

CS-234

Technologies for  
Democratic society

Fall 2022

Week 1

Course topic:

- Technology: +, - impacts  
→ society, esp. democracy

- Is technology "democratizing"?

- "Democratizing"

- Open to anyone

- Identity, accountability

- Transparency

- Organization, voting (DAOs)

# Phases of "Democratizing" technologies:

- Gutenberg printing press
- Communication (private): Email, messaging
- Self-publishing: Web, Blogs, Wikis,
- Social Media: USENET, eg Arab Spring
- P2P sharing: Napster, Gnutella, & torrent
- Blockchains, DAOs, ...

Goals for self-org technologies

how to make "democratizing"?

principles, features?

Open? How open?  
inclusion/exclusion

Fairness?

Moderation, curation, filtering?

Aggregation - social choice, voting?

Deliberation?

Security, accountability, privacy?

# Practical course organization

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- TAs: - Ceyhan Alp

- Content: Louis-Henri Merino

Lectures - in person expected

Reading - assigned previous week

Exercises - 4

"Practical work" - written

Final exam - written

Grading:

10%	-	Lecture participation
40%	-	Exercises (Last year: 5% E1, 10% E2, 5% E3, 20% E4)
50%	-	Final exam