

DEMOCRATOR

ENGAGING CITIZENS AND COMMUNITY PROBLEM SOLVING

Project URL: democrator.ru

- Community Engagement
- Data
- Geolocation
- Internet
- Social Software

Democrator.ru is a privately funded online initiative that seeks to empower citizens to promote change by discussing, voting for and sending petitions and inquiries to government bodies.

In Russia, there are laws that oblige authorities to respond to citizens' petitions and inquiries, but these aren't widely or consistently enforced. In that context, Democrator.ru works as a legal popularity contest. Users add initiatives such as a petition, a plea or an official inquiry, which others comment on, propose amends to and finally vote for.

The petitions that receive the most votes are then checked by Democrator's lawyers and sent to the appropriate authority. Democrator.ru, together with the initiator of the petition, publishes all the documentation related to the exchange between the initiator and the respective authority, making the cases public and providing full access to the documentation.

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