

## DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2010-2013

The research, teaching, transfer of knowledge and service activities of the ZDA essentially take place within each of the three departments. The following list of research focuses over the next four years concentrates solely on thematic perspectives, with the intention that the connected projects will increasingly be managed across the existing departments. However, the departmental cooperation that is encouraged should be understood as a process and not stand in the way of further internal developments within each department.

### A. Research

Research is the principal scientific activity of the ZDA. *Five thematic research focuses* are top priority; they concern all three departments in areas of political science, legal and educational research on democracy. The goal within these focuses is to build up an internationally renowned capacity for research that has an influence on the work of academic teaching and further education as well as being able to be used for public events.

The focuses are split up into *topics* that include disciplinary and/or thematically specialised groups of already approved, applied for or yet to be submitted research projects, and are under the leadership of experienced scientists from the departments involved. The topics represent the structure of scientific reference for the research work in the individual projects (research methods, strategies for publication, scientific conferences, peer reviews etc.).

Various measures guarantee that collaborators communicate with one another both within and across the research focuses. To this end, regular internal seminars and workshops are organised. In addition, cross-departmental scientific publications and/or research proposals are encouraged. Last but not least, the scientific conference as part of the Aarau Democracy Days represents a further, yearly occurring opportunity for cross-departmental discussion. The goal of these measures is the promotion of an *overview* that goes beyond the individual topics and focuses, and in turn produces questions and ideas for the development of new research projects and services. With this, the ZDA will become an *generator of innovations* in the area of research on democracy.

## **Research Focus 1: Comparing Democracies**

Democracy is practiced in (almost) all state communities on various levels, in differing forms and with varying consequences. The scientific comparison of the institutional structure and the actual practice is the starting point for theoretical and practical conclusions that are especially suitable for use in public presentations.

### *Comparative research on democracy (led by Marc Bühlmann, ADF)*

This group of projects looks into the possibilities of empirically measuring and comparing different forms of democracy and its quality.

#### **Current projects:**

Quality of democracy in the cantons (NF), Democracy barometer (NCCR).

#### **Future projects:**

Representation (submitted to NF); Cantonal courts (submitted to NF); Democracy in the municipalities (application yet to be submitted); Civic education and quality of democracy (project submitted; together with Dominik Allenspach); Democracy and social capital (project application to be made).

### *De-nationalisation of democracy (led by Daniel Kübler/ Urs Scheuss, ADF)*

The projects in this group investigate the consequences of the shift of political decision-making processes away from the national level as a result of globalisation.

#### **Current projects:**

Cleavages, governance and the media in European metropolitan areas (NCCR).

### *Democracy in multicultural societies (led by Nenad Stojanovic, ADF)*

The work of these projects is involved with the challenges that traditional and newer forms of multiculturalism face in democratic societies.

#### **Current projects:**

Evaluation of a pilot project for the introduction of integration agreements (Contractor Canton BS, until March 2010); Swiss contribution to the constitutional reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Contractor DEZA, until September 2011); Centripetal impact of direct democracy in a multilingual society (NF, until March 2010).

#### **Future projects:**

Ethnic quotas and representation of minorities in local politics in Bosnia and Herzegovina (submitted to NF-Programme "SCOPES").

#### **Conferences:**

Organisation of the international conference "Switzerland. A nation-state or a multi-national state?" (Aarau ZDA, 7-9 May 2010), together with Marc Helbling (application to be made).

Organisation of the workshop "National Minorities and New Nationalising States in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. A Comparative Study on Minorities Worldwide", *Joint Sessions of the European Consortium of Political Research*, Münster, 22-27 March 2010 (together with Antoine Roger, IEP Bordeaux).

*Democracy and constituent power (led by Fernando Mendez, c2d)*

The research project focuses on the topic of popular sovereignty during constituent moments, such as the foundation of new states or the break up of existing polities.

**Current projects:**

Constituent assemblies (SNF); Power, parties and democracy in Latin America and the post-Soviet states (internal project).

**Future projects:**

The people's constituent power: Referendums on sovereignty issues (submitted to NF).

*The retreat of democracy in Africa: The role of civil society (led by Andreas Auer/ Jonathan Wheatley, c2d)*

An examination of the role of civil society in the decline of democracy in Africa, working jointly with the Centre for Democratic Governance, University of Ouagadougou (Research Partnership Proposal NF being prepared).

**Research Focus 2: Institutions and Practice of Direct Democracy**

Direct democracy must represent a particularly central object of research for a Swiss centre for democracy. The variety of instruments that institutionalize direct democracy is often underestimated, and not only abroad, as well as the significant differences in the actual use of those instruments. The development dynamic varies greatly on all levels of space and time.

*Direct democracy in Switzerland (led by Andreas Auer, c2d)***Effectiveness of citizens' initiatives**

To what extent do citizens' initiatives at the federal level and in the cantons influence the existing law and political system? Direct and indirect counterproposals, withdrawal and success rate: NF application "*The effectiveness of citizens' initiatives in the Cantons 1970-2009*" submitted.

**Citizens' initiatives and human rights**

Citizens' initiatives at the federal level increasingly contravene internationally guaranteed human rights and confront Parliament, the courts, voters and the law with tricky problems (application to be submitted).

**Referendums by authorities**

Examination of the building up of institutions and the consequences of the practice of referendum votes at the federal, and above all the cantonal level, where referendums are not initiated by the voting citizenry but rather by authorities (Parliament, minorities in Parliament) (application to be submitted).

*Direct democracy in the EU (led by Vasiliki Trigka, c2d)***National referendum votes on EU submissions**

Examination of the democratic suitability of national referendum votes on EU submissions; referendums on accession, integration and enlargement (continuation of a completed SNF project, Book project 2010)

**EU-referendum**

Legal, political and technical problems of an EU-wide referendum: processes, majorities, implementation problems in member states (current).

**European citizens' initiatives**

With the entering into force of the Lisbon Treaty, a new and uniquely conceived instrument of direct democracy was put into the spotlight: the citizens' initiative, that, even before it came into being, showed signs of life (application to be made).

*Direct democracy in Germany (led by Beat Kuoni, c2d)*

**Institutional extension and the practical use of institutions of direct democracy in the German Länder**

A systematic recording of the newest trends in development at the state and municipal level with comparisons.

**The way to direct democracy at the federal level**

Perspectives and obstacles for the creation of a direct democratic instrument at the federal level.

*Direct democracy in the USA (led by Andreas Auer/ Michael Peart, c2d)*

**Institutional extension and the practical use of direct democracy**

A stocktaking of direct democracy instruments in the individual states and their use, as well as consequences for the political system.

**Direct democracy, the courts and fundamental rights**

The recording, comparison and assessment of referendum votes and court decisions on submissions relevant to fundamental rights since 2000 (application to be made).

*Direct democracy in Latin America (led by Yanina Welp, c2d)*

**What Europe can learn from Latin America**

Four individual projects run by local research teams in Argentina and Brazil under the leadership of c2d, answer specific questions on direct democracy (approved by the Avina Project).

**Direct democracy "bottom up" and "top down"**

The recording and systematic comparison of "bottom up" institutions of direct democracy in Latin America in theory and practice (current).

*Direct democracy in Asia (led by Jonathan Wheatley, c2d)*

**Institutional extension and the practical use of direct democracy**

A stocktaking of direct democracy instruments in the individual states and their use, as well as consequences for the political system.

**Direct democracy in the post-Soviet era**

Although many former CIS states have introduced an astonishing variety of direct democracy instruments, the flawed use of the democratic culture has resulted in a strengthening of the role of autocratic presidents instead of Parliaments.

**Local experiences with direct democracy in China**

The recording of the movements and instruments with which, at a local level, citizens can express their will with the consent of the CPC; Perspectives (application to be made).

### **Research Focus 3: Democratic Innovation**

Democracy affects institutions, processes and ideologies that change over the course of time and constantly sets new challenges for their working ability and legitimacy. In the last decade, information and communications technology in particular has led to significant democratic innovations, whose actual effects can barely be assessed and the scientific exploration of which has only just begun.

#### *e-democracy (led by Uwe Serdiült/ Fernando Mendez, c2d)*

Digital technologies influence and affect democracy on all levels – local, regional, national and supranational – and in all its manifestations – elections, voting, initiatives, campaigns, surveys, online platforms and polls. In Switzerland, e-voting is at the fore, with pilot projects in Geneva, Neuchâtel and Zurich having begun five years ago, support through the Federal Government and distribution into further cantons.

#### **Current projects:**

- e-voting: surveys, accompanying programmes, possibilities for extension;
- Online platforms;
- Database: construction and maintenance of an e-voting database (in progress)

#### **Future projects:**

- Comparative study on e-voting in France, USA, Estonia and Switzerland;
- Opposition to e-voting: from security to ideology.

#### *New forms of participation in established democracies (led by Nico van der Heiden, ADF)*

The projects in this group examine the emergence, performance and institutional effects of new forms of political participation in established democracies.

#### **Current projects:**

Participatory methods for city and municipal development (financed internally)

#### **Future projects:**

- Participatory Budgeting – active citizens' participation in the local budgeting process (application to be made); new forms of direct democracy in the cantons (application to be made);
- Class councils, examination of the process of participation by children and young people in view of learning and socialisation processes for the social and political participation of mature adults (application to be made).

### **Research Focus 4: Civic Education in Democratic Societies**

Democracy is a simultaneously important topic and standard point of reference for (school) history and civic education. The development of skills and concepts for the formation of a critical social identity and an individual's ability to act requires an analysis of history and its social function, and an understanding of the function and functionalities of a political system for the importance of human rights and democratic principles as standard foundations of our society. The requirements and basic conditions for the individual development of these skills and concepts through school lessons are the subjects of research in civic education and history. The structure of learning environments and their effectiveness, the limitations of teaching-learning processes and their effectiveness and teaching practice are all researched, as well as the theoretical-empirical regulations of civic education with regard to democratic systems.

#### *Theoretical regulation and empirical examination of civic education*

The projects in this group contribute to the development of civic education as a discipline. They make a contribution to its scientific and institutional establishment. The projects study the interfaces and intersections of related school topics and subjects, especially history, and in this way, sharpen the profile of school civic education.

#### **Current projects:**

- Civic education in lessons (project led by Jan Hodel);
- Swiss-German (teaching) curriculum, Group BNE+, Civic education (project led by Béatrice Ziegler).

#### **Future projects:**

- Teacher beliefs (application made);
- Build up of knowledge and value in civic education (planned).

#### *Teaching-learning processes in history and civic education*

The research projects in this group have the goal of providing empirically saturated basis's for teaching history and civic education. Lesson quality and teaching-learning processes will be researched both in a systemically limited and multi-determined way. Within this focus of research, the central processes of influence of this complex structure between extramural learning experiences and scholastic learning processes will be described and their effectiveness recorded. Interventions strategies can subsequently be formulated for lesson practice.

#### **Current projects:**

- Learning tasks in the history teaching sector and subject-specific competency promotion (project led by Monika Waldis);
- Discipline and participation in the Oberstufe I (secondary education) (project led by Corinne Wyss);
- Teachers expectations of teaching resources (project led by Jan Hodel);

- Evaluation of Politics Week, Zug Kantonsschule (project led by Dominik Allenspach);
- Evaluation of an EU policy simulation (EuroSoc, project led by Béatrice Ziegler, Daniel Kübler).

#### **Future projects:**

- Narratives and concepts. The case of gender concepts (application made);
- Empirical class council. An examination of the interaction and effectiveness of everyday practice in schools of the “Class council” (approved by the DORE project)

#### Research on professions

This area of research looks into the importance of the professional competence of teachers on the quality of history and civic education lessons, for progress in learning and the personal development of students. More over, aside from the existing methods available to teachers, the structural contingencies of the teaching profession and schooling institution will be focussed upon. At the fore is the generation and extension of knowledge that aids the training and further education of teachers.

#### **Current projects:**

- Expansion of professional competencies of history teachers (project led by Monika Waldis);
- Teacher Empowerment to Educate Students to become Active European Citizens (TEESAEC, project led by Béatrice Ziegler);
- Effective history teaching resources (project led by Bernhard Schär).

#### **Future projects:**

Beliefs of Teachers about Civic Education (project led by Dominik Allenspach).

#### Development of teaching resources

These projects contribute didactical reflections as part of the development of teaching resources and lesson materials for civic education and history classes. The goal is to convey competencies and knowledge for the critical association with history, and to support participation in political processes. The main point of the research project is to support competency in democratic and human rights-based societies.

#### **Current projects:**

- Civic education II (NCCR Democracy, project led by Béatrice Ziegler)
- Multiple perspectives of the First World War (Socrates-Comenius, SBF, project led by Béatrice Ziegler);
- [www.politischebildung.ch](http://www.politischebildung.ch) (project led by Claudia Schneider)
- 175 years of elementary school in Canton Aargau (project led by Yvonne Leimgruber);
- Modern History, Textbook for Sek II (secondary school level 2) (project led by Jan Hodel);

- Lebensraum Switzerland (project led by Felix Boller).

**Future projects:**

- Simulation games for Swiss politics (application to be made to KTI, collaboration with EuroSoc);
- Reader Civic education (NCCR Democracy, phase II approved, project led by Dominik Allenspach).

**Research Focus 5: History and theory of democracy**

The ZDA must not be afraid from posing and trying to answer theoretical and historical questions in connection with democracy. Ideological-economic globalisation and social individualisation pose significant challenges for the theory of democracy. However, existing and future theories can hardly be grasped and made understandable without reference to their historical background and development.

*The history of direct democracy (led by Andreas Auer, René Roca)*

Even though the history of Swiss democracy is a priority, the democracy associated historical processes from abroad cannot be neglected.

**Current projects:**

*Ways to direct democracy in the Swiss cantons* (led by Andreas Auer): A study of the political and social conditions that brought about the birth and the rise of direct democracy in the different cantons during the 19th century. Conference to be held in autumn 2010 with research project and publications to follow.

*Civil society and democracy (led by Marc Bühlmann, Dominik Allenspach, Andreas Auer)*

The significance of civil or civic society (in a broad sense) for the development and implementation of democracy is generally underestimated and barely paid attention to by science. With its three departments, the ZDA offers the ideal framework to research this question on an interdisciplinary level. A workshop early in 2010 in collaboration with the Tuchlaube Theatre will be dedicated to the topic.

*Democracy: definition and development perspectives*

Numerous current and completed research projects, being worked on in all three departments of the ZDA, raise interesting democratic-theoretical questions and could be a starting point for an extension of this topic.

**Future projects:**

Structural limits of direct democracy (application to be made).

## **B. Teaching and further education**

Although the ZDA is primarily an academic centre for research, its tasks also include providing for the transfer of the results of research on questions on democracy to tertiary training and further education.

### **Existing bachelor and masters programmes**

The research results produced as part of the work of the ZDA effortlessly become part of the lectures and seminars taken by members of the management and individual staff members at both represented universities and at further universities in Switzerland and abroad. This teaching work, though not directly attributable to the ZDA, is not likely to change during the course of the years under review, as the university-prescribed curriculum must be followed.

- *Democracy seminar, RWF UZH, Prof. Andreas Auer: bachelor level, every 2<sup>nd</sup> semester;*
- *Politics and democracy in the city, IPZ-UZH, Prof. Daniel Kübler: bachelor level, every 2<sup>nd</sup> semester;*
- *Research seminar on Internal politics/ comparative politics, IPZ-UZH, Prof. Daniel Kübler: bachelor level, every semester;*
- *Masters course on Direct democracy RWF UZH, Prof. Andreas Auer: will be offered every 3<sup>rd</sup> semester from the 2009 autumn semester;*
- *Masters course on Democracy CIS (UZH/ETH), Prof. Daniel Kübler: every 2<sup>nd</sup> semester;*
- *Bachelor course on Disciplinary extension of history, Secondary level 1, PH FHNW: 4 semesters, yearly, Prof. Dr. Béatrice Ziegler;*
- *Contemporary history seminar, master and bachelor level, Historical seminar, UZH Prof. Dr. Béatrice Ziegler;*
- *Masters course on Politics of the internet, CIS (UZH/ETH), Uwe Serdült/ Fernando Mendez: every 2<sup>nd</sup> semester;*
- *Masters course on Theories of institutions and institutional change, CIS (UZH/ETH), Uwe Serdült/ Fernando Mendez: every 2<sup>nd</sup> semester;*
- *Course on Democracy in multicultural societies, CIS (UZH/ETH), Nenad Stojanovic, every spring semester;*
- *Course on Introduction to political science, College of Lucerne, Course on Administrative Economics, Nico van der Heiden, every spring semester*
- *Course on Introduction to political science, College of Lucerne, MAS Public management course, Nico van der Heiden, every 2<sup>nd</sup> spring semester.*

### **Continuing education**

From 2011 the ZDA will be offering at least one academic course for continuing education. A choice must be made between three offered forms (MAS, DAS, CAS).

A *Master of Advanced Studies* (MAS) provides comprehensive training in a special subject area and one acquires an academic title upon completion (3-4 semesters, 1800 hours, 60 ETCS). This is not an option for the topic of democracy, as democracy can hardly be described as a “special subject area”.

However, the topic of democracy could be offered in the two other forms: *Diploma of Advanced Studies* (DAS: 18 months, 900 hours, 30 ETCS) and *Certificate of Advanced Studies* (CAS: 6 months, 300 hours, 10 ETCS). The first course provides an extended education in a specific field, while the second provides specific knowledge on a topic. In these courses of study for further education, the ADF and c2d departments, and their respective institutions and faculties – PWI (Institute of Political Science) and RWF (Law Faculty) - can work together and eventually offer the course in English. Financially the courses would have to be self-sufficient (approx. 15,000 for a DAS).

In contrast, the medium-term plan of offering a DAS or CAS in *Civic Education* makes sense in that these forms of further education allow for an additional qualification in civic education. This can be interesting for teachers of final year students but also for lecturers at teacher-training colleges with no background in the subject, people in educational administration, school principals, and if required, also for people who work in the media.

In the area of *history education*, the PBGD department has applied for the national didactics pilot on history education. It already offers a didactic specialisation as part of a Master of Educational Sciences from the FSP Basle (PH FHNW and University of Basle). This precondition makes it possible for the Masters, expanded with civic education content, to be submitted as a pilot with the involvement of the ZDA. It is true that fundamental decisions in the context of a reform of elementary school education, in particular on the introduction of a Swiss-German curriculum, have not yet been made definite, and in the interim, it is not certain to what extent civic education can be explicitly considered within this reform. However, indications point to history being seen as a discipline within a specific subject area and civic education defined as having a strong connection with history. This would illustrate the PBGD’s profile and the suggested conceptions exactly.

For local and regional customers, courses for further education can be offered that would convey subject-specific knowledge about democracy over one or two days.

The College Institute for Management Studies (IDHEAP) in Lausanne has expressed interest in a collaboration to run some courses for a Masters in Public Administration (MPA).

In the course of 2009 and 2010, the requirements and basic conditions for these teaching events will be clarified and, after discussion with the advisory committee, specified.

Currently, the PBGD department, jointly with “Second@s plus” is clarifying the procedure and content of a further education series for forms and fields of participation for migrants.

### C. Conferences

In principle, the Aarau Democracy Days will be held every year in spring and should develop nationally into a permanent scientific point of reference for current questions on democracy.

2010	18-19 March	2nd Aarau Democracy Days	Topic: "Financial crisis and democracy"
2011	March/ April	3rd Aarau Democracy Days	Topic: open
2012	March/ April	4th Aarau Democracy Days	Topic: open
2013	March/ April	5th Aarau Democracy Days	Topic: open

At least once a year the departments organise an international or national scientific conference on a current topic from their research areas. Depending on the topic this may take place in collaboration with further partner universities in Switzerland or abroad.

#### c2d

##### **2010**

Spring	Aarau	Civil society and direct democracy
Summer	San Francisco	Similar but different: Direct democracy in the US and CH
Autumn	Aarau	Ways to direct democracy in the Swiss cantons

##### **2011**

Early summer	Washington	Direct democracy and Civil Rights
Autumn	Japan	Direct democracy in Asia

**2012** open

**2013** open

#### ADF

##### **2010**

Spring	Aarau	Switzerland: A nation-state or a multi-national state?
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**2011 – 2013** open

#### PBGD

##### **2010**

Autumn	Aarau	Civic education empirically 10
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##### **2011**

January	Aarau	In planning
Autumn	Basle	History education empirically 11

##### **2012**

Autumn	Aarau	Civic education empirically 12
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## **D. Services**

### **Databases and websites**

#### c2d

Even in the future, the international database for referendum votes will lie at the centre of the work of c2d. Its goal is the further extension and regular and careful tracking of all the data.

On an international level, the systematic extension of the partially completed inclusion of all relevant data from the US states is being rigorously continued in collaboration with the database from the *National Conference of State Legislatures* (NCSL). Particular emphasis is put on the, in practice, often decisive and exceedingly abundant legal interpretations.

With regard to the Swiss referendum data, it is the acknowledged goal of c2d to not only catalogue all federal referendums – as is already the case – but also to gradually add all *cantonal referendums since 1848*; at the moment this is only the case since 1970. However, this is an immense task, especially in regard to obtaining data, as the archives of all cantons must be approached and visited personally. The claim, to be a leading scientific centre for direct democracy within Switzerland and worldwide, hardly permits a more modest goal. The intention is to have the task completed by the end of the period under review.

#### ADF

At the end of 2009, the database of the Democracy Barometer will go online. With the help of the data, interested researchers will be able to work on methodical fundamental principles and theoretical concepts of the Democracy Barometer. As a further step, there are plans to offer the wider public the opportunity to compare the condition of a whole raft of characteristics of the quality of democracy between countries and periods of time. When this database goes online, the occasion will be accompanied by an appropriate communication to the media (Pressecommuniqué, articles in the major quality newspapers).

The data is currently limited to 30 established democracies and an expansion to include more countries is in progress. The scientific development work that forms the basis of this database will continue to be managed by the Democracy Barometer project that will be funded as part of the NCCR Democracy until at least 2013.

#### PBGD

The PBGD department has created an open platform for Swiss-German civic education ([www.politischebildung.ch](http://www.politischebildung.ch)) that also shows scientific discussion of theories and presents empirical studies as well as didactic and teaching resource developments.

### **Political advice/ Legal opinions**

It is to be accepted that owing to the growing level of awareness of the ZDA in Switzerland and abroad, the capacity of *scientific consultancy work* will increase significantly. This is not only for legal opinions, often relating to questions on political rights in the cantons and municipalities, but increasingly also for political preparations, accompaniments and evaluations of referendum votes, especially in the sector of e-voting.

Furthermore, the individual departments of the ZDA will become involved in consultancy and evaluations mandates, provided that the requested expertise is available and the content of these mandates correlates with the topics worked on at the ZDA. For example, the PBGD is committed to the development of a Swiss-German curriculum concerning civic education.

For the further education of our staff this pragmatic, practice-orientated expert work is of great value.

### **Public activities and events**

As part of the yearly held Aarau Democracy Days the wider public will be offered various cultural and social political events, organised in collaboration with local organisations. In addition, once a year an event (conference, lecture, discussion panel) will be held together with organisations from Aarau or the region.

The “Friends of the ZDA” Association organises a public event once a year on a relevant topic that is connected with current research projects at the ZDA.

The ZDA has made an informal agreement with the editorial office of the Aargau/Central newspaper and the publishers of the AZ newspaper, according to which the newspapers will regularly report on the ZDA’s scientific research work and will invite ZDA employees to provide comments and make statements on topical questions associated with democracy.

The PBGD department regularly reports to the education sector community about projects and developments, and organises relevant workshops accordingly.

Furthermore, the individual departments make an effort to impart their research results to the wider public. In doing this, they are supported by the relevant services of their parent universities and research support institutions respectively.

Separate from this, the Board is working towards an increase in the presence of the ZDA in the media. With this in mind, board members and other interested ZDA employees make themselves available to enquiries by the media, such as for comment on current events. Collaboration has already been arranged with the AZ and the local station Radio Argovia. This work will be continued and strengthened in this reporting period.

## **E. National collaboration**

Since its formal foundation, the ZDA is being increasingly recognised as the centre of contemporary discussion on democracy and its advice is increasingly sought by the general public, authorities and the media. As a result of this, the existing – already very broad – collaborations with political and educational sciences and law academics from all Swiss universities are being extended.

The ZDA continues to have close contact with the NCCR Democracy “Challenges to Democracy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century”, the Direktion für Entwicklungs- und Zusammenarbeit (DEZA) (Management for Development and Cooperation) and the Institute for Federalism at the University of Fribourg.

## **F. International collaboration**

The previously mentioned international contacts that the individual departments of the ZDA have will continue in the future and be extended within the general project framework.

Special mention must be made to the international academic collaboration of c2d that will only intensify in the foreseeable future. Now that c2d has attained significant recognition in Latin America as well as East, West and Central Europe; the USA, Asia and also Africa are on the list for the construction of an all encompassing relationship and research network. It is important to continue exclusively on the proven path of science (law, political and social science) and not degenerate into a more or less political advocacy group.

## **G. ZDA – infrastructure**

### **Office**

Generally the administration of the ZDA is required to function on the tightest possible budget, as every extension means a reduction in the funds available for research. However, an increase in staff and/or the creation of one or more new departments imposes, in the medium-term, a certain increase in administrative personnel.

### **Premises**

The Villa Blumenhalde is at full capacity. The departments are highly likely to increase their staff numbers and, on top of that, a new department will probably be formed, therefore, *new workspaces* must be found. By the end of 2013 around 15 additional working spaces will be required.

The Board is convinced that the *original decision for the Blumenhalde location* made in autumn 2007 was the right one and will continue to prove true in the future. Symbolically, the reference to Heinrich Zschokke and the problem of democracy at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century has great significance for the ZDA and its partners. With this comes the fact that in less than two years presence in Aarau, the ZDA has become a well-known reference in the field of democracy. Though this would

sacrificing the existing establishment, a move to another location cannot be completely ruled out.

In the *existing building* (Villa Blumenhalde), new work spaces could only be created in the seminar room on the first floor. This could be a temporary solution but would mean that the Zschokkekeller (basement) and/or the foyer will have to be used more and more for seminars and internal discussions. In the long term this can only be tenable if certain structural adjustments (windows, ventilation) are carried out.

The obvious solution to the existing lack of space would be to build *an extension to the Blumenhalde*. Talks are being held with the citizens' municipality and residents' council as to whether an extension at the rear of the building can be considered. During the reporting period such a plan cannot be carried out due to lack of time but it can perhaps be initiated. This means that by mid 2010, office space will have to be found outside the existing property.

If additional research projects are approved that increase the existing staff and space requirements, then the FHNW and UZH to which (depending on department) these new projects will be attributed to, will be requested to make the necessary premises available and cover the corresponding expenses.

With an extension to the existing building or a new building, two or three modest but perfectly functional *studio apartments* could be built for visitors from Switzerland and abroad. When *visiting scholars* or guest students plan to stay for extended periods, hotel accommodation is, for obvious reasons, not a reasonable option.

The creation of an independent further education course and/or masters programme also means that new *classroom space* away from the Blumenhalde will have to be found.

## **Library**

The extension of the library is an important matter of concern. In the medium term, a broader basic collection of standard works and monographs on the three departments' focuses of research will be ordered.

## **PROSPECTS FOR EXTENSION**

No one disputes the fact that the status quo is not adequate, neither institutionally nor technically speaking. With its three existing departments, the ZDA is simply not capable to sufficiently cover the subject of democracy in all its variety and complexity.

### **e-Democracy (e-dc) department**

The first institutional goal is, as of early 2010, to create e-dc as a new independent department of the ZDA. e-dc will operate a database on e-democracy, the essential features of which already exist, and accompany the current e-voting projects in Switzerland and abroad. The demand for politically relevant ‘know how’ is both nationally and internationally significant. Therefore, e-dc research centre opens up the possibility to take on a leading role in this dynamic sector. This will require substantial funding for the duration of the ZDA’s contract (until 2022). First contacts with potential financial contributors have been established in the summer of 2009.

### **Political communication department**

The role of the *media* and *communications sciences* in democracy deserves to be considered as a possible future extension to the ZDA. A communication department would certainly be justified from a practical point of view. The ZDA will be contacted by certain units of the NCCR “Democracy in the 21<sup>st</sup> century” looking for institutionalisation as prescribed by SNF. The ZDA would cooperate with the responsible actors for finding continuing financial backing from third parties.

### **Parliamentary research as a new Research Focus**

An important element of our democracy is research on parliaments, a field that is not currently covered by the existing departments. In this field however, the national and international competition is particularly strong, so that it is not certain whether the (considerable) effort that would have to be provided for the establishment of an independent department of parliamentary research pays off. If necessary, this subject could be covered by tight collaboration with existing research institutes in Switzerland and abroad. Instead of a new department, it is far more urgent, during this reporting period, to set up new focuses of research.

### **Municipal Democracy as a new Research Focus**

The Swiss municipal system currently finds itself undergoing radical change. In most cantons, mergers of municipalities are being discussed and realized in many places. In recent times, various administrative reforms have been concluded, and questions are being asked regarding citizens’ participation and involvement in traditional institutions, for instance in municipal assemblies. With the setting up of a new research focus *Municipal Democracy*, the developments can be scientifically followed and accompanied and services can be offered to interested administrative bodies. The set up of this focus could, for the time being, be ‘pre-financed’ by the ZDA (ADF and c2d) and topped up by funding from appropriate third parties (SNF, contracts with administrative entities).

## FINANCES

In terms of *profit*, the contractually fixed basic contributions of the four partners will not change. In order to set up the new e-dc department a basic contribution from a new financial sponsor to the sum of approximately CHF 500,000 will have to be guaranteed.

City of Aarau	785,000
Canton Aargau	800,000
UZH	300,000
FHNW	450,000
NN	500,000 (application made)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,735,000</b>

What will certainly change are the funds from third parties for research projects and services, and in such a way that is difficult to anticipate. The target is for the three existing departments to bring in research and service fees of around CHF 300,000 in each of the first two reporting years and around CHF 400,000 in the two subsequent years. For the new e-dc department, the sum of CHF 200,000 can be fixed for 2011, after a set up phase. For the remaining reporting years one can assume that these amounts will moderately increase for all departments.

Here are the calculations for the ZDA and departments (amounts in CHF):

	2010	2011	2012	2013
<i>ZDA</i>				
Basic contributions	2,735,000	2,735,000	2,735,000	2,735,000
Funding from 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties	900,000	1,100,000	1,500,000	1,600,000
Total funds	3,635,000	3,835,000	4,235,000	4,335,000
<i>c2d</i>				
Basic contributions	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000
Funding from 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties	300,000	300,000	400,000	400,000
Total funds	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,200,000	1,200,000
<i>ADF</i>				
Basic contributions	1,085,000	1,085,000	1,085,000	1,085,000
Funding from 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties	300,000	300,000	400,000	400,000
Total funds	1,385,000	1,385,000	1,485,000	1,485,000
<i>PBGD</i>				
Basic contributions	686,000	600,000	600,000	600,000
Funding from 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties	390,000	300,000	400,000	400,000
Total funds	1,076,000	900,000	1,000,000	1,000,000

*e-dc*

Basic contributions	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000
Funding from 3 <sup>rd</sup> parties	---	200,000	300,000	400,000
Total funds	500,000	700,000	800,000	900,000

To calculate the pool costs so they can be divided equally among the departments, we can assume a sum of around CHF 400,000 on the basis of the 2008 statement of accounts and the 2009 Budget. The creation of a fourth department (e-dc) would reduce the funding for the other departments compared to 2009.

	2010	2011	2012	2013
<i>Pool</i>				
Personnel/ Staff	120,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Lease of Blumenhalde	90,000	130,000	170,000	170,000
Rent discrepancy to FHNW	80,000	40,000	---	---
Rates to Aarau city	---	20,000	20,000	20,000
Cleaning	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
ICT Support/Cataloguing	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
IT	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Power	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Fees, insurance	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Office/ administration costs	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Aarau Democracy Days	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
<b>Total</b>	429,200	479,200	479,200	479,200

For the departments, the planning expenditure is restricted to the use of firmly confirmed funding, the basic contributions. The use of third party funding for a specific purpose is therefore not taken into account.

*c2d*

Research	660,000	670,000	670,000	670,000
Administration	100,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
IT/Office	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Conferences	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
<b>Total</b>	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000

*ADF*

Research	745,000	755,000	780,000	795,000
Administration	100,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
IT	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Further education	50,000	50,000	25,000	10,000
Teaching at UZH	170,000	170,000	170,000	170,000
<b>Total</b>	1,085,000	1,085,000	1,085,000	1,085,000

*PBGD*

Research/ Further education	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000
Administration	100,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>450,000</b>	<b>450,000</b>	<b>450,000</b>	<b>450,000</b>

*e-dc*

Research	360,000	370,000	370,000	370,000
Administration	100,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
IT	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Conferences	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>

*ZDA overall*

Research	2,115,000	2,155,000	2,160,000	2,195,000
Administration	380,000	350,000	350,000	350,000
IT/Conferences	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Teaching /ADF-UZH	170,000	170,000	170,000	170,000
Other	50,000	50,000	25,000	10,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,815,000</b>	<b>2,825,000</b>	<b>2,805,000</b>	<b>2,825,000</b>

\* \* \*

Aarau, 26 October 2009

Andreas Auer

Daniel Kübler

Béatrice Ziegler