

Awakening Democracy

CAPaD – the Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy

JUNE 2022

G'day members and friends

In this [Awakening Democracy](#): the federal election reflection, GET the Genuine Engagement Tool, Active Democracy ACT, and more to read and watch.

COMING UP

Zoom Events restarting.

Now the election is behind us, we intend to resume the second monthly Zoom Events that were popular last year. They will be held on the third Sunday of each odd numbered month.

The first one will be on 17 July @ 14:00 - 16:30. Follow the link to register: [Zoom Event – the Genuine Engagement Tool](#).

The Genuine Engagement Tool has been developed by CAPaD for community groups to use to assess the quality of governments' engagement with communities. Mark Spain will introduce the tool and then open discussion about how we can apply it.

[Find out more about the Genuine Engagement Tool »](#)

ACTIVE PROJECTS

Active Democracy ACT (ADACT) & Australia (ADAus)

The Bean group will resume meeting in the next few weeks. If you are interested in joining, please [email the Secretary](#).

OTHER ACTIVITY

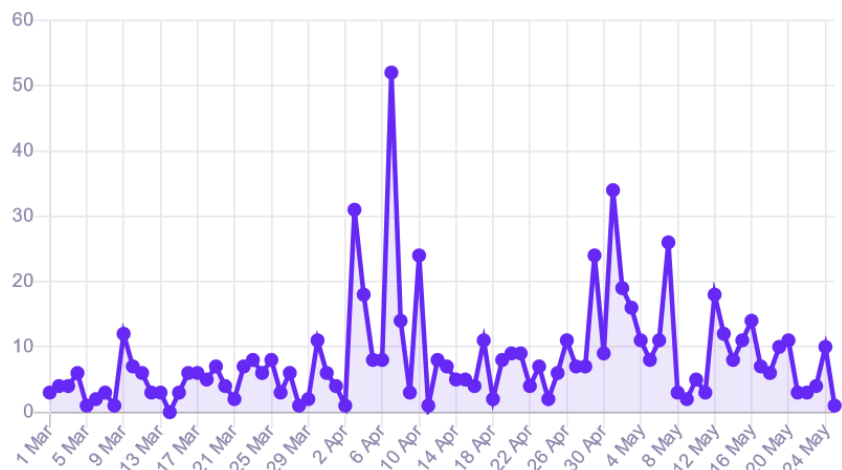
ELECTION REFLECTION

CAPaD Election Action – Contribute to good government

We received \$1320 in donations which enabled us to buy two quarter page advertisements in the City News. Thank you to the very generous donors; much appreciated.

Website visits and pageview data reflect that this publicity is being noticed.

[A more comprehensive reports is available on our website.](#)



The Australia wide outcome shows that people are still very involved in politics in Australia. It also suggests that the two-party system may be cracking.

The 2022 election [webpage](#) fits neatly into our new education strategy focus. It is apparent from lots of the commentary around the election that people do not know enough about how the electoral system in Australia works.

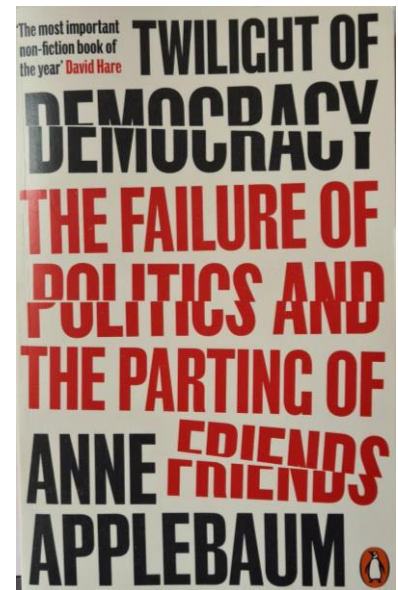
ACT Government response to proposal to increase MLAs

The 2020 Latimer Review recommended a revision of the number of MLAs. At the time CAPaD explored the idea of a project *An ACT Assembly for the 21st Century*. However, lack of traction with the ACT government meant it did not progress. [Now there is a government response: no change for now.](#)

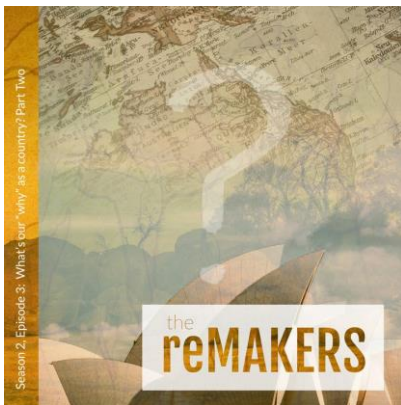
THINGS TO READ AND LISTEN TO

Anne Applebaum reflects on the rise of populism in western liberal democracies. She identifies the power of nostalgia as a driver. There are two types of nostalgia: reflective and restorative. In reflective, people remember the past with an undue fondness but live in the now. Restorative nostalgics however want to recreate their remembered but inaccurate, idealised past. When times are uncertain, restorative nostalgia carries a forceful appeal.

In such as process the certainties provided by autocracy helps overcome the sense of loss of identity and social disorder we are currently experiencing.



Remakers Season 2



Available on many Podcast providers and [on the Australia ReMADE Podcast page.](#)

Currently exploring what is our 'why' as a country.

Things an ALP Government needs to do asap

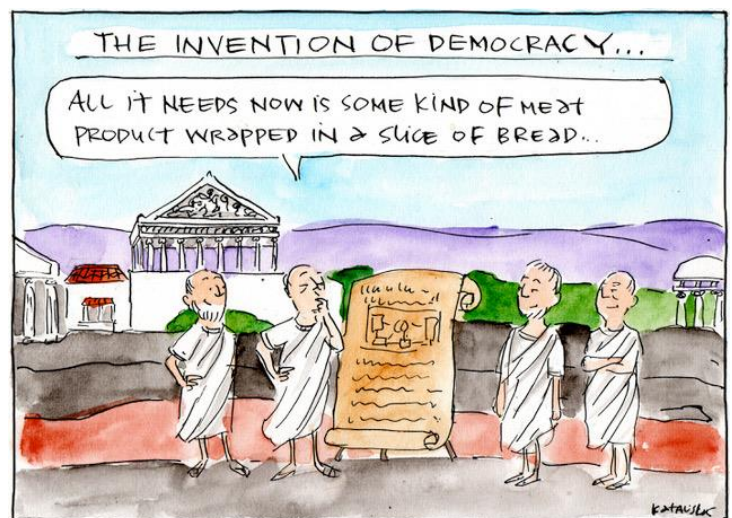
Ariadne Vromen ANU, in the conversation: "[Albanese wants to 'change the way' we do politics in Australia. Here are 4 ways to do it](#)". Her list: online petitions, town hall meetings (such as the [University of Canberra Deliberative Democracy's Connecting to Parliament](#)), Citizen Assemblies, and [making better use of] advocacy (=reform ACNC to permit advocacy)

and transparency (the raft of integrity measures listed during the election campaign).

DEMOCRACY AS FUN 'COLLECTION'

Katauskas on Democracy.

[Send me something](#) - credited.



From your committee

Contact us: secretary@canberra-alliance.org.au

Keep up to date: <https://canberra-alliance.org.au/>

Share ideas: [Twitter @CAPADACT](#)

Find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1487360858250888/>

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CAPaD - *Awakening Democracy*

The Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy