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People Power & Politics: Evaluating the impact of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa on climate policy and political efficacy in Lisbon

Marion Linde

Barnard College of Columbia University
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Advisor: Roberto Falanga

Academic Director: Dr. Càtia Magro
Assistant Academic Director: Joana Dionísio

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Abstract

As the social and ecological effects of climate change intensify, governments across the globe must evaluate how best to deal with the climate crisis. Likewise, increasing citizen participation in decision-making processes has been a key strategy for dealing with such issues. Theories on the benefits of citizen participation inform real practices such as democratic mini-publics and citizens assemblies. In Lisbon, Portugal, the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa implemented the first edition of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa (CCL) in May 2022. The CCL is a citizens assembly designed to directly involve residents in city policy-making, with the first edition focusing on the climate crisis. This paper seeks to evaluate the CCL in two ways: how has the CCL impacted Lisbon climate policy, and how has it affected citizen's internal and external political efficacy? Research conducted to answer these questions consist of interviews with government officials, personal surveys of Lisbon residents, and a survey of social media. The data collected shows that although small steps have been taken to implement CCL proposals, the council had no significant impact on Lisbon climate policy. The data also reveals that while citizens overwhelmingly support the CCL, it had little to no impact on their internal or external political efficacy due to a lack of concrete evidence of CCL influence.

Keywords: climate policy, participatory methods, citizens assemblies, deliberative democracy, political efficacy

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Introduction

Persistently progressing impacts of global climate change are creating urgent predicaments for the wellbeing of citizens across the globe. The most recent report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warns that ecological disasters such as extreme flooding, droughts, and wildfires will continue to threaten livelihoods with effects such as decreased crop productivity, increased spread of disease, and exacerbated water scarcity (Boehm et al. 2023). As time moves forward without enforceable international agreements limiting greenhouse gas emissions, the IPCC reports that there is over a 50% chance of global temperatures reaching or surpassing 1.5°C by 2040 (Boehm et al. 2023). With these statistics, feelings of pessimism and doom may easily arise; however, it is important to note the IPCC's repeated return to the vast amount of readily available solutions for mitigating the impacts of climate change. From measures as simple as reducing meat consumption or increasing public transportation to more complex projects like decarbonization, pathways of action that uphold social and ecological wellbeing clearly exist.

Though powerful international regulations dealing with climate change remain to be seen, a multitude of countries around the world have been working diligently to face the problem. In northern Europe, Denmark aims to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions 70% by 2030 primarily through the expansion of renewable energy infrastructures and investment in green technologies (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark 2023). Looking at southern Europe, Spain is working towards having 42% of their total energy usage come from renewables by 2030 (Simões & Andreo 2021). A newer leader in the climate policy world is Portugal, a nation that has been taking significant strides towards implementing sustainable initiatives and greening their economy. Between 2005 and 2019, Portugal's energy sector emissions fell by 50% in addition to transport sector emissions falling by 10.3% (Simões et al. 2021). The capital city of Lisbon was named as the 2020 European Green Capital for their efforts in constructing a more climate resilient city. Lisbon boasts comprehensive climate action in a variety of areas including public transportation, as evidenced by the fact that 93% of city residents live within 300 meters of public transportation (European Union 2020).

In 2022, Lisbon expanded their repertoire of climate action with the first installment of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa (CCL), a citizens assembly designed to increase resident participation in decision-making processes. The CCL is sponsored by the city government, the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa (CML), and it consists of 50 randomly-selected participants gathered to deliberate a policy issue of the government's choosing. Over the course of two days, participants are educated by experts on the chosen topic before working together to devise relevant policy proposals. In 2022, citizens discussed climate change and Lisbon's climate action plans. By the end of the session, participants created 7 sets of policy proposals featuring sustainable approaches to housing, advances to adopting a circular economy, increasing environmental literacy among citizens, and reducing impacts of heat within the city (Lisbon City Council 2022).

The CCL seeks to exhibit an innovative approach to policy-making that prioritizes the needs of citizens and communities before political or economic interests. The success of the CCL could contribute valuable insights for the future of climate policy and civic engagement in decision-making processes; however, there is a limited amount of published research evaluating the CCL. Initial reports from the Lisbon City Council and the University of Lisbon Institute of Social Sciences describe the methodology of the CCL in addition to preliminary analyses of the outcomes, but these works do not follow up on the implementation of devised proposals— an important aspect for understanding whether or not the CCL had a tangible impact on climate policy in Lisbon. Furthermore, the aforementioned reports discuss internal and external political efficacy for CCL participants. Internal political efficacy refers to an individual citizen’s belief in their ability to influence decision-making processes, while external political efficacy refers to citizens’ belief in the government’s ability to effectively respond to peoples’ needs (Falanga, 2022). While a discussion of the impacts the CCL had on participants’ political efficacy is provided, the impact of the CCL on non-participant’s political efficacy is unrecorded. Knowing whether the CCL broadly increased Lisbon residents’ trust in themselves and their government’s abilities is paramount for understanding the full scope of the CCL's effect on citizen participation in decision-making processes.

This paper thus aims to answer two central questions: What was the impact of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa on climate policy in Lisbon, and how did the CCL affect the political efficacy of Lisbon residents? Before answering these questions directly, this paper will provide background on the current state of climate policy in Lisbon/Portugal, a history of citizens assemblies and participatory methods, and a more in-depth overview of the CCL. Next, after a pause to discuss the methodology used for the paper, a critical analysis of the results of the CCL will be given. The paper will display qualitative research conducted to follow up on the implementation of proposals devised by CCL participants. Additionally, personal and social media surveys capture public opinion and potential changes in citizens’ political efficacy. Preceding the research period, it was hypothesized that the CCL would have a tangible impact on Lisbon climate policy and a positive impact on citizens’ internal and external political efficacy. However, the research for this paper shows that the policy impact of the CCL is limited, and the CCL had little to no impact on citizens’ political efficacy.

Background

2.1 Overview of Climate Policy in Portugal

To evaluate how the CCL has impacted climate policy in Lisbon, it is first essential to understand the state of climate policy in Lisbon/Portugal preceding the commencement of the council. As mentioned in the introduction, Portugal has more recently become a leader in climate action. This initiative is reflected in the nation’s legislation which boasts eight laws and twenty-six policies specifically relating to sustainability and climate change (Graham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment 2023). Additionally, throughout all of the

nation's laws and policies, there are a total of 86 targets or goals on topics related to the environment.

Portugal's climate laws go back to 2000 with *Law No. 93/2001 Establishing Procedures in Order to Prevent Climatic Changes and their Effects*. This law created the National Observatory on Climate Change with the goal of collecting data and research on Portugal's shifting climate while also requiring the government to devise a plan to reduce carbon emissions (Graham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment 2023). The next law addressing climate change in Portugal came in 2006 with *Law No. 27/2006 on Civil Protection*. This legislation looks at disaster management, and more specifically, the prevention, response and recovery plans for handling disasters (Graham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment 2023). With environmental disasters set to become stronger and more frequent due to climate change, having adequate disaster management plans is paramount for the safety of civilians. Beginning in 2014, there is a notable shift in Portugal's climate legislation. While these first laws initiated further research and preliminary mitigation strategies, they did not address human behavior as a primary catalyst of climate change. With *Law No. 19/2014 Defining the Bases of Environmental Policy*, the Portuguese government officially recognized human behavior as driving climate change, waste/overconsumption, chemical pollutants, etc (Graham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment 2023). More robust climate action appeared from this moment onwards addressing topics such as the green economy/finances, use of geological resources, and climate justice.

In 2021, Portugal passed their most advanced climate law to date—*Framework Climate Law No. 98/2021*. This law is comprehensive in that it addresses the trifecta of social, economic, and ecological consequences caused by climate change. In regards to the social aspects, the law commits to protecting communities most vulnerable to climate change, combatting energy poverty by bettering living conditions, and promoting education on climate change and mitigation efforts (Graham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment 2023). Economically, the law promotes the circular economy, fosters green growth & prosperity, advocates for sustainable financing with increased information on climate risks, and commits to generating employment opportunities. Lastly on the ecological side of things, this law has articles tackling food waste, protecting biodiversity and ecosystem services, furthering the transition to renewable energies, developing carbon sinks, and committing to being net-zero in emissions by 2050 (Graham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment 2023). Another key feature of the law is the creation of the Council for Climate Action which will work in tandem with the legislative and executive branches of the Portuguese government to design and implement meaningful climate policy. The *Framework Climate Law* established a strong foundation for environmental policy in Portugal with a clear pathway for how Portugal plans to handle the climate crisis in the coming years.

Beyond these main laws, Portugal has a myriad of other policies and legislative articles centered on more niche aspects of their overall climate action plan. Policies on carbon capture and storage, the use of biomass, promotion of electric vehicle usage, etc. dating back to the early

2000s (Graham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment 2023) show a consistent dedication to addressing climate change and its range of socioeconomic and ecological impacts.

Zoning into the capital city of Lisbon, the local government (Câmara Municipal de Lisboa) has additional policies for ensuring long term sustainability and resilience against the effects of climate change. Lisbon has its own Climate Adaptation Plan, participates in the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, and is an active member of the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (European Union 2020). As briefly mentioned in the introduction of this paper, Lisbon has put a significant amount of effort into reducing carbon emissions through increasing access to public transportation and bettering mobility throughout the city. For example, Lisbon has free public transport for children under 13 years old along with reduced fares for senior citizens; furthermore, the city has increased the municipal bike sharing system leading to over 20,000 journeys per day via bikes (European Union 2020). Looking at electric vehicle (EV) usage, Lisbon has been incentivizing the transition to EVs for over a decade with initiatives such as free parking for EVs, tax breaks for first time buyers, and installing more charging stations throughout the city (European Union 2020). Lisbon has also been known to utilize nature-based solutions to improve ecosystem services and well-being of the environment. One such solution is the implementation of green corridors— smaller green areas (usually in a linear shape) that connect larger green spaces— throughout the entire metropolitan area. Green corridors aid in reducing temperatures throughout the city, preventing flooding, absorbing excess carbon dioxide, and preserving biodiversity while simultaneously benefiting communities by increasing shade, promoting physical activity, and bettering mental health (European Union 2020).

Complimenting all of these approaches, Lisbon has put particular emphasis on community-oriented solutions that amplify citizens' voices and increase engagement with government initiatives. A noteworthy example of this is the city's Urban Allotment Garden Programme which transformed vacant green spaces into community gardens in 20 different parks across the city (European Union 2020). These gardens produce over 260 tonnes of food annually and are used by over 750 families, schools and community organizations, successfully embodying the central purpose of increasing social inclusion. Although not directly related to climate action, Lisbon also has a participatory budgeting process that greatly boosts citizen engagement. Participatory budgeting gives residents the opportunity to propose ideas for projects in their communities that citizens vote on to approve; winning projects receive government funding and promotion (European Union 2020). Over 300,000 citizens have voted in participatory budgeting with €25.2 million invested in projects that have already been implemented. 139 projects were in motion as of 2020, and 35 of those were directly related to the environment and sustainability plus 18 more projects related to mobility (European Union 2020). These citizen-led projects have directly led to climate friendly outcomes such as increased pedestrian and cycling paths, gardens, and a fruit orchard.

The above overview of climate policy in Portugal and Lisbon demonstrates that the nation and its capital city has a strong foundation of meaningful climate action. However, there is room for existing programs to be improved upon and an indisputable need for more solutions that address climate change's dynamic impacts.

2.2 Participatory Methods & Deliberative Democracy

Participatory budgeting and the other citizen-oriented initiatives described in the previous section relate to the larger field of participatory methods in research and policy-making. Participatory methods broadly refers to the involvement of local people in decision-making processes that directly affect their lives (Beazley & Ennew 2006). Participatory methods, sometimes referred to as participatory research, upholds the idea that concepts utilized by professionals to interpret problems within a community are often different from the realities and lived experiences of those actual residents. Thus, the people whose lives are being researched should be actively involved in data collection, analysis, and decision-making (Beazley & Ennew 2006). There are wide ranging benefits to participatory methods such as including historically marginalized voices and addressing community needs more accurately. A case study utilizing participatory methods in the debate on green energy transitions revealed that these practices mitigate unforeseen biases, bring in more diverse perspectives, explore more possible outcomes, and highlight underlying community values (Ernst et al. 2018).

A parallel concept to participatory methods is the political theory of deliberative democracy. Deliberative democracy is a concept of collective decision-making that represents ideal discussions between people in an equal state (Falanga 2023). Furthermore, deliberative democracy centers reason as a key aspect to the functioning of democracy. Collective power, as represented by democratic institutions, is regulated by the reasoning of the people (Cohen 2007). Reasoning in this instance extends beyond conversation about preferences or interests, but rather refers to how people understand and rationalize the worlds they live in and the institutions that govern them. Deliberative democracy therefore is about citizens discussing and debating their various reasonings in order to come to collective decisions on societal issues.

One form of deliberative democracy in action is the idea of deliberative mini-publics (DMPs). While there are a multitude of definitions for this practice, DMPs generally aim to form public opinion by randomly selecting a group of people to participate in a series of meetings. The topics of these meetings are selected by a government or political institution, and can be about any kind of social, economic, or political issue of relevance (Falanga 2023). The host institution will promote their theme by educating participants with data or testimonies from experts so that participants have an adequate understanding of the problem being discussed (Falanga 2023).

While the political theory focus of this section may feel unconnected to the research objectives, a robust understanding of participatory methods, deliberative democracy, and DMPs is significant as these theories have led to the evolution of the citizens assembly and the CCL. The next section will go into more detail on what citizens assemblies are and how they have been used to create collective change on a variety of societal issues

2.3 Citizens Assemblies

As just stated, the citizens assembly is a kind of democratic mini-public used throughout the world today. Citizens assemblies (CAs) hold a similar definition and structure to that of the more broad DMP; they are groups of randomly selected citizens who gather and deliberate on a chosen topic in order to devise policy proposals, local initiatives, etc. Citizens assemblies are usually held at the town or city level, but can also be held at the national scale. The typical CA has 100 participants and is separated into three phases: learning, deliberation, and decision-making (Falanga 2023). As with a DMP, selected participants are educated by a panel of experts on the chosen topic before group deliberations commence. Citizens assemblies typically consist of a series of meetings and can take place over a couple of days, weeks, or even months.

One of the first CAs occurred in the early 2000s in British Columbia, Canada over electoral reform. Citizens were selected from a voter list and asked to assess the current electoral system; if they disliked the system, citizens were directed to propose a replacement system (Fornier 2011). More recently, citizens assemblies were used to address the COVID-19 pandemic in Oregon, USA. Citizens were tasked with evaluating the state's response to the pandemic alongside offering new recommendations— a particularly interesting case study due to the completely remote/online format (Gastil et al. 2022). In the United Kingdom, a recent study assessed a citizens assembly organized by the city of York. This citizens assembly was centered on food systems and worked with residents to relocalise food production and target the issue of food waste (Doherty et al. 2020). The above case studies demonstrate the wide array of topics CAs have addressed. From extremely local initiatives to policy proposals for a nation, CAs have become a widespread tool for amplifying citizens' voices in decision-making processes and ensuring more accurate representation of public needs.

Important to note for their similarity to the CCL, multiple citizens assemblies have focused specifically on climate change with overwhelmingly positive results. Ireland's 2016-2018 Citizens Assembly on climate change is a particularly interesting case study as it reveals valuable insights for the potential power of deliberative methods. Beginning in 2016, the government of Ireland created a citizens assembly with 99 participants to deliberate how the nation should handle the climate crisis (among other topics). The assembly constructed thirteen solutions outlining ambitious goals for making the country a leader in mitigating climate change. Citizens argued for making climate change a central issue on Ireland's policy agenda, devised plans for retrofitting buildings, and argued for the imposition of increased taxes on carbon-intensive activities (Muradova et al. 2020). The suggestions given by the CA greatly informed Ireland's official Climate Action Plan and led to the creation of a government committee focused on responding to each of the assembly's recommendations (Devaney et al. 2020). Analysis of the Ireland case study revealed that proposals put forth by citizens were significantly more radical than expected, proving the ability of CAs to boost public support for progressive climate policy (Muradova et al. 2020).

2.4 History of Participatory Methods in Lisbon

While the first edition of the CCL is a renewed step towards more wide spread citizen participation in decision-making for Lisbon, it is not the first measure the city has taken to amplify the voices of their residents. Lisbon has sanctioned a variety of projects and initiatives implementing participatory methods in the past, such as the aforementioned Urban Allotment Garden Programme and Participatory Budgeting (PB). In fact, the whole of Portugal has one of the highest rates of participatory programmes in the world with over 180 initiatives. The valuation of citizen participation in governmental processes began as early as the 1970s with the fall of Portugal's former dictatorship, but became more central to the nation during the fallout of the 2008 financial crisis with the implementation of participatory budgeting (Falanga 2018). From 2008 and 2012, five million euros was annually allocated to PB (after 2012 this number was reduced to 2.5 million). Individual citizens are the driving force of the process, as opposed to organized groups/social movements, generating a structure that relies on the abilities of individuals to garner support for their proposed projects (Falanga 2018). The success of participatory budgeting in Lisbon and Portugal created a strong foundation of citizen engagement over a decade prior to the commencement of the CCL.

Moreover, participatory budgeting in Lisbon has directly contributed to urban sustainability in the city. A plethora of PB projects such as parks, gardens, pedestrian pathways, etc, revealed the high level to which Lisbon residents value their urban environment and their desire to preserve and increase the greenness of their city (Falanga, Verheij & Bina 2021). The continued interest in projects related to the environment and sustainability led to the designation of urban sustainability as a thematic focus for the Lisbon participatory budgeting program in 2020/2021 (Falanga, Verheij & Bina 2021). The initiatives proposed by Lisbon residents promote sustainability with an emphasis on social justice, inclusion, and community care— an important insight as it contrasts the dominant narrative focused on green economic growth and technological advancements as solutions to the climate crisis (Falanga, Verheij & Bina 2021).

Outside of participatory budgeting, Lisbon has employed a variety of additional participatory programs including multiple centered on sustainability and urban regeneration. From 2018-2021, funding from the EU created the Horizon 2020 UrbanA project for community members and policy-makers alike to collaborate on initiatives that work towards the creation of a just and sustainable city (Crowley et al. 2021). In the neighborhood of Mouraria, one of the oldest and most diverse of the city, UrbanA hosted a conference with citizens and city officials to discuss Lisbon's ongoing housing crisis and propose solutions for how the problem needs to be addressed moving forwards (Crowley et al. 2021). Another main participatory initiative of Lisbon is the BipZip program, also referred to as the Neighborhoods and Policy Intervention Zones of Lisbon. BipZip aims to bolster collaboration between the municipal government and residents of vulnerable neighborhoods through projects created by and for local communities (Bip/Zip Lisboa, 2023) The program has 67 priority neighborhoods as targets for intervention and regeneration in which residents can apply for grants of up to 50,000 euros to facilitate projects that develop urban, ecological, or social improvements within their community

(Crowley et al. 2021). The above programs are only two of many examples of initiatives in Lisbon that demonstrate the city's consistent commitment to citizen participation in decision-making processes. These pre-existing projects have established a substantial infrastructure of civic engagement on which the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa, the focus of this paper, is built.

2.5 Detailed Overview of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa

To summarize what has been discussed so far, the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa is a citizen's assembly hosted by the Lisbon municipal government with the goal of increasing citizen participation in decision-making processes. The first edition of the CCL occurred on May 14th and 15th, 2022. The CCL was announced to the public in January of 2022. The theme of the first edition was climate change, and the main question of deliberation was: "What must we do to enable Lisbon to face the challenges posed by climate change?" (Lisbon City Council 2022). Like all citizens assemblies, participants were randomly selected, and all citizens above the age of 16 who reside, work, or study in Lisbon were eligible to participate.

As this was the first edition of the CCL, the enrollment process differed slightly from the usual selection procedures of a citizens assembly. Rather than randomly selecting from a voter list or census, the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa published an online enrollment form for all eligible people to register on in addition to distributing in-person forms that residents could fill out at specific locations. The CML received 2,351 responses between January 27th and April 22nd of 2022, and from this pool they randomly selected 50 people to participate (Lisbon City Council 2022). The CML did not collect names or personal information, but did ask for gender, age, academic qualifications, vocation, and area of residence. Moreover, the CML hired a third-party organization that specializes in selecting participants of CAs—the Citizens' Forum association—to utilize the data collected in the random selection process to ensure diverse representation on the council (Lisbon City Council 2022). 50 substitute participants were also selected, and 43 participants were present during the CCL meetings.

Throughout May 14th and 15th, the CCL was divided into three phases with the first being learning. A significant portion of the first day was spent educating participants on the theme and relevant background information. Participants spoke with 4 experts on climate studies: Júlia Seixas, Catarina Freitas, Pedro Barata, and Roberta Medina. The experts have experience in energy policy, sustainable business practices, carbon markets, environmental engineering, etc (Lisbon City Council 2022). Participants had time to deliberate with experts and ask questions to secure their understanding of the topics. Important to note is the division of participants into seven groups each focusing on a different topic and devising different proposals. The themes of the seven groups were Housing, Consumption and Behavioral Change, CML Relations with Citizens, Transport and Mobility, Public Spaces, Environmental Education, and Energy Efficiency (Lisbon City Council 2022). The purpose of breaking down into smaller groups was to allow participants to hone in on more specific topics rather than attempting to address the whole scope of climate mitigation strategies in two days.

The next phase, deliberation, consisted of participants discussing and debating possible solutions with one another. Representatives from the CML, the climate experts, and other third party representatives remained in the space to be available for any potential questions or concerns from participants (Falanga 2023). On the second day of the conference, the deliberation phase came to an end marking the beginning of the third and final stage, decision-making. During the deliberation phase, groups devised a set of solutions and policy proposals for Lisbon to effectively deal with the climate crisis. Each of the seven groups selected two participants to be representatives for the large group. These representatives were designated as ambassadors (Lisbon City Council 2022). Ambassadors first presented proposals to fellow CCL participants, followed by the presentation of proposals to the Mayor of Lisbon, Social Rights Coordinator, and Municipal Director for the Environment. Following the conclusion of the conference, ambassadors formed their own council in tandem with CML officials to follow up on the implementation of CCL proposals (Lisbon City Council 2022). A final debate then occurred before the conference ended. All proposals presented are listed at the end of this paper in the Appendix section. Highlights of the proposals include ambitious policies for recovering and transforming abandoned housing, improving energy efficiency in buildings, investing in the circular economy, significant expansions of public transportation, and prioritizing environmental education in schools (Lisbon City Council 2022).

To generate an unbiased analysis, the Lisbon City Council enlisted the efforts of the Institute of Social Sciences at the University of Lisbon to author a full evaluatory report on the first edition of the CCL. The findings of this report offer paramount insights into participant satisfaction and impacts on participant political efficacy. Overall, participant satisfaction with their experience was high with 5% being “completely satisfied,” 56% being “very satisfied” and an additional 32% being “reasonably satisfied” (Lisbon City Council, 2022). Participants expressed contentment with most of the logistic processes, with a few suggestions for how the learning, deliberation, and decision-making phases could be improved upon in future editions. Interesting to note is the attitude of participants about their participation and their lack of change in opinions at the end of their experience. Many participants expressed an initial desire to take part in the CCL as they felt it was their “duty” as a citizen or because they were interested in registering their opinion on the topic (Falanga 2023). Because people voluntarily registered to be selected before actually being chosen, this explains why the available pool of applicants consisted of individuals who already had an interest in government, politics, and political action. These pre-existing attitudes of participants could have contributed to rates of high satisfaction with the experience, high ability to tolerate others’ proposals, and low changes in personal opinions (Falanga 2023; Lisbon City Council 2022). These statistics are visualized in the figures provided by the Lisbon City Council and advisor to the CML Roberto Falanga:

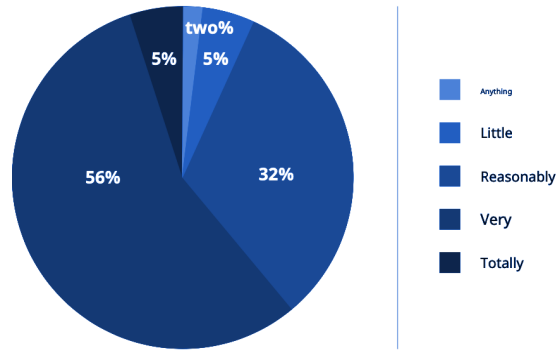


Figure 1. Satisfaction of CCL participants with their experience. Falanga, R. (2023). Deliberative democracy in Portugal: Learning from the first edition of the Lisbon Citizens' Council. In *Democracy in Portugal 2022* (pp. 87-102).

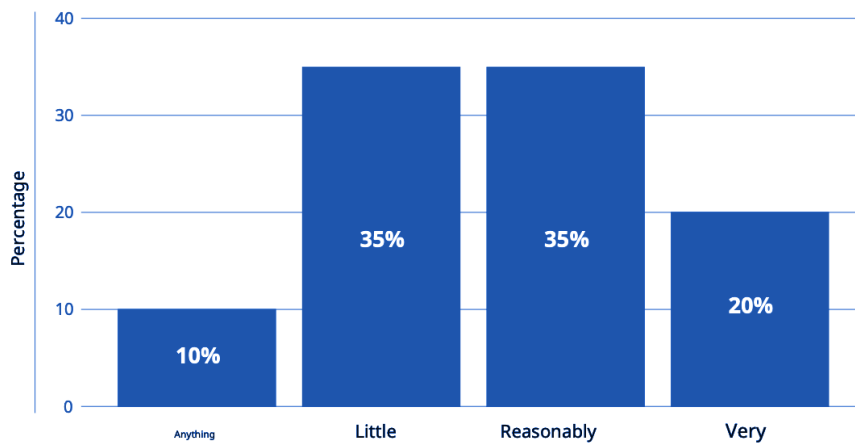


Figure 2. Change of Opinions of CCL Participants. Falanga, R. (2023).

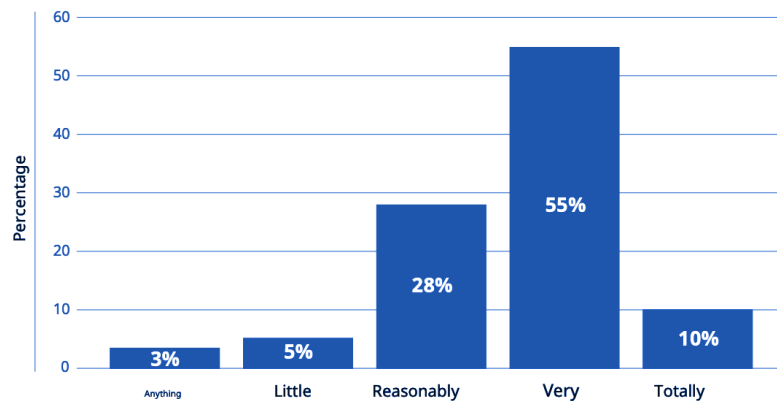


Figure 3. Ability of CCL Participants to tolerate and deliberate with others. Falanga, R. (2023).

On the topic of political efficacy, CCL participants showed no change in levels of confidence in their individual ability to influence decision-making (no change in internal political efficacy); however, their belief in the political system's ability to adequately respond to citizen needs increased (positive increase in external political efficacy) (Falanga 2023).

Although the effects of the CCL on political efficacy of participants was recorded, the impact of the CCL on the political efficacy of non-participant citizens is undetermined. The results and discussion section of this paper will provide data that seeks to fill this research gap and provide a more holistic understanding of the CCL's influence on citizens' political efficacy. Additionally, the results and discussion section will examine whether the 7 sets of proposals from the CCL have been considered, implemented, or made a tangible impact on Lisbon climate policy.

Methodology

3.1 Collection of Data

This paper uses an analysis of qualitative data to understand the impact of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa on climate policy and political efficacy. Before collecting data, a thorough literature review of relevant background topics was conducted to provide adequate context to the research question. Topics to research were selected by evaluating whether they would provide clarity and assist in understanding the central research objectives. The literature review was done using Google Scholar, Science Direct, School for International Training Course resources, and reputable websites (such as government websites, university websites, research institutes, etc). For understanding the state of climate policy in Portugal and Lisbon, the EU provided essential resources detailing their legislative histories. When discussing participatory methods, mini-publics, and citizens assemblies more broadly, academic journals and scholarly articles provided ample resources for background information. Information on the CCL specifically was found through the Portuguese government's website as well as Roberto Falanga, the advisor to this project and the advisor to the CML on the citizen's council in collaboration with the Institute of Social Sciences at the University of Lisbon.

3.2 Ethical Considerations for Interviews & Surveys

In addition to qualitative research in the form of scholarly articles, data was also collected through an interview with Portuguese government employees, a survey of Lisbon residents, and a social media survey. The purpose of these interviews/surveys was to better understand how CCL proposals have been acted upon by the government and to gain insight into public opinion on the CCL. The full processes and ethical considerations of these interviews/surveys is explained below.

For the interview with Portuguese government officials, the meeting took place via Zoom. The two employees were first informed of the purpose of the project and what research had occurred thus far. Then, the interviewees were asked for their verbal and written consent to

be quoted or paraphrased in this research paper. Verbal consent was given during the meeting, and written consent was given through signing an Informed Consent form (shown in the Appendix of this paper) which gave further details about the study procedures and confidentiality. Interviewees were encouraged to only share information they felt comfortable discussing, and were allowed to opt out of any questions at any time. No audio recording of the interview occurred, but notes were taken via computer. Interviewees were asked the following questions:

- ❖ “Can you please explain your role in the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa and the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa?”
- ❖ “CCL participants proposed 7 solutions for the government to take action on. What is the status of those proposals, or where in the process of becoming policy/law are these proposals?”
- ❖ “What kind of publicity was done to promote the CCL?”
- ❖ “Do you feel the CML adequately publicized the convening of the CCL in addition to its outcomes?”

To gain the public perspective, two forms of surveys were completed. The first was a survey of resident opinion’s on the CCL. This survey was created as a Google Form which was sent to all participants to complete. The survey was sent to participants found via personal and professional networking– a limitation of the study to be discussed in more depth in the conclusion of this paper. The survey had a small number of participants with only 9 respondents (another limitation to be discussed later). The description of the survey informed participants about the project, its purpose, and a brief background/description of the CCL. The first question of the survey was to gain respondents’ acknowledgements that all data collected was anonymous, to gain consent for their responses to be quoted, and to consent to their answers being used in the case of the paper being published. To ensure the privacy and anonymity of respondents, no names or contact information were collected. The survey was then divided into two sections: demographic information and opinions on the CCL. The section on demographic information asked the respondents for the following information:

- ❖ Gender Identity
- ❖ Level of Education
- ❖ Occupation
- ❖ Neighborhood of residence

Answers to these questions were sought because they are the same demographic questions asked by the Lisbon city council to CCL participants. The next section of the survey asked the following questions:

- ❖ “Have you already heard of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa?”
- ❖ “If you have already heard about the CCL, what are your thoughts on the project?”
- ❖ “If you had not already heard of the CCL, what are your initial thoughts about the project?”

- ❖ “How does the CCL affect your belief in the ability of individual citizens to influence government decision-making processes?”
- ❖ “How does the CCL affect your belief in the government’s ability to respond to citizen needs?”

This set of questions was asked to garner public knowledge and opinion about CCL. The final two questions aim to understand how the CCL impacted residents' internal and external political efficacy respectively. Other ethical considerations for this survey include all questions being asked in both English and Portuguese in addition to encouraging respondents to answer in whatever language they felt most comfortable in. Answers were given in both English and Portuguese.

The second survey was conducted via Twitter to obtain a more widespread understanding of public opinion and CCL impacts on political efficacy of Lisbon residents. Using Twitter Explore, the phrase ‘Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa’ was searched. Tweets from January 2022 (when the CCL was first announced) up until now were observed and monitored. All tweets found that were relevant and/or expressing opinions on the CCL were recorded. Tweets included independently written tweets, replies to tweets, replies to tweets from Lisbon government accounts about the CCL, quote tweets, etc. Privacy of people was ensured by only accessing public tweets and by blocking out all names, usernames, and profile pictures in figures to be displayed in this paper. Other phrases to find tweets about the CCL were searched including ‘CCL,’ ‘Citizens Council Lisbon,’ ‘Lisbon Citizens Council’ ‘#LisboaParticipa.’ The phrase that garnered the most viable data was ‘Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa. Twitter was chosen to survey over other social media platforms because the CML used Twitter to publicize the CCL significantly more than they used other social media platforms such as Instagram. This twitter survey was conducted as a supplement to the first survey described above due to the small sample size of respondents.

Results and Discussion

4.1 Government Insight on CCL Influence

To understand the full scope of the CCL’s impact on climate policy and political efficacy of Lisbon residents, it is advantageous to acquire the perspective of the organizers themselves—the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa. The CML has a Participation Division that was heavily involved in the design and hosting of the council. Two employees of the Participation Department were interviewed for this research paper. The names and personal information of the employees will not be shared to ensure their privacy, and instead will be referred to as Employee #1 and Employee #2. Both employees interviewed were involved in the organization and facilitation of the CCL.

The first question asked to the employees was about what progress has been made on CCL proposals. The employees stated that the ambassadors chosen at the end of the conference have met two additional times with the mayor and other city council officials to discuss the CCL

proposals that were most similar to pre-existing government initiatives. These proposals were chosen to be discussed first as they would be easiest to act on due to this likeness.

From here, there have been two main programs implemented as a direct result of the CCL. The first program is an awareness campaign on preserving the city environment. The government has published posters across the city about improving the city environment through better waste management practices and keeping green spaces in the city clean. This initiative reflects the group of proposals focused on Environmental Education. The second program directly resulting from the CCL is an open streets initiative. One Sunday every month, the streets around Praça de Alegria and other city gardens will be closed for citizens to safely walk around. On these days, the government will sponsor sporting and cultural events in the neighborhoods and partner with local businesses to bolster street commerce. This project reflects the “garden on every corner” idea addressed in the Public Spaces theme of CCL proposals. Other general initiatives the government is pursuing that reflect some of the proposals of the CCL are programs to bring people back into the city and provide affordable housing, projects to recover abandoned housing, and energy improvements to housing in Lisbon.

The two employees also spoke about the publicity process of the CCL. They explained that in the lead up to the council, the CML used social media, their website, posters on city streets, and in-person meetings to inform citizens about the first edition of the CCL. One employee expressed that they believed the initial publicity to make citizens aware of the CCL was sufficient in spreading the message; however, this employee also stated that there was not enough publicity after the CCL concluded sharing devised proposals with Lisbon residents. The outcomes of CCL meetings were thus not thoroughly disseminated, leaving citizens uninformed.

With that said, the employees explained that efforts were undertaken to brief citizens on CCL outcomes. Throughout the entire process leading up to, during, and after the end of the CCL, the government was continually updating resources on their website and publicizing the council across their social media accounts. Additionally, the government held in-person meetings in neighborhoods they identified as being less likely to receive information through social media or online resources. Moving forwards, one employee stated that they would like to see more in-person meetings held with local communities and government officials as they believed this is one of the most effective ways for the CML to spread information. The CML is aware that they need to increase their outreach efforts moving forwards, and there are internal goals prioritizing reaching more diverse populations.

From the conversation with the Participation Department employees, two central conclusions can be extrapolated. First, the policy impact of the CCL is considerably limited. With the exception of the two initiatives described above (which were acted upon due to their ability to blend into pre-existing initiatives), no real policy changes have resulted from the CCL’s proposals. Despite the ambassadors’ efforts of meeting with city officials twice since the first edition of the CCL, no proposals have been transformed into legislation or enforced regulations. Secondly, the government was unsuccessful in widely informing non-participant citizens about the outcome of the CCL, suggesting that citizens are not aware enough of the initiative to have a

solidly formed opinion or notable change in political efficacy. The following section will take a more direct look at public opinion with a survey that builds upon the insights of the Participant Department employees.

4.2 Impact on Public Political Efficacy: Personal Surveys

A small survey of Lisbon residents conducted for this paper confirms the lack of awareness about the CCL as discussed by the government employees; likewise, the survey demonstrated little to no impact on citizen political efficacy. Respondents to the survey ranged from age 19 to 41, with 66% of respondents being men and 33% being women. Over 77% of respondents completed higher education, and they represent a variety of vocations including a lawyer, student, Human Resources employee, non-profit president, and sales representative. The respondents hail from the Lisbon neighborhoods of Lumiar, São Domingos de Benfica, Arroios, Baixa-Chiado, Sacavém, Misericórdia, and Olivais in addition to two individuals who work/study in the city but reside outside city limits in Bidoeira de Cima and Paço de Arcos.

The first substantive question asked participants whether they had heard of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa prior to this survey. 78% of respondents replied that they had not heard of the CCL, and 22% responded that they had. The following two questions asked respondents their thoughts on the CCL whether they had or had not heard about the council. Despite the low rate of knowledge on the CCL, every respondent gave an answer offering support for the initiative. One respondent stated that the CCL appeared to be a “great initiative on behalf of the government to let the voice of the people be heard” and a “great opportunity to tackle different matters.” Another participant in the survey exclaimed that the CCL was an “interesting approach and unique strategy to diversify brainstorming capacities,” with a third declaring that the initiative was a good way to “integrate the voice” of citizens into politics.

The final two questions of the survey aim to evaluate respondents' internal and external political efficacy. In response to the question asking whether the CCL affected their belief in the ability of individual citizens to influence decision-making (internal political efficacy), survey participants had mixed sentiments. Two people answered that their beliefs did not change with one of those respondents stating that they felt the execution of the CCL was “lacking.” Two responses to this question re-asserted that the initiative was good in theory, but they still believed the CCL should have been “better promoted” and that it is still “difficult to influence” decision-making processes. On a similar note, one answer expressed that they would need to have “specific examples” of the CCL creating “some sort of influence” to “believe its authenticity.” A standout response to this question reported that they thought the ability of individual citizens to have significant influence could be “dangerous” as many citizens do not care about “preserving our planet.” The final question of the survey inquired about whether the CCL affected respondents' beliefs in the ability of the government to sufficiently respond to citizen needs and opinions (external political efficacy). This question garnered slightly more indifferent feedback, with answers such as “not really,” “don't know,” and “did not affect.” One

respondent again stated a need for more “specific examples” of the government effectively listening to citizens.

Despite the general support for the idea of the CCL, respondents of the survey demonstrated an overarching unawareness among citizens with little to no positive impact for internal or external political efficacy. The CCL’s failure to increase citizens' trust in their own abilities or the adequacy of their political institutions is likely due to the lack of concrete examples proving the CCL’s social and political impacts.

4.3 Impact on Public Political Efficacy: Social Media Survey

The rise of social media over the past decade has provided more space for the public to share opinions on political matters. Considering the small sample size of the above survey, social media serves as a supplemental resource for understanding public opinion on the CCL. Starting with Twitter, most of the posts related to the CCL were made by the Lisbon City Council for publicity purposes or were tweets promoting informative news articles about the conference. There was a smaller than expected amount of tweets about the CCL from the general public, with most tweets being in the form of a reply or a quote tweet. When looking at tweets made by the public, repeated sentiments arose.

First, there were a handful of tweets interested in or supporting the initiative. One user commented that they signed up for the council to “see what happens” and that they believed the CCL seemed like a great way to attract young people to politics. In one tweet just after the conclusion of the first edition of the CCL, another user commented on the progressive quality of ideas seen in participant proposals.



...

Inscrevi-me no conselho de cidadãos de Lisboa, a ver o que isto dá.

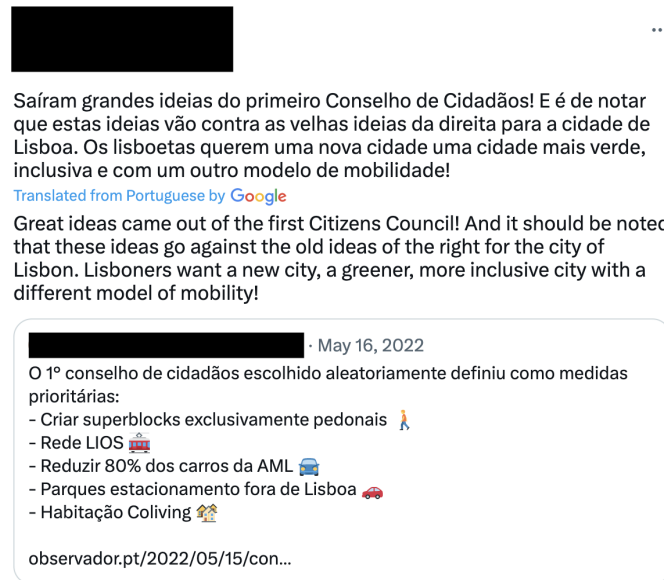
Mas parece-me uma excelente iniciativa da CML especialmente para puxar jovens.

Translated from Portuguese by Google

I signed up for Lisbon's citizens' council to see what happens.

But it seems to me to be an excellent initiative by the CML, especially to attract young people.

6:17 PM · Jan 31, 2022



Figures 4a and 4b. Tweets expressing support for the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa.

A second common sentiment among users paralleled the perspective of survey respondents from the preceding section of this paper. Although they believed the CCL was a favorable idea put forth with good intentions, they questioned the effectiveness of the initiative. For example, one tweet stated that they had “reasonable doubts” about whether the CCL would have a significant impact.

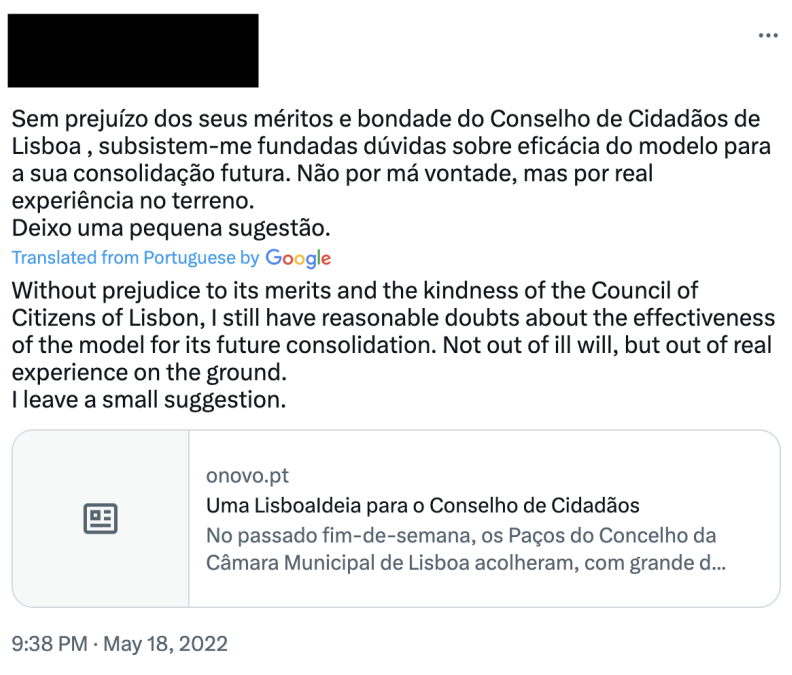


Figure 5. Tweet showing concern for the effectiveness of the CCL.

Also reflecting the answers received from respondents to the personal survey, some twitter users conveyed confusion or unawareness about what the CCL was and its purpose. As shown in the tweet below, this user did not understand why they had received a letter from the CML inviting them to participate in the council.

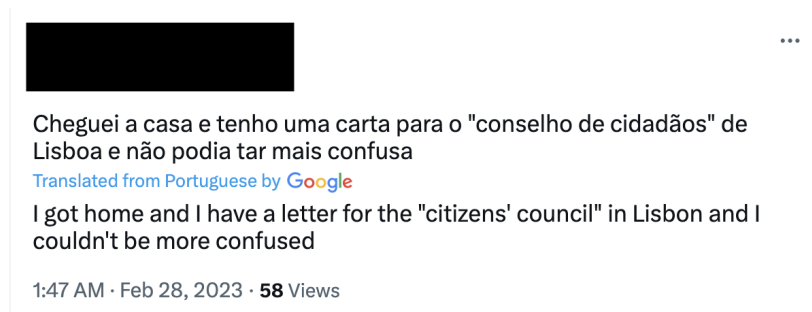
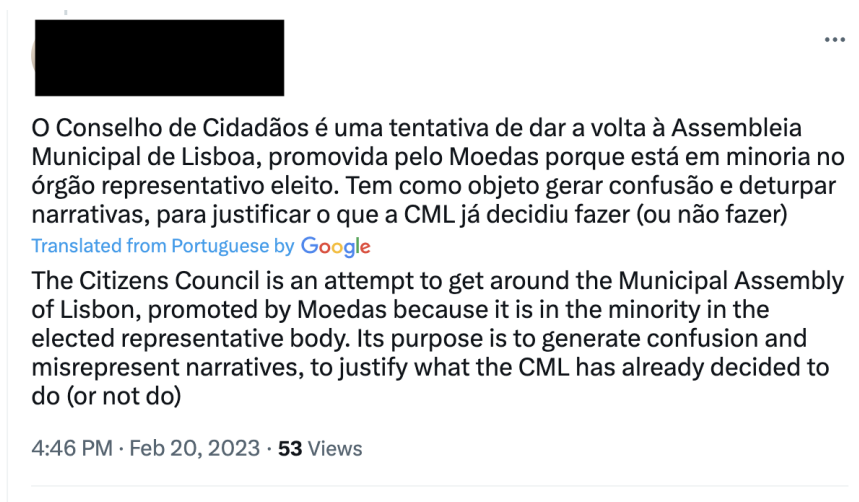
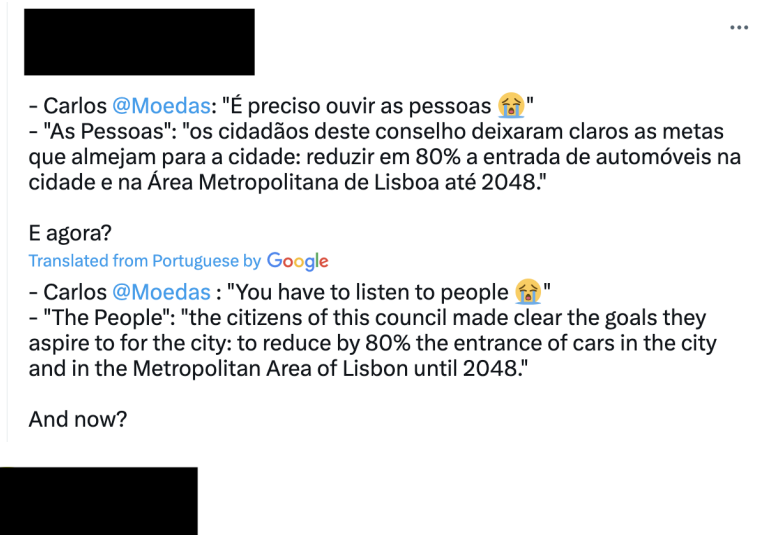


Figure 6. Tweet stating confusion about the CCL.

What is especially notable about this tweet is that the user was being asked to participate in the second edition of the CCL. In March 2023, the CML hosted a second edition of the CCL focused on the idea of the “15 Minute” city. The second edition of the CCL has not been discussed in this paper as it occurred too recently to acquire significant data/information. However, this tweet provides further evidence that almost one year after the first edition some citizens were still entirely unaware of the council.

The final, and most common, sentiment seen among Twitter users was relating the CCL back to the performance of Carlos Moedas, the current mayor of Lisbon. Multiple people commented that the CCL was a political ploy for Moedas to gain public support, but that he had zero intention of acting upon the solutions given by the council. Example tweets of this sentiment are seen below:





Carlos Moedas apropria-se das expressões mas não aplica os conceitos. Foi assim com o Conselho de Cidadãos, cuja inconsequência é bem expressa num email de frustração de um dos participantes na edição de há um ano.

Segue o 📖 🗨️

Translated from Portuguese by Google

Carlos Moedas appropriates the expressions but does not apply the concepts. It was like this with the Citizens Council, whose inconsequence is well expressed in a frustrated email from one of the participants in the edition a year ago.

Follow the 📖 🗨️

Figures 7a, 7b and 7c. Tweets relating the CCL to dissatisfaction with Lisbon Mayor Carlos Moedas.

This sentiment may initially appear as irrelevant to the central question of this research paper; however, connecting the CCL to disapproval or exasperation with Moedas exposes a deeper distrust in governmental institutions for these citizens. The lack of confidence in Moedas' genuinity and ability to implement the CCL's proposals clearly demonstrates a low external political efficacy among Lisbon citizens— an efficacy that the CCL was unable to improve.

In sum, a survey of social media builds upon the data collected in the personal survey by providing evidence that while citizens believe the CCL is a good initiative, they do not have confidence in its effectiveness. In other words, the CCL caused little to no increase in internal or external political efficacy for Lisbon residents. Citizens needed to see more concrete evidence of CCL proposals being implemented in order to see it as a credible way to increase resident voices in policy-making or gain more trust in the government's ability to respond to public needs.

Along with the above insights, simultaneously analyzing the CCL's impact on policy and political efficacy importantly revealed that the two aspects are inherently intertwined. A central reason why citizens did not gain any confidence in the public's influence or the government's ability to incorporate citizen feedback was due to the lack of examples where this occurred. If serious policy or meaningful initiatives actualizing CCL proposals had resulted from the council

(and been adequately publicized), it is likely that political efficacy could increase. The public wants to see and is excited by the prospect of citizen-led change, evidenced by consistently expressed appreciation for the council. If the government more diligently works to implement CCL proposals, they could maximize the outcome of the program and augment citizen trust and support. Not to mention, the CCL's solutions present astute ideas for ways to increase social, economic, and environmental justice. Proposals such as the ones increasing affordable housing, more effectively managing waste, or reducing emissions in the transportation sector are necessary for molding a future where the well-being of people and the environment are upheld. Thus, escalating the policy impacts of the CCL would not only improve the relationship between citizens and the government, but would contribute to the overall prosperity of the city.

Conclusion

5.1 Summary

Practices of deliberative democracy that place citizens as key figures in decision-making processes have substantial potential for pushing forth progressive policies that may shape more just and sustainable futures. The Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa aims to be such a practice by giving citizens a platform to express opinions and devise policy solutions on pressing social issues like climate change. This paper has sought to evaluate the impact of the CCL in two ways: its impact on Lisbon climate policy and its effect on citizen's internal and external political efficacy. As discussed in the background section of this paper, Lisbon and Portugal as a whole have become a notable leader in both climate policy and participatory methods, giving the CCL a strong foundation; however, the impact of the CCL fell short. Research consisting of government interviews, personal surveys, and social media surveys expose a lack of genuine influence on Lisbon climate policy beyond small initiatives in line with pre-existing government programs. Furthermore, data collected reveals that the CCL was unable to improve citizen's trust in their individual ability to influence decision-making or the government's abilities to appropriately respond to citizen needs; in other words, there was no significant impact on citizen's internal or external political efficacy.

5.2 Discussion of Limitations

Though this paper was able to provide valuable data on the CCL, there are several limitations to the study in need of further discussion. A main limitation of the paper was the small sample sizes in collected data. The personal survey conducted had 9 respondents which cannot be seen as a holistic representation of all Lisbon residents. This paper was completed over the span of about 4 weeks, giving an inadequate amount of time to disseminate the survey broadly enough to generate a diverse pool of respondents. If this study were to be redone, significantly expanding the personal survey would be necessary to acquire a more accurate understanding of how the CCL impacted residents' political efficacy.

The social media survey completed was more robust, as almost all tweets relating to the CCL were examined. However, confining the survey to Twitter could unintentionally create a biased perspective. Especially in the political landscape, Twitter is infamous for spreading negativity/negative messages (Schöne et al., 2021) and could attract more pessimistic opinions than other platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, or TikTok. In an expanded version of this study, it would be beneficial to look at public opinion on the CCL on multiple social media platforms to alleviate this potential bias.

5.3 Moving Forwards

Future evaluations of the CCL itself and public perception of the CCL are needed to best comprehend how the initiative can be improved and optimized. Potential research questions to aid this understanding could include: How would Lisbon residents like to see CCL proposals implemented? For example, would they prefer proposals to become community projects vs. formal legislation? Additionally, what is the best way to publicize CCL outcomes in order to sufficiently inform citizens about the initiative and any progress made on the implementation of proposals? What topics outside of climate change do Lisbon residents feel are most pertinent to deliberate? Finally, do all communities feel they have an equal ability to express their opinions and participate in decision-making processes? Or do certain communities feel ostracized or marginalized by the institutional dynamics at play? With the second edition of the CCL recently concluded in March 2023, more data should be available that can both address old questions and generate new ones. Future research can use multiple editions of the CCL in data collection, analysis, and discussion.

Present and forthcoming research on the CCL holds consequential implications for the effective use of participatory methods in political processes in and outside of Lisbon. Ensuring adequate representation of citizen needs alongside meaningful implementation of public opinions into policy will be essential in combating challenges that exacerbate global injustices. Though putting political power into the hands of the public is a tumultuous undertaking, doing so may be the key to a future grounded in values of community, care, and justice.

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Appendix

Proposals of the CCL

The following proposals are typed exactly as they appear on the Lisbon City Council's Summary Report of the first edition of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa. [This summary report is hyperlinked here.](#)


1. Housing
 - a. Creating better conditions for bringing people to the city
 - b. Making less expensive housing available
 - c. Recovering abandoned and social (CML) housing estates in Lisbon by 2025, by focusing on the following:
 - i. Affordable intergenerational housing (young and elderly citizens)
 - ii. Improved sustainability in Lisbon, by building the adequate infrastructures in areas located within 15 minutes of the city center.
 - d. Improved energy efficiency in dwellings (1st stage – CML housing estates), through the creation of multidisciplinary teams (CML+ Partners), with the following goals:
 - i. Performing a diagnostic
 - ii. Proposing feasible measures
 - iii. Ensuring adequate support/financing to improve dwellings through the creation of a shared financing platform (CML + Citizens).
2. Consumption and Behavioral Change
 - a. Making CML accountable for organizing activities aimed at encouraging behavioral change with respect to consumption
 - i. Promoting an information and training plan on consumption issues, involving partnerships and incentives between the CML and universities, with a view to encouraging the research and development of environmental and recycling solutions
 - ii. Educating citizens and making companies and Councils accountable for environmental literacy
 - iii. Publishing advertising and informative contents in the media
 - iv. Organizing physical activities in order to attract and raise the awareness of prospective partners
 - b. Investing in a circular economy
3. CML Relations with Citizens
 - a. Strengthening relationships between the CML and parish councils and encouraging team building, such as to facilitate the respective operation
 - b. Improving communication and coordination between the CML, parish councils and the citizens

- c. Appointing a municipal ombudsman, in order to create a complementary communication channel between the CML and the citizens.
4. Transport and Mobility
- a. Improving and expanding the public transport network:
 - i. Extending operating hours and circuits, namely over weekends (bus, underground and tram lines)
 - ii. Improving local routes
 - iii. Expanding outer city routes
 - iv. Improving inclusiveness in transport
 - v. Adopting environmentally-friendly public transport
 - vi. Ensuring free public transport
 - b. Improving conditions for pedestrians:
 - i. Increasing the number of sidewalks and pedestrian areas
 - ii. Ensuring better coordination between the cycle network, sidewalks and roads
 - iii. Encouraging respect between users
 - c. Changing mobility habits, namely through the following measures
 - i. Prohibiting the circulation of private vehicles in Lisbon
 - ii. Encouraging citizens to walk.
 - d. Achieving staged goals until 2050:
 - i. By 2025: super-neighbourhood pilot project, interface timetable coordination, sustainable mobility, loading/unloading timetables. Prioritizing pedestrian circulation, sidewalk renovation and implementation of legislation concerning scooters and bicycles
 - ii. By 2034: silos and parks in peripheral neighborhoods
 - iii. By 2041: radial light railway network
 - iv. By 2048: significantly reducing circulation and the entry of private vehicles into the city and the metropolitan area
 - v. By 2050: pedestrian day, launch of a sustainable, integrated mobility system.
5. Public Spaces
- a. Creating public spaces – (a garden in every corner)
 - b. Reducing the impact of heat in the city
 - c. Reducing the size of hot areas by creating shaded areas
 - d. Informing and encouraging citizens to use public spaces
 - e. Ensuring the adequacy of trees to the various city areas
 - f. Ensuring the operation of drinking water and other fountains, and building ponds, in order to improve the city's water resources (more water)
 - g. Improving pedestrian and pedestrian crossing security through adequate information and signs

- h. Promoting the use of public spaces through the installation of appealing facilities.
6. Environmental Education
- a. Encouraging adequate attitudes and behaviors, such as to ensure responsible consumption, by promoting the following
 - i. Reuse and recycling
 - ii. Messages aimed at all age groups and social classes
 - iii. Encouraging citizens to keep plants and flowers in their balconies and windows.
 - b. Fostering cooperation with stakeholders in order to improve environmental literacy: municipal organizations, citizens, businesses and school communities
 - c. Prioritizing environmental education in schools, on all educational levels
 - d. Gamifying environmental education through the creation of apps.
7. Energy Efficiency
- a. Organizing events and workshops in the various neighborhoods and council estates, together with parish councils and associations, in order to enable citizens to implement adequate measures for increasing energy efficiency and reducing CO2 emissions
 - b. Implementing volunteer work programmes in the city and improving corporate social responsibility for the carbon footprint (e.g. employee travel, production and use of resources, goods and services):
 - i. Ensuring that companies compensate carbon emissions by implementing adequate solutions in dwellings/council estates, or other housing estates, namely by weatherproofing windows and reducing indoor humidity
 - ii. Ensuring that the measures implemented lead to a 15% reduction in CO2 emissions between 2027 (medium-term vision) and 2047 (long-term vision)
 - c. Implementing the following measures in new council estates:
 - i. Installation of central HSEQ systems, complemented by thermal solar and photovoltaic panels
 - ii. Weatherproofing all windows and doors
 - iii. Installation of water-reducers in taps and shower heads in municipal buildings and council estates.
 - d. Implementing the following measures in public spaces:
 - i. Smart public lighting
 - ii. Sustainable lighting in gardens (e.g. autonomous LED lighting)
 - iii. Reduced use of air conditioning and artificial lighting systems in events
 - e. Promoting a “Consumption Literacy” programme through digital marketing
 - i. Making the Lisbon City Council accountable for the creation of an information programme for parish councils, which can subsequently adjust the solutions identified to local conditions

- ii. Fostering reflection and intergenerational debate, taking the opportunity provided by the “Parish Council Day” to promote this topic
 - iii. Introducing the topic in a soap opera, following negotiations between the Lisbon City Council and television channels. Promoting shows such as “The Civil Society” in the media and radio
 - iv. Fostering social responsibility in the city’s sporting clubs and encouraging the latter to promote the topic
- f. Involving the academic community in all actions and activity monitoring, with a view to improving process reliability through the use of measurable indicators, namely the following:
- i. Statistical data – imports
 - ii. Waste reduction calculation
 - iii. Carbon emission reduction calculation
 - iv. Sales indicators for Portuguese products.

Signed Consent Form of Government Employees



SIT SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

PARTICIPANT INFORMED CONSENT TEMPLATE

Title of the Study:
Researcher Name: Marion Linde

My name is Marion Linde, and I am a student with the SIT Portugal: Sustainability and Environmental Justice program. Thank you for your interest in the study I am conducting as part of the SIT Study Abroad program. Your participation is voluntary. Please read the information below, and ask questions about anything you do not understand, before deciding whether to participate. If you decide to participate, you will be asked to sign this form and you will be given a copy of this form.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY
The purpose of this study is to understand whether the first edition of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa (CCL) as conducted by the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa had a significant impact on climate policy in Lisbon and whether the CCL impacted citizens’ political efficacy.

STUDY PROCEDURES
Your participation will consist of a short meeting/interview and will require approximately 30 minutes of your time.

POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS
There are no foreseeable risks to participating in this study and no penalties should you choose not to participate; participation is voluntary. During the interview you have the right not to answer any questions or to discontinue participation at any time.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS TO PARTICIPANTS AND/OR TO SOCIETY
There is no direct benefit of participating in this study; however, providing insight into how governments & institutions can best incorporate citizen input on urgent policy issues w

CONFIDENTIALITY
Any identifiable information obtained in connection with this study will remain confidential. I will not use any names or contact information in the final research paper. Notes from interview will only be seen by myself and will not be shared. Notes from interview will be edited and discussed in the research paper, and you may be paraphrased (there will not be direct quotes). This paper may be published onto the School for International training website, but no identifiable information will be used.

PARTICIPATION AND WITHDRAWAL

Your participation is voluntary. Your refusal to participate will involve no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled. You may withdraw your consent at any time and discontinue participation without penalty. You are not waiving any legal claims, rights or remedies because of your participation in this research study.

"I have read the above and I understand its contents and I agree to participate in the study. I acknowledge that I am 18 years of age or older."

Participant's signature *Henriela Stidolova* Date 08/05/23
Imes Ulenetka

Researcher's signature *Marion Linde* Date 05/05/23

RESEARCHER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions or want to get more information about this study, please contact me at marion.linde@mail.sit.edu or my academic program director at catia.magro@sit.edu

RIGHTS OF RESEARCH PARTICIPANT – IRB CONTACT INFORMATION

In an endeavor to uphold the ethical standards of all SIT proposals, this study has been reviewed and approved by an SIT Study Abroad Local Review Board or SIT Institutional Review Board. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints about your rights as a research participant or the research in general and are unable to contact the researcher please contact the Institutional Review Board at:

School for International Training
 Institutional Review Board
 1 Kipling Road, PO Box 676
 Brattleboro, VT 05302-0676 USA
irb@sit.edu
 802-258-3132

Blank Copy of Survey for Lisbon Citizens

Citizen Survey on the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa

Hello and thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey! This survey is being sent out to gather data for a research project evaluating the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa (CCL). The project aims to understand whether the CCL had a significant impact on climate policy in Lisbon, and whether the CCL impacted citizens' belief in individuals' and institutions' abilities to influence decision-making processes. A description of the CCL from the CML website is attached below, and the [link to the CCL website is here](#).

In simple terms, the CCL is a counsel of 50 randomly selected citizens who are gathered to deliberate a policy issue chosen by the government. Participants are educated by experts on the topic, and deliberate with each other for two days to create policy proposals. The first meeting of the CCL was in May 2022, and the chosen theme was Climate Change.

Please feel free to respond to the survey in either English or Portuguese- whichever is best for you!

Olá e obrigado por preencher este inquérito! Este inquérito está a ser enviado para recolher dados para um projecto de investigação que avalia o Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa (CCL). O projecto visa compreender se o CCL teve um impacto significativo na política climática em Lisboa e se o CCL teve impacto na crença dos cidadãos nas capacidades dos indivíduos e das instituições para influenciar os processos de tomada de decisão. Em anexo, encontra-se uma descrição do CCL retirada do sítio Web da CML, e a [ligação ao sítio Web do CCL está aqui](#).

Em termos simples, o CCL é um conselho de 50 cidadãos seleccionados aleatoriamente que se reúnem para deliberar sobre uma questão política escolhida pelo governo. Os participantes são instruídos por especialistas no assunto e deliberam entre si durante dois dias para criar propostas políticas. A primeira reunião do CCL em Lisboa realizou-se em Maio de 2022 e o tema escolhido foi as alterações climáticas.

Por favor, sintá-se à vontade para responder ao inquérito em inglês ou português - o que for melhor para si!

Description of the CCL from the Câmara Municipal de Lisboa website:

Descrição do CCL no sítio da Câmara Municipal de Lisboa:

O “Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa” (CCL), lançado em janeiro de 2022 pelo executivo da Câmara Municipal de Lisboa, é a primeira assembleia de cidadãos organizada localmente por uma autarquia em Portugal.

Este modelo visa envolver os cidadãos no processo de tomada de decisão acerca de matérias consideradas prioritárias pelo executivo.

A seleção dos participantes por sorteio, de forma aleatória e estratificada, garante que todos os municípios inscritos têm a mesma probabilidade de integrar o CCL.

O CCL, é assim, uma iniciativa inovadora e diferenciadora de participação dos cidadãos, convidando à co-construção de propostas para a cidade de Lisboa.

Os objetivos do Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa são:

- Promover um novo espaço de debate e co-construção de políticas públicas para melhorar a vida na cidade;
- Aproximar os cidadãos da tomada de decisão e dos representantes eleitos, promovendo uma democracia mais inclusiva;
- Melhorar a eficácia das decisões tomadas pelo executivo municipal, integrando o contributo dos cidadãos e adaptando as políticas públicas às suas necessidades.

1. All data collected from survey answers will remain completely anonymous. No names or contact information will be collected to ensure respondents' privacy. Todos os dados recolhidos a partir das respostas ao inquérito permanecerão completamente anónimos. Não serão recolhidos nomes ou informações de contacto para garantir a privacidade dos inquiridos.

Check all that apply.

I acknowledge that all data collected will remain anonymous / Reconheço que todos os dados recolhidos permanecerão anónimos

I consent to my anonymous answers being quoted or used in author's research paper / Autorizo que as minhas respostas sejam citadas ou utilizadas no trabalho de investigação do autor

I understand that the final research paper may be published on the research institution's website (School for International Training) / Tomei conhecimento de que o trabalho de investigação final pode ser publicado no sítio Web da instituição de investigação (Escola de Formação Internacional)

2. What is your gender identity ?
Qual é a sua identidade de género?

Mark only one oval.

- Man / Homem
 Woman / Mulher
 Non-binary / Não-binário
 Other / Outro

3. What is your age?
Qual é a sua idade?

4. What is your level of education?
Qual é o seu nível de formação?

Mark only one oval.

- Basic education / Ensino básico
 Secondary education and/or a professional training / Ensino secundário e/ou curso profissional
 Higher education / Curso superior
 Other: _____

5. What is your occupation?
Qual é a sua profissão?

6. What neighborhood of Lisbon do you live, study, or work in?
Qual é a sua freguesia de residência, estudo, ou trabalho?

Opinions on the CCL (Pareceres sobre o CCL)

7. Have you already heard of the Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa?
Já ouviu falar do Conselho de Cidadãos de Lisboa?

Mark only one oval.

Yes / Sim

No / Não

8. If you have already heard about the CCL, what are your thoughts on the project?
Se já ouviu falar do CCL, o que pensa do projecto?

9. If you had not already heard of the CCL, what are your initial thoughts about the project?
Se ainda não tinha ouvido falar do CCL, quais são as suas primeiras ideias sobre o projecto?

10. How does the CCL affect your belief in the ability of individual citizens to influence government decision-making processes?

Como é que o CCL afecta a sua crença na capacidade de os cidadãos influenciarem os processos de decisão do governo?

11. How does the CCL affect your belief in the government's ability to respond to citizen needs?

Como é que o CCL afecta a sua confiança na capacidade do governo para responder às necessidades dos cidadãos?

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