

Student handout 7.4

Record of group presentations: draft statutes for a micro-community

Record your group's results on this form, and include the other groups' ideas in the presentation session.

Key questions	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Comparison
Distribution of funds						
Who decides on distribution?						
Autonomy for groups						
Principle of non-discrimination (majority/minority)						
...						

Judging the draft statutes – key questions

1. *Fairness*: Does this statute solve the majority/minority problem fairly?
2. *Democracy*: Does this statute observe the principle of majority rule?
3. *Efficiency*: Will the rules for making decisions work smoothly?
4. *Balancing and/or prioritising*: Has the statute found a compromise between the different interests and principles, or given priority to one over the other?
5. ...

How to apply these questions

Try to answer each question in turn. Include more questions if you wish.

If you decide to leave out a question and to focus on others, give your reasons for doing so.

Write down your judgment, with reasons.

The reasons for these instructions

You are free to form your opinion. Freedom of thought and expression are human rights.

It follows that there is no “wrong” or “right” opinion.

In order to help each other to understand our opinions we must give our reasons. And here, there are differences in quality. Some arguments are more convincing, more carefully thought through than others.

When taking part in democracy, careful thinking and good argumentation skills are important when we want to win other people’s support for our goals. That is why you can develop them through this task.