

# This Place Does What It Was Built For: Designing Digital Institutions For Participatory Change

Whether or not we recognize it or not, the Internet is rife with exciting and original institutional forms that are transforming social organization on and offline. Governing these Web platforms and other digital establishments has posed a problem for engineers and managers, a lot of whom have little exposure to the related history or theory of institutional design. The dominant guiding practices for the design of digital institutions up to now in human-computer interaction, computer-supported cooperative work, and the tech trade at massive scale have been an incentive-centered behavioral engineering paradigm encompassing atheoretical approaches resembling emulation, A/B-testing, engagement maximization, and piecemeal challenge-driven engineering. One institutional analysis framework that has been useful in the research of conventional institutions comes from students of pure resource management, significantly that neighborhood of economists, anthropologists, and environmental and political scientists targeted across the work of Elinor Ostrom, recognized collectively because of the "Ostrom Workshop." A finding from this neighborhood that has but to be broadly integrated into the design of many digital institutions is the importance of together with participatory change mechanisms in what is called a "constitutional layer" of institutional design. The institutional guidelines that compose a constitutional layer facilitate stakeholder participation in the continued means of institutional design change. We explore to what extent consideration of constitutional layers is met or could possibly be higher met in three diversified circumstances of digital establishments: cryptocurrencies, cannabis informatics, and beginner Minecraft server governance. Examining such extremely varied circumstances permits us to exhibit the broad relevance of constitutional layers in many different types of digital institutions.