

Abstract

The thesis focuses on the theory of deliberative democracy and its critique formulated by Iris Marion Young. The first part of the thesis introduces the main principles of deliberative democracy, development of the theory, key concepts introduced by John Rawls and Jürgen Habermas which influenced the theory and the social choice critique of the theory. The second part focuses on Iris Marion Young's theory of communicative democracy which is in its core based on deliberative democracy, but seeks to make it more inclusive. Young criticizes some aspects of deliberative democracy for their inability to respond to the structural inequalities of today's societies. The second part of the thesis also explains the basis of this critique and presents possible solutions, which for Young is to admit to deliberation forms of communication other than argument.