

**Agenda. Real Utopias Seminar, week 8, October 24, 2013**  
**Random Assemblies**

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1. Mechanisms to avoid undue influence of rich and powerful (Elsa)
2. Lack of accountability mechanisms in random assemblies (Jiaqi)
3. The problem of representation in random assemblies: Low response rate for participation – partial self-selection problem. Should participation be mandatory (like juries)? (Madi)
4. Desirability:
  - Could this result in broad depolitization because of lack of regular participation? (Jake)
  - Direct democracy vs deliberative democracy: not so clear that the latter is better (Michael)
5. Problem of equal time for opposing views on all issues (Taylor)
6. Deliberative skills: How to develop the deliberative skills of participants in assemblies & citizens? (Alisa)  
Potential marginalization of minority voices, disempowered voices, who lack cultural capital. (Madi)
7. Design detail: Duration and size of given assemblies: what criteria would evaluate this? (Laura)
8. Support by political parties and elites: is this important for Random Assemblies to become institutionalized? (Dmytro)