CHALLENGE 5 - OPEN ACTIVITY

# Analysis of the ideas in the local community debate

With respect to the first four challenges proposed in the Datathon, which concerned only the database of ideas uploaded by the contributors on the Multilingual Digital Platform (in short the Platform) of the Conference on the Future of Europe (in short COF E), we primarily considered the database of events , which we linked with that of ideas.

OBJECTIVE

The aim of this contribution is to provide, with regard to the ideas posted on the Platform, a further key to analysis, in addition to that contained in the three intermediate reports on the Platform and in the final report, which mainly refer to the number of subscriptions and comments. In particular, we have considered the property of the Platform that made it possible **to link the ideas presented with the debate events**: this property, accompanied by a qualitative textual analysis, allows us to identify **which ideas are most debated in local communities**, and so, in addition to subscriptions and comments, they are a useful tool for identifying which ideas are most relevant to public opinion and that are therefore to be considered a further indicator, to be taken into account by decision-makers.
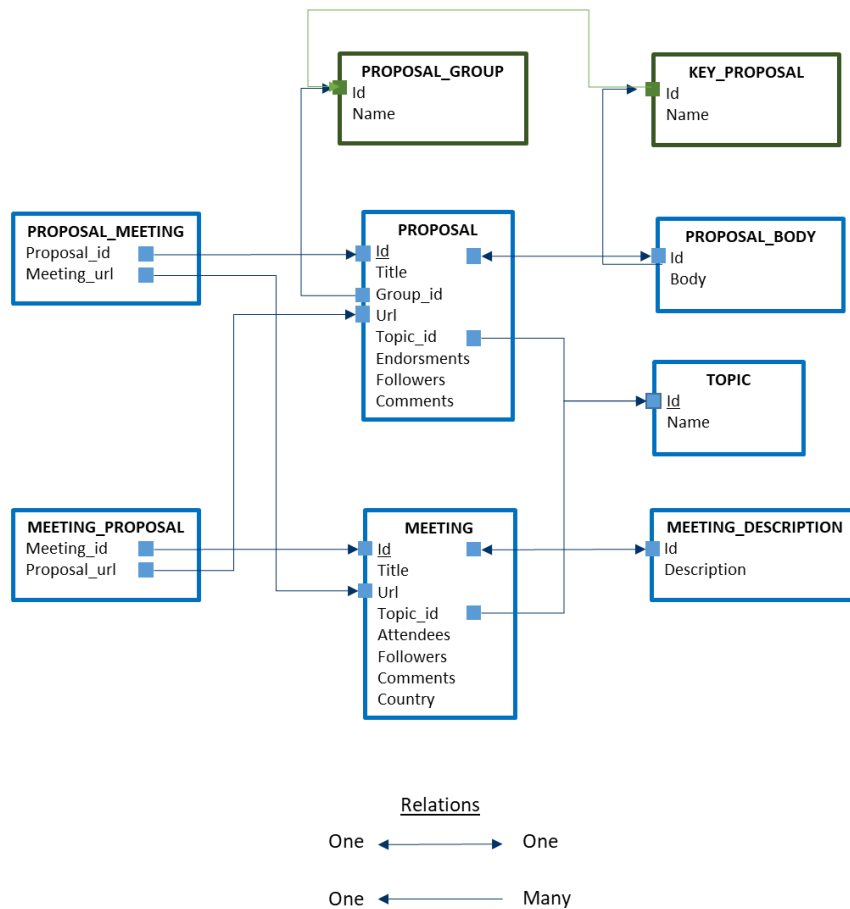
ANALYSIS PARAMETERS

The main parameters used for the quantitative analysis were the following:

- numerical data on the events uploaded by the contributors on the platform. In the database provided, the so-called *'Final Reports'* on these events, which could have provided useful insights into the quality of the debate and the policy proposals that emerged, were not available;
- numerical data on the subscriptions collected by the ideas, which help to highlight the interest and favour of the participants towards a given idea.

In relation to the above-mentioned objective, the events database and the ideas database have been linked made available, inserting the information considered in the analysis into a relational database, the entity-relationship diagram of which is provided in the figure below.

## CoFoE Database – Entity-Relationship Diagram



Ideas proposed in the various languages, which have been discussed at least **two** events linked and have had at least **five** signatures, were taken into account as significant. So about 299 ideas was therefore analysed, which were discussed among European citizens and which were also supported by signing the corresponding ideas.

Of the sample identified, a manual textual analysis of the text of each proposal was carried out , with the aim of identifying for each one the key proposal associated with it and then grouping the individual ideas into recurrent or relevant macro-themes (proposal group). .

A breakdown of the key proposals into macro-themes is given in the attached table (Annex 1, p. 2-10).

DATA CONSIDERATIONS

From the examination carried out on the sample, we propose, as a useful contribution, the data that emerged from the further analysis: in particular, it emerges that a series of ideas, precisely those of the groups from 01 to 09 (All. 1 , p. 11-15) referring to the topic *European Democracy* and concerning requests that imply a modification of the treaties, were the most debated by the local communities - physical or online - and therefore are to be considered the topics of greatest interest and priority in the public debate. The ideas refer to these topics:

- transformation of the EU into a fully-fledged European Federation;
- attribution of fiscal and budgetary power to the EU;
- convocation of a constituent assembly;

- strengthening European democracy by giving full legislative initiative to the European Parliament;
- overcoming the system of unanimous voting in the Council;
- the modification of the process for the appointment of the President of the Commission and the election of the European Parliament;
- the transition to a bicameral system with the transformation of the Council into a second chamber, an effective European government.

A total of 537 events organised and 7,733 signatures collected, representing 35% and 40% respectively of all the ideas selected in the sample, were linked to support for the ideas indicating a demand by European citizens for treaty reform.

If we restrict the analysis to the specific thematic area Democracy, within which these ideas are placed, the call for reform of the treaties emerges even more clearly, with 466 events organised in support of these proposals that collected 5,515 subscriptions, equal to 73% and 74% respectively of the total number of events and subscriptions of the selected ideas.

The tables in the document attached also show, for more information, the number of people attending the events, although, while the numbers of events and subscriptions are objective, this figure is merely a declaration by the organisers.

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