

PDP

**A Participatory,
Deliberative
Process
for Re-thinking
DiEM25 Practices
and Principles**

**A proposal drafted by
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Introduction

Following recent events and after several exchanges, Yanis and the CC asked us to propose a methodology for a participatory/deliberative process to clarify DiEM25 rules and practices, as well as to update the Organising Principles (hereafter referred to as 'the OP') in order to make them more relevant to the evolution of DiEM25. The following document outlines our proposal for this process. .

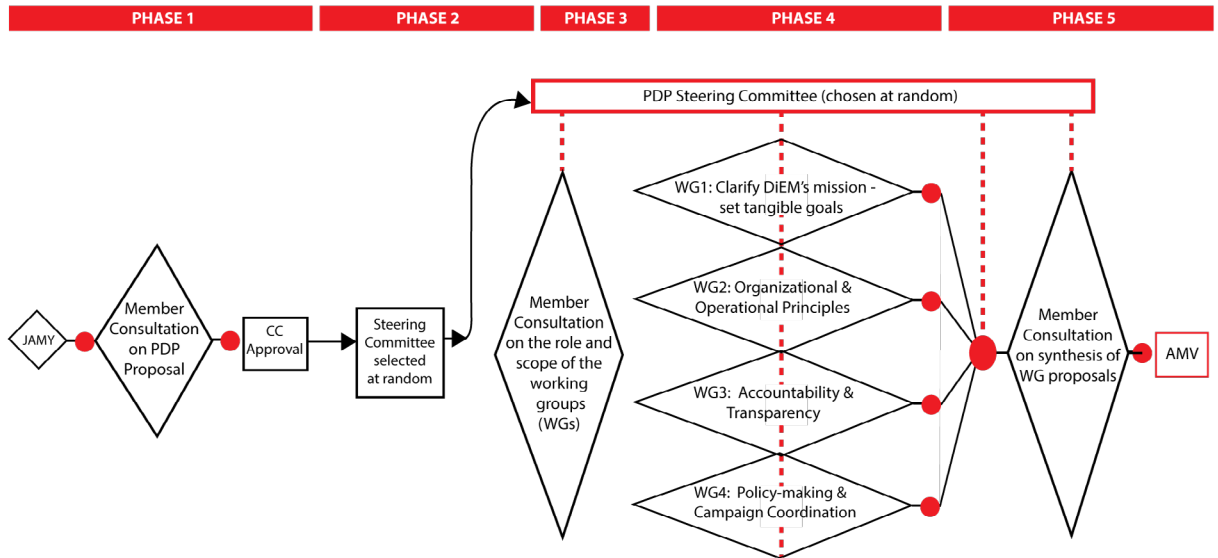
In our view, this process aims at bringing together DiEM25 grassroots members, CC members (elected and ex-officios), NC members, as well as EW members in a collaborative approach, in order to promote a way for a culture of collaboration between CC/ex-officio and grassroots, to make better use of the diversity of DiEM25 members' knowledges, experiences and talents and to develop together a shared culture of caring cooperation.

The purpose of this document is not to propose immediate changes to the Organising Principles, but to set up a methodological framework to ensure a participatory, deliberative approach that takes into account the members' concerns and points of view. The outcome of this process will be the clarification of DiEM25's working methods, rules and practices and, eventually, to make changes to the Organising Principles. Indeed, we propose to adopt the same approach/process that was used to draft the first version of the OP in 2016, when the DSCs and members made contributions to the OP, some of which were incorporated in the final version of the OP.

Goal

This document aims to delineate the framework under which the issues regarding our internal processes will be discussed. It does not offer solutions; it only aims to describe how the problems will be discussed and addressed throughout the movement. We take as granted that the participatory, deliberative and fruitful debate means that members may dare to imagine significant changes in DiEM25's methods and practices as well as in the Organizing Principles.

Process Overview



Phase I: A 'primer' for forward change

Primer (Biology) = a molecule that serves as a starting material for a polymerization process

The group which prepared this proposal was formed by Jacques and includes (alphabetically) Aris, Myriam, Yolanda (in short, the JAMY group). This group proposes the current plan (to be called Participatory, Deliberative Process, or PDP) that was published on the forum for open discussion and feedback from all members. This new version includes contributions from this feedback from members

Phase II: Set up a provisory Steering Committee for the PDP

We recognize that the JAMY group was formed ad hoc. Thus, Phase II will set up the ground for creation of a PDP Steering Committee for the duration of the PDP process and limited in scope to accompanying this process. We propose that the PDP Committee is based on gender parity, and consists of 11 to 15 members: at least 5 to 7 women and at least 5 to 7 men and includes at least two members from the CC (1 elected and 1 ex-officio). The remaining members will be randomly selected from a pool of interested members. The selection will be organized within two weeks after this general framework has been approved, to allow for translation & mobilization of all members.

The PDP committee will be tasked to:

- i** Affirm or re-write Phases IV & V based on members' input.
- ii** Validate the WG moderators/chairs.
- iii** Supervise and carry out Phases IV & V of the current or revised PDP.
- iv** Be the point of contact regarding questions during the whole PDP.
- v** Be in regular contact with all CC and NC members, collectively or individually, to ensure buy-in on the process, collect data, feedback and/or to discuss the feasibility of recommendations.
- vi** Make available all meeting minutes
- vii** Make sure the PDP principles are respected by all participants.
- viii** Coordinate with NCs & translator groups in order to make sure that at every stage of the process, information is shared to the largest number of members.
- ix** If there is a PDP Committee decision to reject a solution proposed by a member or a group, the PDP Committee must explain on the forum why it rejected it.

Members of the PDP committee should:

- i** Have voting rights for AMVs as of March 31st 2020.
- ii** Disclose all affiliations and activities with DiEM (eg DSC coordinator).
- iii** Try to be impartial throughout the whole PDP.
- iv** Agree, in their application, to the workload required by participating in the committee
- v** Speak English, among other languages

A majority of the members of the PDP Committee should:

- i** NOT hold an elected position in DiEM (CC, NC, EW).
- i** NOT be members of the VC.
- iii** NOT be ex-officio members of any DiEM25 collective.
- iv** NOT receive or handle DiEM's money.

The JAMY team will propose a draft text for the appeal to candidates for the PDP committee , support the review process of candidates to make sure conditions outlined above are met, in coordination with the CC, and provide regular progress updates to the membership on the forum.

Phase III: Preparation

The PDP Committee will schedule zoom call(s) to address members' questions and suggestions on the process and on the role and scope of the WGs. For non-english-speaking countries, the PDP Committee will ask the country's NC for help.

The goal of these calls is not to come up with decisions but to provide a flow of information to lead to a better understanding of the method for Phase IV. Thus, until the PDP Committee is formed, the role of the JAMY group is limited to facilitate the discussion.

Phase IV: Working Groups (WG)

The core of the PDP will be carried out in four parallel WGs. Each of the four groups will have at least two CC members (1 elected and 1 ex-officio) and at least (but not limited to) five other DiEM25 members. Members will be free to join one WG and the PDP Committee will make suggestions to balance the numbers among the groups. Each WG will elect its moderators and chairs; these people should not be CC/ex-officios.

Provided the PDP Steering Committee doesn't change them, the chapters that the four WG will cover are:

- i** Clarifying/explaining mission statement, set tangible goals
- ii** Organizational (structure) & Operational Principles (function)
- iii** Accountability & Transparency
- iv** Policy making and campaigns coordination

Each WG will be assigned to one chapter. The WGs' task will be to build a framework/set of important questions and put in writing comments and ideas put forward. To do so, the WGs will work based on the ideas and information circulated so far on the forum and/or ask members (throughout the whole network of DiEM) for input. WGs will also be tasked to process and digest all the information and form a concrete (written) proposal on the changes required within DiEM to help the whole movement move forward and outwards. The four WGs will produce a total of four documents that will be circulated among all WGs, the forum and the CC for comments and feedback.

Throughout the whole process, DiEM members as well as the rest of the WG are entitled to access the information; this information sharing is actually encouraged, particularly among WGs so that consistency and holism are achieved. Each WG is expected to create a thread on the forum to publish the advancements of their work, collect suggestions from members and allow for an organic evolution of their proposal(s).

The PDP Committee will accompany the whole process and WGs and will be available for the Working Groups if they have any questions. Detailed minutes and voting results should be made available as well as any veto-ing (that will be resolved by the PDP Committee) will need to be properly documented. The CC and the JAMY group are expected to be available for consultation by the WGs.

Phase V: Synthesis

The PDP Committee will collect the proposals of the four WGs and make a synthesis, including the time frames of developments. The Committee will merge the four proposals to propose a way forward. This document will be published on the forum and officially submitted to the CC.

At the time of writing this plan, the JAMY group is calling for the way forward to be a DiEM25 members online meeting. This meeting will allow the PDP Committee to present the final report that will come out of the process and will answer the member's questions before the AMVs.

This final report will be submitted to the membership as an All Members Vote.

Background

For more context on how this proposal originated, see the following forum posts:

1. *A (personal) proposal for a new protocol to promote Transparency, Equality, Isegoria & Efficiency in the functioning of our CC – seeking members' views* (15.04.2020)

<https://discuss.diem25.org/t/a-personal-proposal-for-a-new-protocol-to-promote-transparency-equality-isegoria-efficiency-in-the-functioning-of-our-cc-seeking-members-views/25318>

2. *From the heart (Message from Yanis on internal events)* (11.04.2020)

<https://discuss.diem25.org/t/from-the-heart-message-from-yanis-on-internal-events/25136>

3. *Request for internal online meeting following recent CC resignations* (14.04.2020)

<https://discuss.diem25.org/t/request-for-internal-online-meeting-following-recent-cc-resignations/25243/5>

4. *A proposal for a participatory, deliberative process to update the Organising Principles* (19.04.2020)

<https://discuss.diem25.org/t/a-proposal-for-a-participatory-deliberative-process-to-update-the-organising-principles/25451>

Disclaimer

This work is being done by volunteers - as most of DiEM25's work - and the members involved at any stage of this process emphasize their commitment to conducting this work in good faith, with integrity, to answer questions at several stages throughout this exercise.

Feedback

We wish to allow as many members as possible to engage and participate in this deliberative, participative process. Only together can we build an effective movement. We invite members of DiEM25 to first give us feedback on this proposal via the following forum link: <https://discuss.diem25.org/t/a-proposal-for-a-participatory-deliberative-process-to-update-the-organising-principles/25451>

To help us to process and integrate all member feedback, all points of the proposed process have been assigned a roman numeral and a number in the following outline. Please quote this letter/number reference when stating your feedback in the DiEM25 Forum, e.g: *"I would amend point F3 as follows..."*

Many thanks, and we look forward to your input. Carpe DiEM25!