



# TRENDS IN TRUST AND DISTRUST

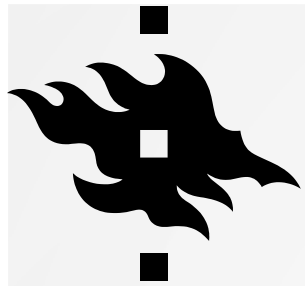
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## FOCUS ON PROCESSES

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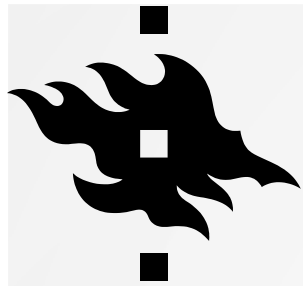


# LUKU 5: KANSALAISTEN NÄKEMYKSET DEMOKRATIAN PROSESSEISTA JA LEGITIMITEETISTÄ



# AIM OF CHAPTER

- Map what kind of political processes citizens want
  - Public support for the system and how it works can foster legitimacy
- Understand how preferences vary across groups of citizens

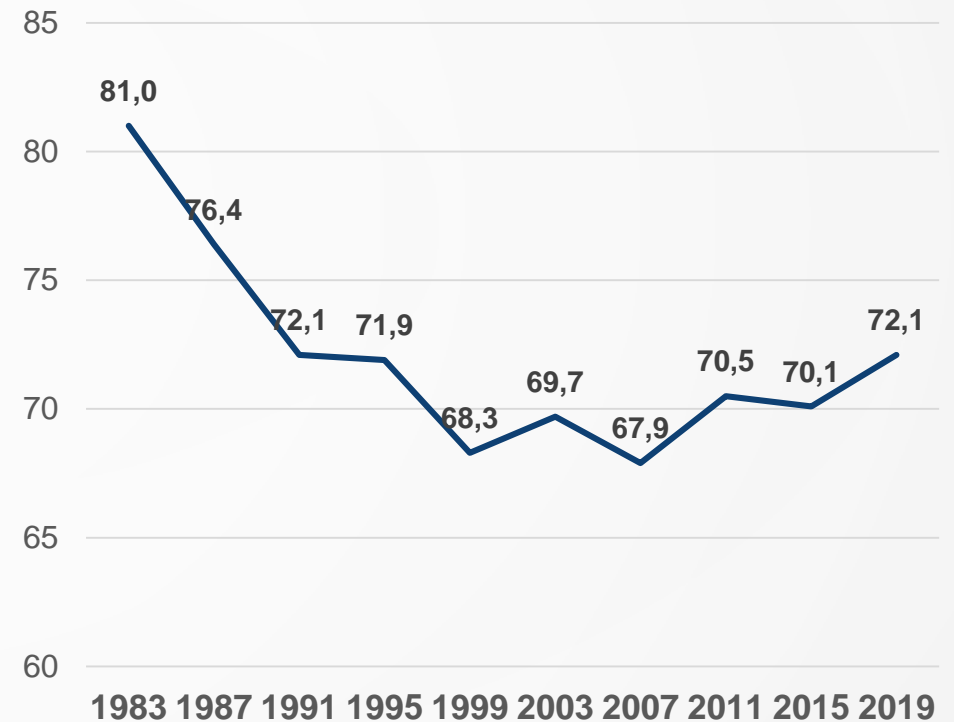


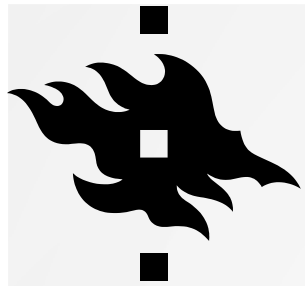
# BACKGROUND

## Challenged democracies

- Decreasing voting turnout
- Decreasing levels of party membership
- Increased criticism towards political actors
- Increased voter volatility
- The rise of populist parties

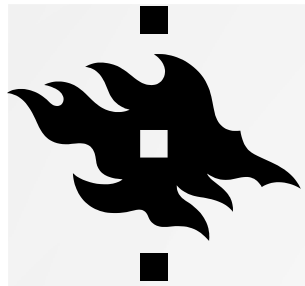
Turnout in Finnish parliamentary elections



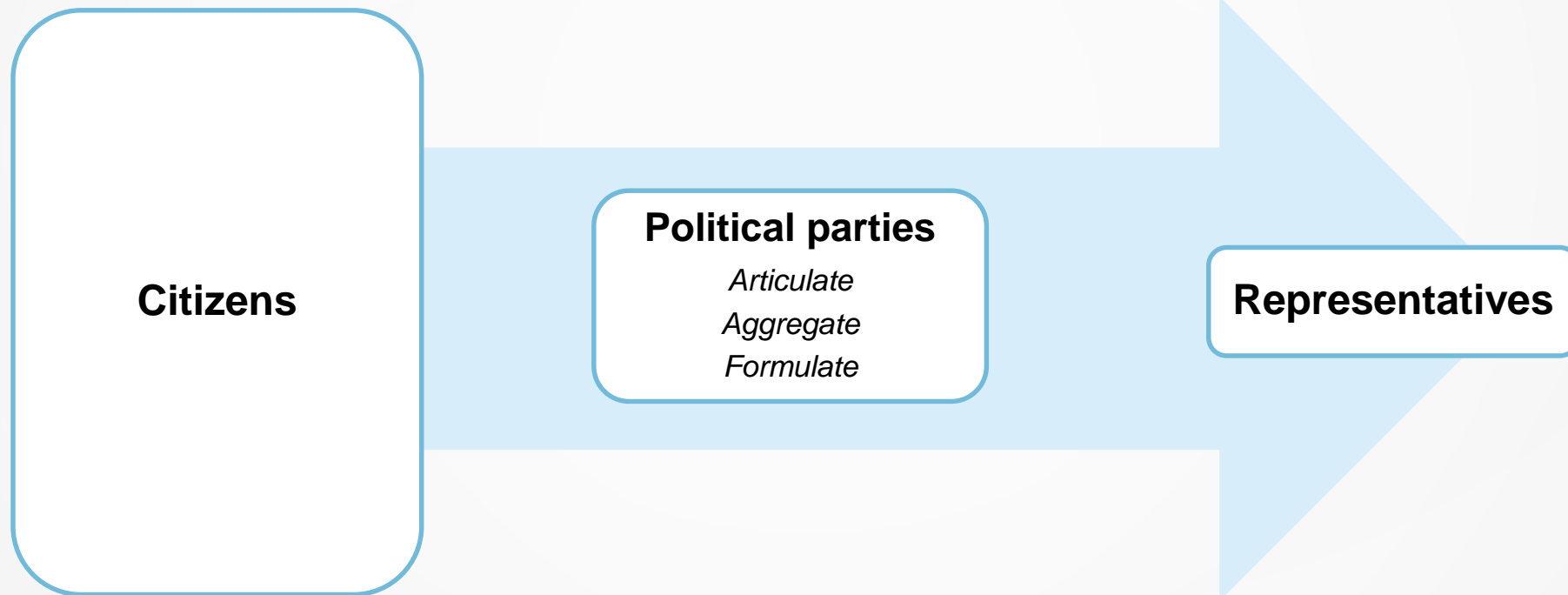


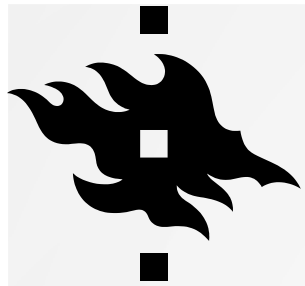
# IS DEMOCRACY IN NEED OF A FACELIFT?

- Are current (mostly) representative democracies inline with citizens' expectations, or do we need to update our political processes?
- There is an intense debate and numerous ongoing projects in academia and in society, but these are mainly elite-driven.
- A trend towards introduction of more inclusive processes in many societies (referenda, citizen initiatives)
- *But what about the general public? What kind of democracy do they want?*

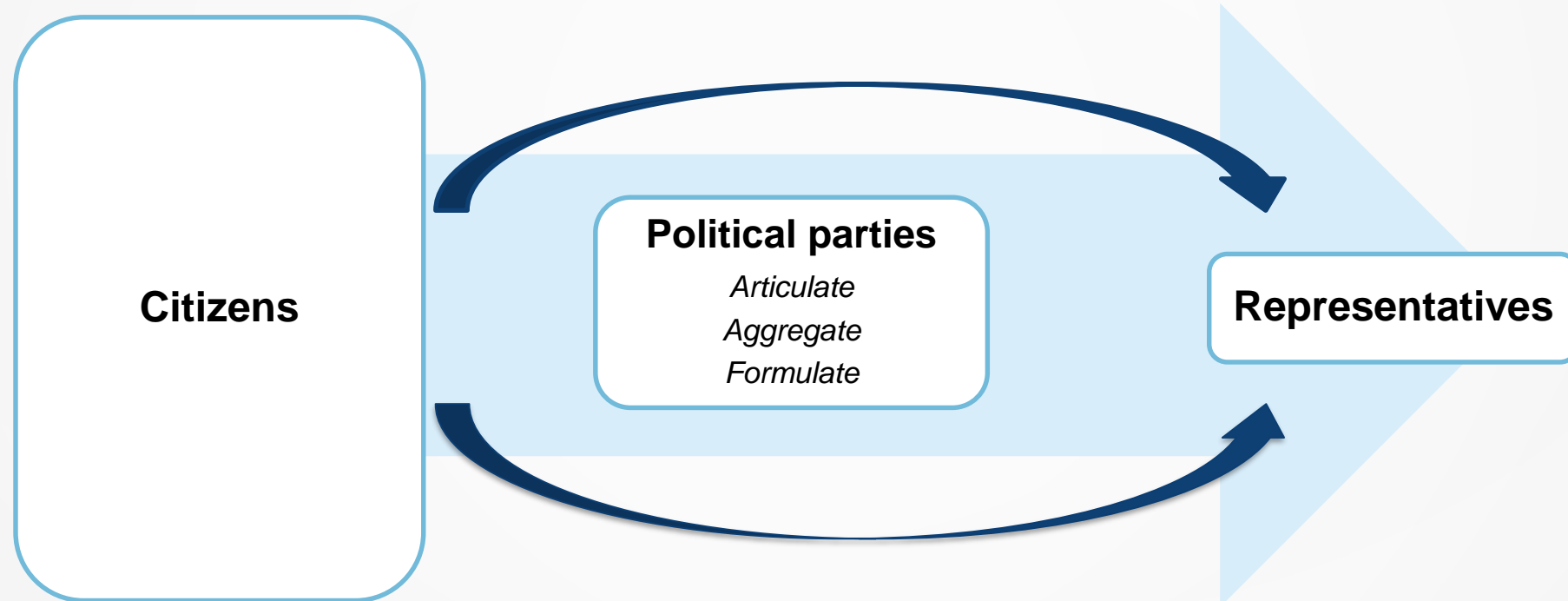


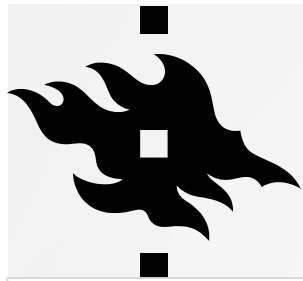
# REPRESENTATIVE PROCESSES – PARTIES AS THE CENTRAL LINK





# PARTICIPATORY PROCESSES – MOVING BEYOND PARTIES





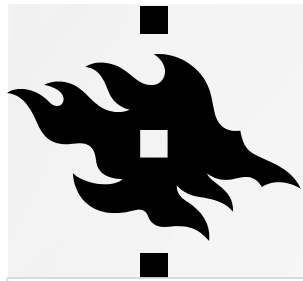
# SUPPORT FOR SPECIFIC PROCESSES

**fnes**

Finnish National Election Studies  
Vaalitutkimuskonsortio  
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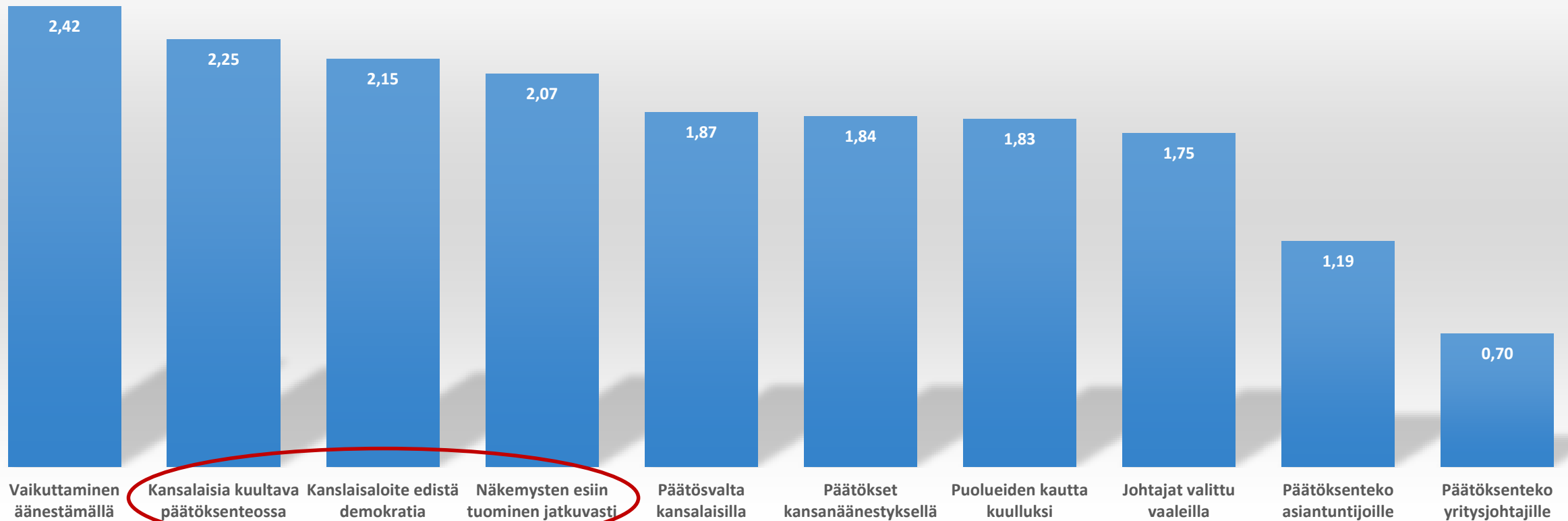


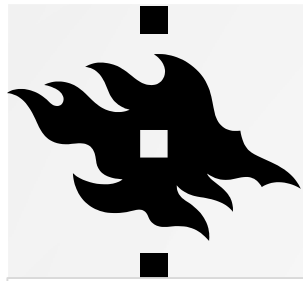


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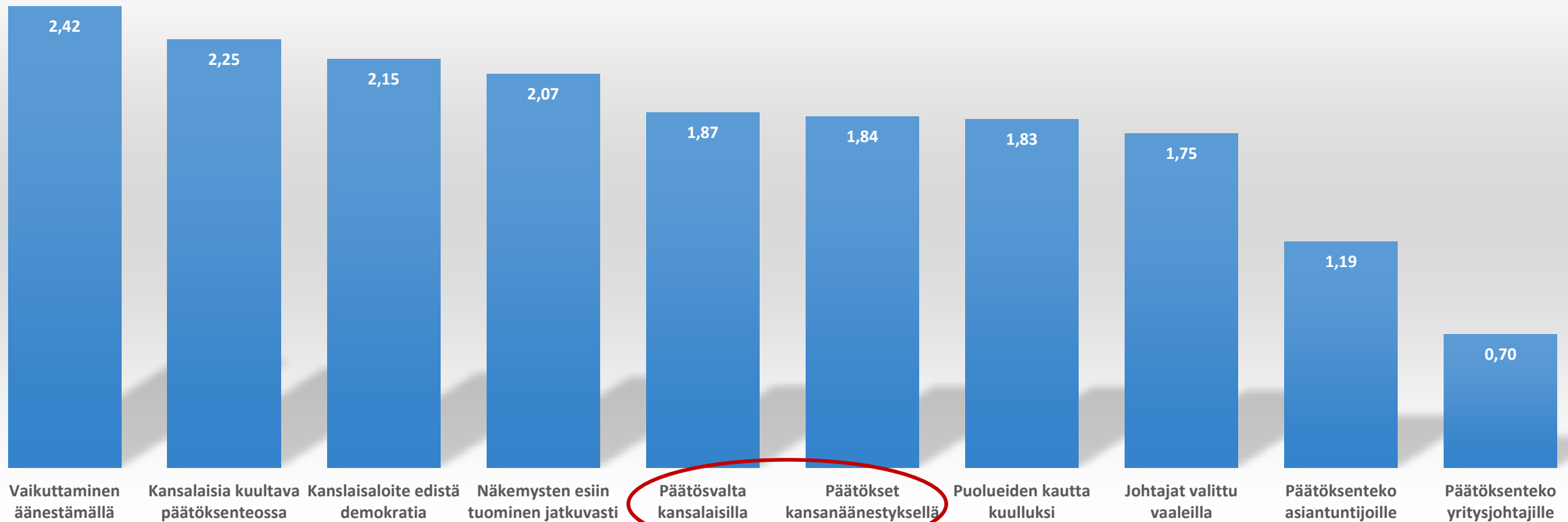


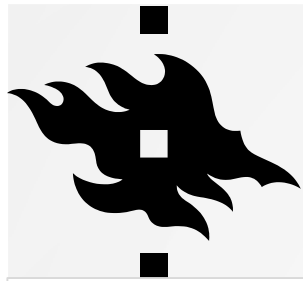


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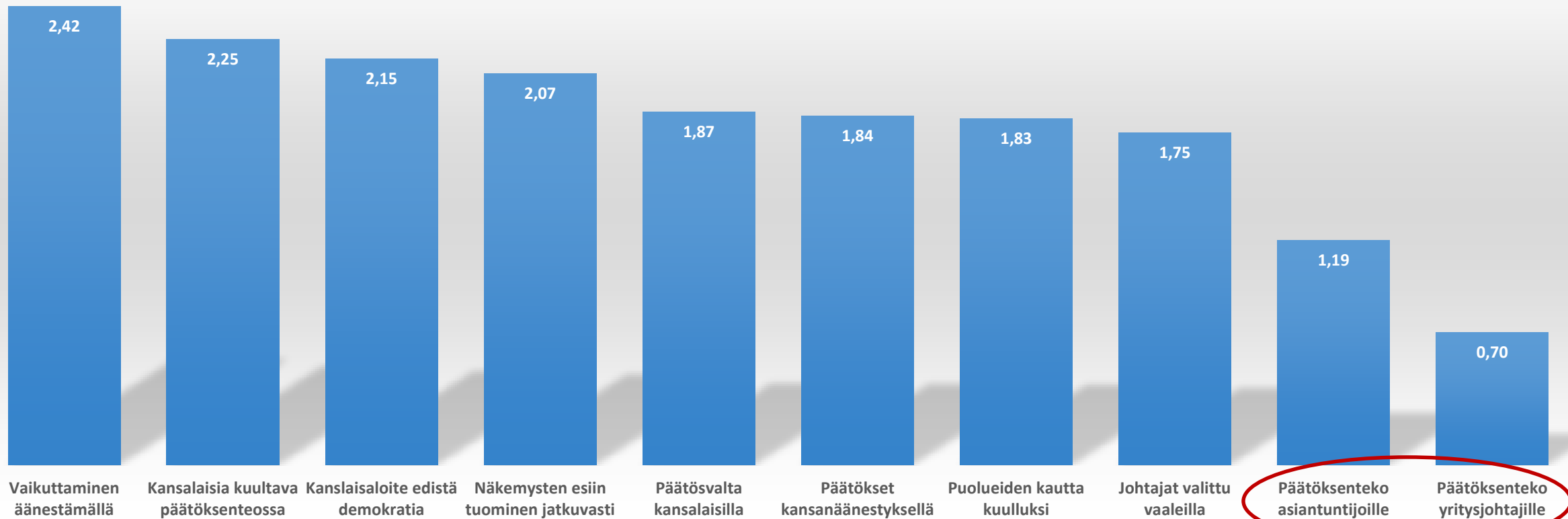


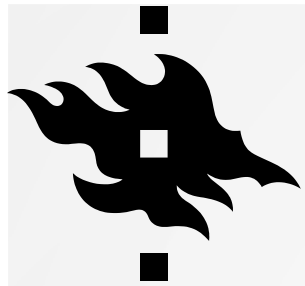


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# CITIZENS' VIEWS – FOUR DIFFERENT PROCESS DIMENSIONS

*Representation*



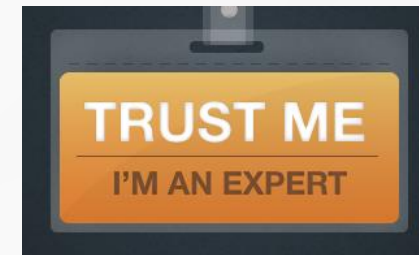
*Participatory processes*

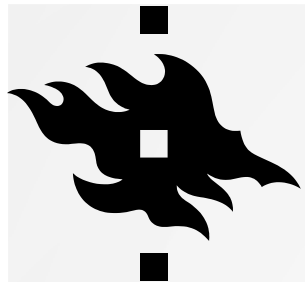


*Direct voting*



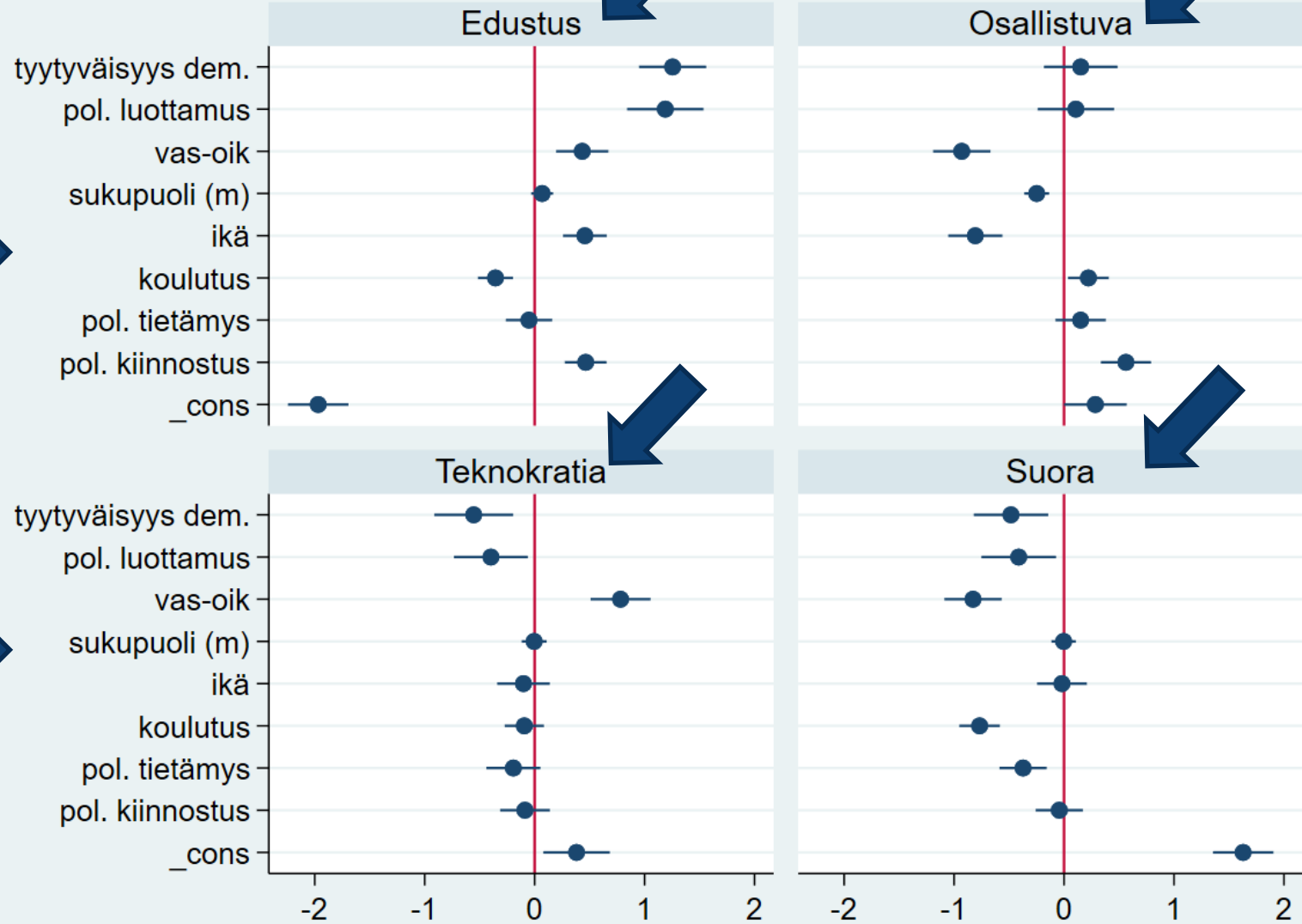
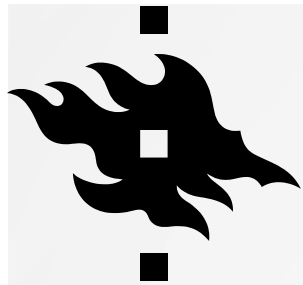
*Technocracy*

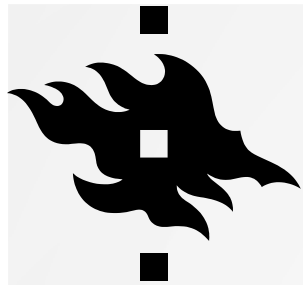




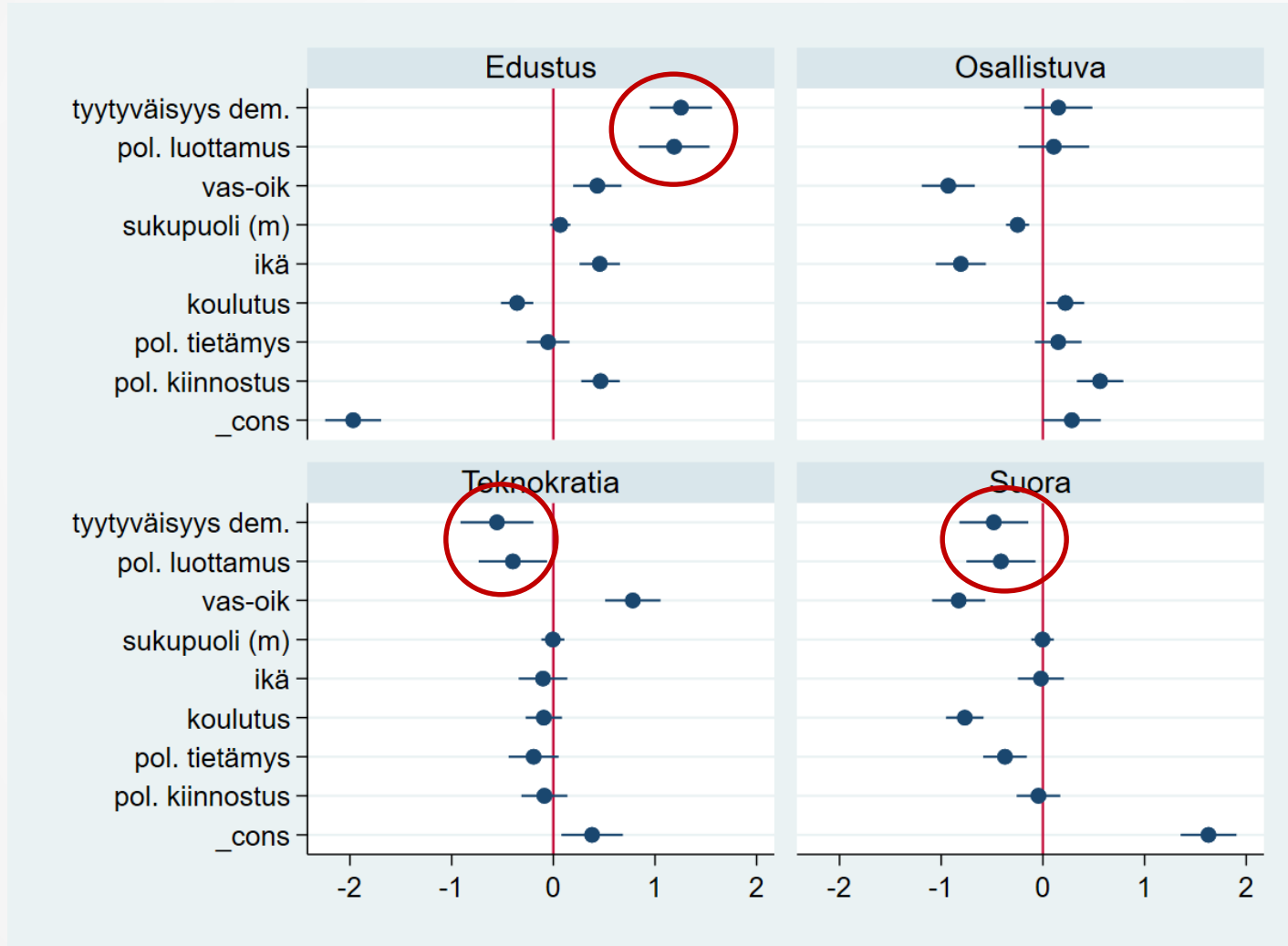
# **WHO WANTS WHAT?**

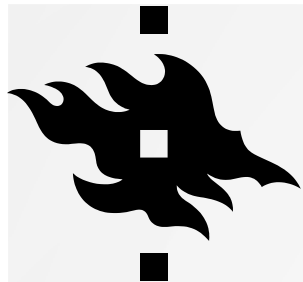
## **SPECIFIC FOCUS ON SATISFACTION WITH DEMOCRACY, POLITICAL TRUST AND IDEOLOGY**



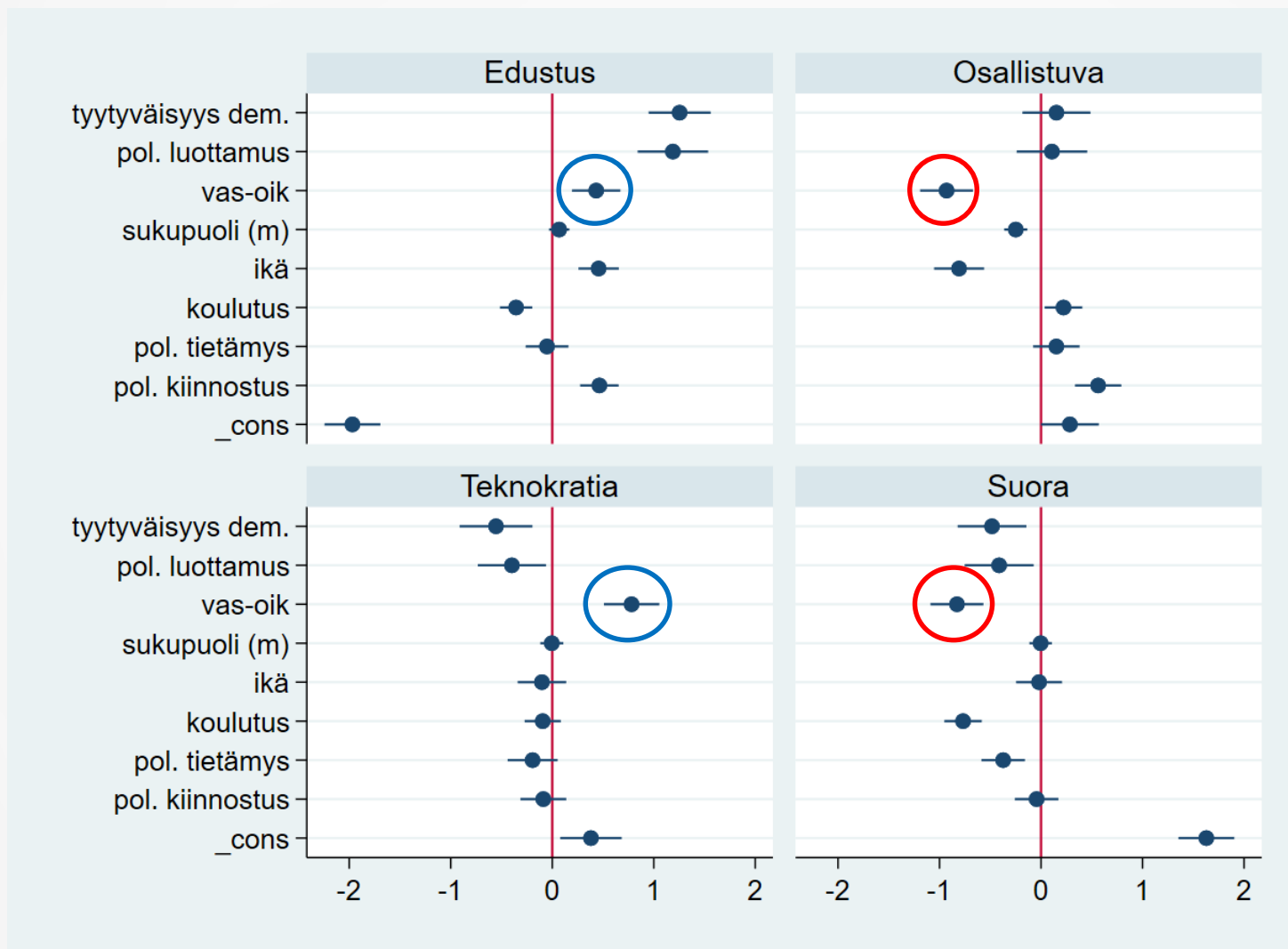


# DISSATISFIED CITIZENS LONG FOR CHANGE

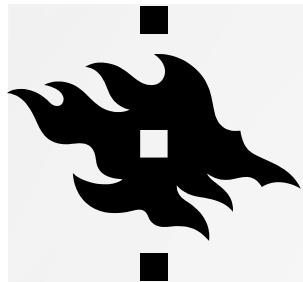




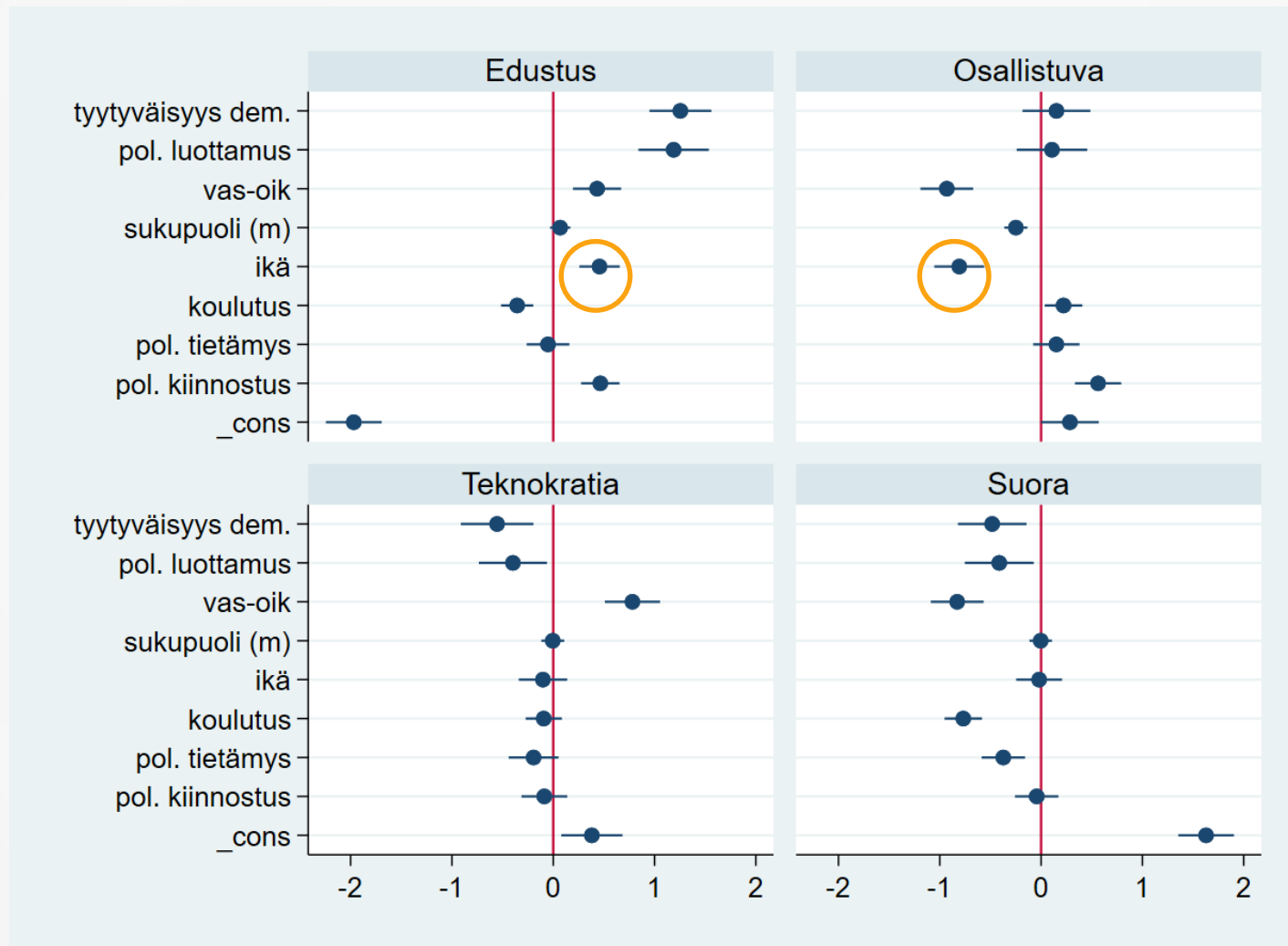
# IDEOLOGY: LEFT = PARTICIPATION

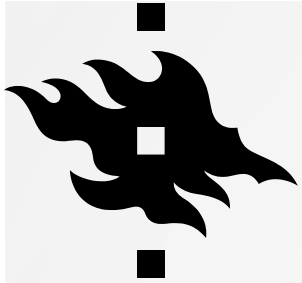




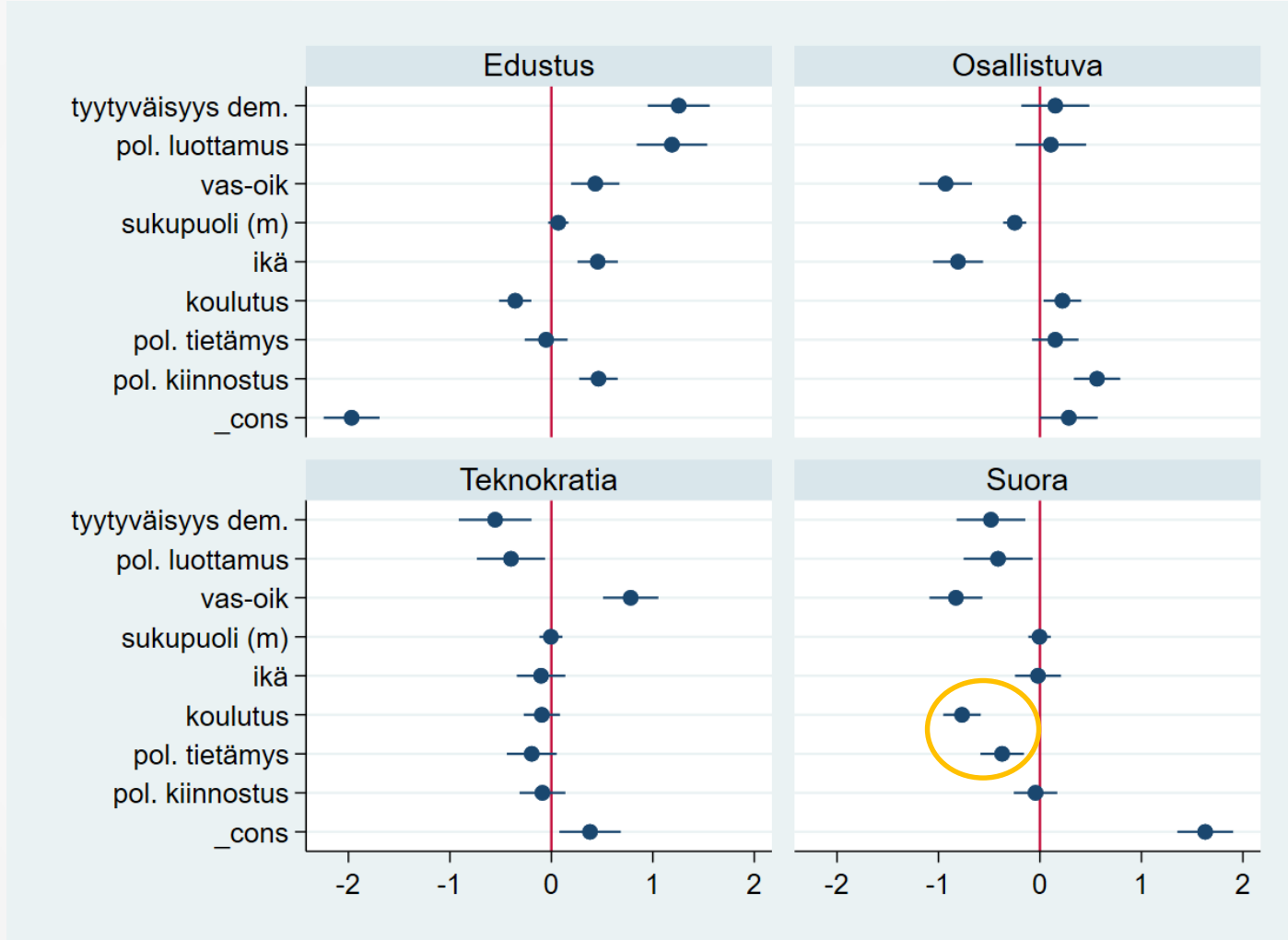


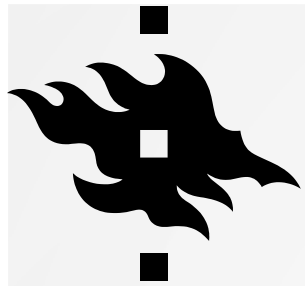
# A MATTER OF AGE?





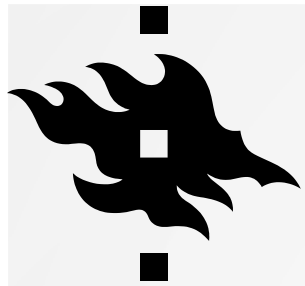
# DIRECT PROCESSES FAVOURED BY LOW-INFORMATION GROUPS





# CONCLUSIONS

- **Dissatisfied** citizens favours change
  - towards more direct democracy or technocratic solutions
- **Ideology** matters
  - more participation is favoured on the left, elitism on the right
- **Young** citizens favour more participatory processes
- **Low education** and **low political knowledge** fosters support for direct democracy



# IS DEMOCRACY IN NEED OF A FACELIFT?

Perhaps, and there is generally a high level of support for more participatory mechanisms.

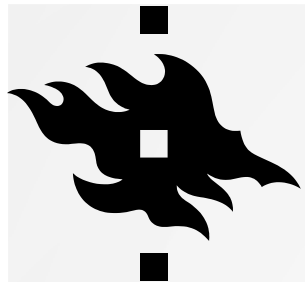
However, it is clear that there is no overarching consensus regarding the best way to organise democracy.

Each of the four models that have their core supporters:

*Representation, Participation, Direct voting, Technocracy*

→ **There is no perfect solution out there!**

All alternatives are likely to render some citizens dissatisfied



**THANKS!**  
**KIITOS!**  
**TACK!**