics:
 - Sponsored by public authorities
 - One-off initiatives
 - Focused on mitigation rather than adaptation
 - Comprehensive (climate change per se) rather than focused on particular policy area
 - Limited (but variable) impacts
- A second wave may be emerging that learns lessons from perceived weaknesses of earlier assemblies – e.g., the potential national assembly in the Netherlands and Brussels permanent climate assembly.
- For summaries of characteristics of national assemblies and emerging guidance and knowledge on climate assemblies, see <https://knoqa.eu/>

Questions to consider

- What is the likely future for climate assemblies? More of the same, a loss of interest or new directions?
- What is our preferred future for climate assemblies and how can it be shaped by Democracy R&D, KNOCA and other actors?
- Which risks can we help mitigate and which barriers can we help break down?

What is KNOCA?

The [Knowledge Network on Climate Assemblies](https://knoqa.eu/) (KNOCA) was launched by the European Climate Foundation in June 2021. It aims to (1) document climate assembly practice; (2) identify and disseminate good practice for impact; (3) shape future trends; (4) co-create the future. KNOCA has over 500 members – a mix of policy officials, practitioners, activists, academics, former assembly members, etc. [Join here!](https://knoqa.eu/)