**PRESS RELEASE**

**Immediate, 10.5.2021**

**COVID, CLIMATE CHANGE… AND CONSENSUS**

**POLITICS IS ADVERSARIAL – IT NEED NOT BE SO**

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Climate Change. Nations must work together. COP26 will not be using majority votes.

Covid. Parties must work together. Sadly, parliaments still use majority voting; it is primitive, often divisive, sometimes inaccurate, always Orwellian, and politicians cannot best work together if they are voting (‘for’ or) ‘against’ each other.

Democratic majority opinions can be identified either verbally, or via a multi-option voting procedure, or again in a preferential ballot. The verbal way of identifying the option with the highest average preference can be protracted. A preferential points procedure – the modified Borda count MBC – does it more quickly.

Basing decisions on such average opinions could be the basis of real cooperation, i.e., all-party power-sharing. So the democratic process should be:

+ the people elect the parliament, ideally in a preferential and proportional electoral system;

+ parliament elects the government, ideally in an equally sophisticated but tabular matrix vote, with every MP choosing, in order of preference, not only those whom they want to be in Cabinet, but also the particular portfolio in which they wish each of their nominees to serve;

+ parliament resolves (non-urgent) matters in MBC’s, the choice of options based on the Speaker’s selection from whatever is ‘on the table’ and computer screen;

+ the Executive then executes all motions which surpass a minimum average preference score.

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