**PRESS RELEASE**

**IMMEDIATE - 1.4.2020**

**COVID-19 CHANGES EVERYTHING…**

**INCLUDING OUR POLITICS**

(a) Just as parliaments can be elected under many electoral systems, so too,

(b) majority opinions can be determined in many voting systems, and

(c) governance too varies.

(a) PR-STV is one of the world’s best electoral systems; but

(b) binary voting is one of its most inaccurate decision-making systems; and

(c) governance: all-party coalitions can be enhanced by post-sharing and/or rotating Taoisigh;

they can be formed either

(i) with d’Hondt, as in NI,

(ii) with a ‘magic formula’ as in Switzerland,

(iii) by religion, as in Bosnia (Dayton Agreement) and Lebanon (Taif Accords),

(iv) by matrix vote (as shown by the *Irish Times\** and others), or

in protracted and painful negotiations, as in Ireland, Spain, Germany etc.

The de Borda Institute calls for an all-party, power-sharing coalition government of national unity, with

+ Ministers elected by matrix vote; with electronic voting, it takes a day;

+ majority opinions determined by preferential points voting; this too can be much more effective and efficient than binary voting; (the Modified Borda Count MBC was first mooted by a Spanish Catalan, Ramón Llull in 1199).

\* https://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/mock-dáil-produces-a-government-of-national-unity-and-it-only-took-90-minutes-1.2622796

Peter Emerson

Director, the de Borda Institute

[www.deborda.org](http://www.deborda.org)

36 Ballysillan Road

Belfast BT14 7QQ

+44-(0)7837717979

(Currently in voluntary self-isolation on a farm in Co. Wicklow; just back from Hong Kong.)