**PRESS RELEASE**

**IMMEDIATE – 04.11.2020**

**TRUMP**

**BINARY VOTING IS BAD… FOR THE PLANET!**

Be it in elections (Trump) or in decision-making (Brexit, the Balkans, Ukraine etc.), binary voting is crude, divisive, manipulable, often inaccurate and, at worst, a provocation to violence.

Other professions use precision instruments; each follows its science.

To save democracy (and to thus help save our species), politicians everywhere should replace the 2,500-year-old binary vote, follow the science,\* and adopt more inclusive voting procedures: proportional elections (like PR-STV), preferential points decision-making,\*\* and all-party power-sharing.

\* The science of social choice.

\* Preferential points voting was advocated by the scientist Jean-Charles de Borda, a member of *l’Académie des Sciences,* in 1770.  Hence the name, Modified Borda Count, MBC.  A few years later, *l’Académie*had a new boss whodidn’t like this 'consensus nonsense’... so he ignored the science and reverted to majority voting.  Not best known for his democratic idealism, he was one Napoléon

Bonaparte.

Peter Emerson

Director, the de Borda Institute

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

36 Ballysillan Road

Belfast BT14 7QQ

Northern Ireland

Tel: +44(0)7837717979