

# "DESIGNING FOR DEMOCRACY - WHAT WOULD YOU PROPOSE?"



***If you could design a democratic system from scratch what would you propose?***

Would you have a presidential or parliamentary system? Or perhaps a hybrid of the two? Would there be a bicameral Parliament, with an upper and lower house? Or just the one chamber? Would all representatives be elected? What system would you use to elect representatives? Would political power be very centralised, or would you have a federal system?

The Political Studies Association is inviting teams of post-16 students who will be studying during the academic year 2015-16 to submit a video of no more than 4 minutes that explores the question: ***"Designing for Democracy - what would you propose?"***

The aim of this competition, kindly sponsored by YouGov and the Design Commission, is to get students exploring the advantages and disadvantages of different types of democratic systems, whilst creating their own proposal.

Students should tackle the issue of how they could ensure proper representation of all groups in society. What role would citizens have in the political system, beyond polling day? How can you make use of new technologies to enhance democracy?

**The winning group receive their award at the PSA's Annual Awards Dinner in London in December which is broadcast on BBC Parliament.** On top of this, the winning students will each be invited to spend a week voluntarily shadowing the YouGov political team during their school holidays. *Good luck!!*

## Competition Guidelines:

- Teams should consist of no fewer than two and no more than five students.
- Entrants are encouraged to think creatively and to adopt a broad approach that challenges dominant assumptions or offers new perspectives.
- Short-listed teams will be invited to a meeting at the Houses of Parliament in early November 2015 to discuss the ideas presented in their video with a jury consisting of politicians, journalists, producers and academics (photo right).
- Travel and accommodation will be provided for the winning team and their teacher in a central London hotel for the Awards Ceremony.
- **The deadline for submissions is Friday 16 October, 2015.**

For more details about the competition, please call the PSA Head Office on 020 7321 2545 or e-mail [info@psa.ac.uk](mailto:info@psa.ac.uk)



**Student Short Video Competition Winners, 2014:  
Portsmouth Grammar School**  
Watch all 2014 video entries online at: [www.psa.ac.uk](http://www.psa.ac.uk)