## Exploring an "Ideas-Informed" Society in the Modern World

Vibrant democratic societies need citizens that engage with new ideas, developments, debates, and discussions

Faced with a world of environmental, social, and political crises, there appears to be a shift away from this ideal "ideas-informed" society





How do we foster an "ideas-informed" society in the modern world?



How do individuals keep themselves up to date?

A survey of

1,000

voting-age citizens
in England was
conducted to get
the following
insights:



What is the impact of staying up to date on society?



Which factors contribute to citizens staying up to date?

## The survey found that:

Many people keep up to date through news and newspapers, social media and blogs, but also through popular science and current affairs magazines, journals, or books



Pactors like education and occupation affect the importance that citizens attach to values like diversity and equality fundamental to democratic society



In citizens with a lower level of education or professional skill:

→ Mentality of scarcity could lead to limited focus only to immediate needs



Among citizens with a higher level of education or professional skill:

→ There is a larger likelihood of staying up to date



Levels of education and occupation and network of friends influence staying up to date



When less educated individuals get grouped together:

→ They become less likely to seek to stay up to date



Individuals who discuss news and currents affairs with friends:

→ Are more likely to value the importance of staying up to date



Individuals with manual occupations but not low education levels:

→ Have a higher propensity to stay up to date

In order to foster an ideas-informed society with up-to-date citizens and an engaging public discourse, we need improved dialogue between all members of society and higher levels of education for all

Achieving the 'ideas-informed' society: results from a Structural Equation Model using survey data from England

Chris Brown et al. (2022)



