

Innovating for the Public Good: R&D for Democracy (IFPG) is a new organization committed to identifying, testing, scaling and resourcing innovations that protect democracy and counter rising autocracy, from idea to adoption. It is a radical reimagining of democracy's future — a laboratory for long-term transformation that breaks down silos and unleashes breakthrough solutions to revitalize America's democratic promise.

The North Star is clear: to create a democracy that truly serves all Americans, not just the privileged few, and to reignite the belief that government can be a powerful mechanism for solving collective challenges, expanding opportunity and building a future where every person has a genuine chance to thrive.

The urgency of this moment demands unprecedented boldness. IFPG's research reveals critical threats to democratic institutions: the rise of authoritarian impulses and the populist Right, media fragmentation, eroding public trust and a progressive ecosystem too risk-averse to drive fundamental change.

Current funding models prioritize short-term electoral tactics over long-term democratic resilience, strangling the potential for transformative innovation. IFPG is disrupting this paradigm.

Over the next 20 years — spanning five presidential election cycles — IFPG will serve as a hub for cross-sector collaboration, creating a resource-rich environment where bold ideas can be developed, tested, scaled and adopted into the ecosystem. IFPG plans to work with partner organizations, stakeholders and practitioners as collaborators and beneficiaries of its work, contributing to a new ecosystem of democratic innovation.

IFPG will be an innovation engine that will:

- Source big ideas from unexpected places, breaking silos and engaging technologists, community organizers, behavioral scientists, artists, entrepreneurs, media makers and frontline activists
- Create a fearless culture of experimentation where failure is not just tolerated, but seen as essential to innovation
- Prioritize radical diversity — not just in representation, but thought, approach and institutional perspective
- Develop new models and tools for impact measurement, ensuring rigorous yet thoughtful and forward-thinking evaluation of progress

Its three core initiatives are a **Center for Innovation** (a home for developing, testing and scaling promising ideas), **Prizes for Democratic Innovation** (incentives that unlock new solutions from anyone, anywhere) and **Innovation Summits** (provocative convenings that convene experts, showcase breakthrough innovations and generate unexpected collaborations). Areas of focus will be selected for multi-year innovation cycles, with space and resources set aside for promising ideas and opportunities that may arise outside of that scope in any given year.

To execute this vision, IFPG must be prepared to recruit top talent and provide meaningful resourcing for high-impact projects. The staffing plan and launch projects, as identified by a broad council of advisors, require a robust budget and large-scale investment. With both, IFPG will establish itself as a leading force for democratic innovation, ensuring resilience in the face of evolving threats.