COST Action IC1205 on Computational Social Choice: STSM Report
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I spent one week at the University of Bayreuth, where there is a group of researchers interested in voting and elections (W1 of the Action).
I had the opportunity of exchanging ideas on different topics related to voting procedures. In particular
- **Stefan Napel** and I discussed various issues related with voting procedures:
    o The extensions of various concepts aimed at measuring the voters' possibilities in voting rules: in particular the extension of the concept of decisiveness in non binary voting rules.
    o The "one person one vote" concept in various contexts.
    o The advantages/disadvantages of the methods that start with a ranking of candidates versus the methods that evaluate each candidate without comparison with other candidates (together with **Alexander Mayer**).
    o The dimension of the Lisbon voting rule in the EU Council of Ministers (together with **Sascha Kurz**).
- **Frank Steffen** and I discussed some data basis on the evaluation of German politicians and the possibility of evaluating the politicians by means of range voting.
- **David Stadelmann** explained me the data basis that he has collected with some colleagues on more than 100 votes in Switzerland in different districts. We discussed the possibilities of obtaining more results on the voting participation.
- **Maria Uzunova**, a master student presented me some work of her on a new concept of power in voting rules that she refers to as "the power to change a power status":

I gave a seminar on Wednesday 17, on the "dis&approval voting"
In approval voting the evaluation scale only consists of two levels: 1 (approval) and 0 (non approval). However non approval may mean disapproval or just indifference or even absence of sufficient knowledge for evaluating the candidate.
The dis&approval voting that allows for a third level in the evaluation scale. The three levels have the following interpretation: 1 means approval, 0 means indifference, abstention or do not know and -1 means disapproval.

The dis&approval voting is characterized and its practical advantages are discussed

In brief this week was very fruitful in terms of discussions and work.