

The introductory webinar for the Participatory Youth Leadership Network (PYLN) was held on the 16th of October. The outcome was twofold—both learning and planning for future collaboration.

During the webinar, PYLN's initiators from Citizen OS in Estonia came together with the Citizen OS Indonesia team and PYLN members from India to discuss e-participation and youth.

The Estonian, Indonesian and Indian contexts were presented by speakers from each of the countries. This was followed by a discussion about participation.

While bottom-up e-participation is still in an exploratory phase globally, the discussion yielded important outcomes:

- Partners from India emphasised the importance of integrating education into the curriculum.
- Partners from Indonesia, described how movements perceived as well-intentioned can lead to a kind of collective intelligence, where the best ideas for initiatives or governance are disseminated through the most appropriate channels.
- Participants also stressed the need for volunteers to get “value” out of the time they invest in the initiative, be it more confidence or more experience.
- Many participants felt it necessary to go systematically by first outlining established participation methods and then qualifying what constitutes as best practices. This is the tentative topic of the next webinar.
- The Indonesian team is very interested in exploring the space of e-democracy in the Asian continent and are eager to connect with Indian youth leaders, organisations and think tanks to take this idea forward.

Following the session, all participants were invited to decide what the next session should be about. Some participants are currently using the Citizen OS platform to debate over the next session. Other channels include Slack and email.

In summary, it was interesting to see how the ideas of openness and transparency are gaining momentum among youth. Our next session will see even more learnings as we are in the first stage of self-organisation as a community. We are very excited about the future of the community.

*New members can sign up at <https://citizenos.com/pyln>.*