



Democracy and AI Workshop

Dublin | 22–24 June 2026

Location: National University of Ireland – Merrion Square

Monday, 22 June

12:00–13:00 | Welcome Lunch

13:00–14:30 | Lightning Introductions – Meet the Group

Participants introduce themselves, their current research, and key interests briefly.

14:45–16:45 | Panel 1: Algorithmic Authority: Geopolitics, Persuasion, and Governance

1. Nora von Ingersleben-Seip
Towards Techno-Normative Power? China's Quest for AI Governance Leadership in the Global South
2. Matthew Di Giuseppe
Ad Machina: Partisanship and Support for Delegating Government Decisions to Autonomous Algorithms
3. Björn Ross
LLMs for persuasion

Discussant: Ruth Dassonneville

Format: Each presenter speaks for 10 minutes. A short discussion by one discussant of up to 3–4 minutes per paper follows, focused on no more than a couple of key points; remaining points are noted for follow-up by email. After this, there is room for Q&A.

The final 20 minutes of the session are allocated to connecting the research presented to our framework: what questions from these presentations have existing research already addressed, and what further work would be useful?

18:00 | Optional, Informal Dinner, [Toners Pub](#)

139 Baggot Street Lower, Dublin 2, Ireland

Toners collaborates with a nearby pizzeria. Please note that participants would need to cover their own costs for drinks and food.

Tuesday, 23 June

09:30–11:00 | Session 1: Framework Development (I) – *limited to members of the Una Europa consortium*

First of two sessions dedicated to developing the interdisciplinary framework/agenda. Before this session, the core group will have prepared a brief outline or paper brainstorm sketching what the output might look like. The session draws on that draft to open up a discussion: What are we adding to what is already out there? What is the framework's scope given rapid developments in AI and democracy research?

11:00–11:15 | Coffee/Tea Break

11:15–12:45 | Panel 2: Participatory Design and AI Policy for Democratic Innovation

1. Claudia Müller-Birn
More Democracy through Participatory Algorithm Design: Rethinking Power in AI Systems
2. Bronwyn Jones
The role of Public Service Media in developing Public Interest Technology for democracies
3. Emma Hoes
VIRENA: Virtual Arena for Research, Education, and Democratic Innovation
4. Adam Chalmers
The Diffusion of National AI Strategies: Policy Affordances and the Global Spread of Strategic AI Agendas

Discussant: Bruno Castanho Silva

12:45–13:45: Lunch

13:45–15:15 | Panel 3: Experimental AI: Engagement, Moderation, and Political Analysis

1. Fabrizio Gilardi
AI as a Tool for Democratic Engagement: Can Chatbots Mobilize Young Voters
2. Giuliano Formisano
Indirect Effects of Content Moderation Errors: A Chatroom Experiment with AI Agents
3. Clare Llewellyn
Can Large Language Models Facilitate Qualitative Political Narrative Analysis?

Discussant: Eoghan Cunningham

15:30–16:45 | Roundtable

Roundtable discussion involving members of the group and external participants

Art O'Leary is Chief Executive of An Coimisiún Toghcháin, Ireland's independent Electoral Commission, which has responsibility for the management and oversight of electoral and wider democracy matters. He was appointed by Cabinet decision in May 2023, having

previously served as Secretary General to the President of Ireland and as Secretary to several Citizens' Assemblies, and worked in the Houses of the Oireachtas for over 20 years. The Electoral Commission was established in 2023 and has responsibility for the oversight of all elections in Ireland, including electoral operations, constituency reviews, and electoral integrity by investigating and monitoring online disinformation, online misinformation, and manipulative or inauthentic behaviour online during election campaign periods, as well as functions to prevent manipulative or inauthentic behaviours online.

Naoise McNally is Director of Research at Coimisiún na Meán. She has over 15 years of experience founding and leading start-ups in the tech industry in Ireland, specialising in the areas of digital publishing, online marketing, and multi-sided advertising platforms. Her PhD research centres on social media recommender systems, examining questions of algorithmic governance with a focus on methods of investigating systemic risk. Coimisiún na Meán is Ireland's independent media regulator, responsible for regulating broadcasters, video-on-demand providers, and online platforms established in Ireland. Its remit covers online safety and platform regulation.

Moderator: Stefan Müller

19:00 | Workshop Dinner for Una Europa Team Members

Location: [Fallon and Byrne](#)

Wednesday, 24 June

09:30–11:00 | Panel 4: Public Perception, Crisis Intelligence, and AI-Mediated Communication

1. Vivien Fabry
Perceptions of Gen AI and Attitudinal Correlates in Europe
2. Babak Rezaee-Daryakenari
Hybrid Intelligence and Crisis Detection: From Signal Scarcity to Signal Governance
3. Silva Heinonen & Lucie Wittner Franckx
AI-Generated Political Communication on Social Media: Evidence from TikTok Data Donations

Discussant: Marko Bachl

11:15–12:30 | Session 2: Framework Development (II) – limited to members of the Una Europa consortium

Closing framework session. The group works towards a draft outline for the two-pager, drawing on the takeaways identified across all four panels and the roundtable. The session ends with agreement on next steps, responsibilities, and timeline.

12:30–12:40: Closing

12:40–13:30: Lunch