



## Voting differently

Luxembourg is a representative democracy, i.e. citizens elect representatives (deputies) who pass laws on their behalf in the Chambre des Députés. But would another voting procedure also be conceivable? Let's do an experiment in class! We propose the following three election scenarios.

**Procedure:** The class is divided using the following models in order to subsequently vote on different topics.

1. **Class parliament:** Four students are elected by the whole class as representatives and cast their vote.
2. **Class leader:** One student is chosen at random and casts his/her vote.
3. **Class vote:** The rest of the class votes by show of hands. Each student has one vote.

Before each vote, each group is allowed to confer for five minutes. The results of the votes are recorded on the board and are then discussed in the class. Advantages and disadvantages of each voting method are discussed.

### The following topics are up for a vote:

- Should Luxembourg introduce driving licences for 16-year olds?
- Should all residents of Luxembourg have the right to vote in parliamentary elections?
- Should a head teacher be elected by students?
- Should a head teacher be chosen by drawing lots among the teachers?
- Should classes be allowed to choose their own teachers?
- Should the school day last from 9am-5pm?
- Should an extra tax be introduced on sugary drinks (soft drinks)?

### Evaluation

- In your opinion, which was the fairer method?
- Which method did you have more say in?
- How would you feel/have you felt about having your lot drawn to vote for the community?
- Which of these voting methods could be implemented best?

### For experts:

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the following ideas.

- Should people's representatives be chosen randomly?
- Should algorithms and likes in social media determine the will of voters and replace elections?