

## Chair for Business Information Systems

**Topic:** How to make decisions in decentralized online communities

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Starting date: as soon as possible  
Type: Master's Thesis  
Language: German/ English

### **Motivation:**

Every group of people that wants to achieve a shared goal needs to have some way to find a consensus and make decisions. For communities that are either large or not at the same location, this presents a large challenge, particularly in terms of diffusion of responsibilities. Recent technological developments have attempted to offer solutions. One of these solutions is to program a platform for voting and managing access to these votings via digital tokens (e.g. a NFT). A new type of organization called a Decentralized Autonomous Organization utilizes this type of voting and hands out these digital tokens (called Governance Tokens) either for purchase or to contributors. The digital nature of these tokens allows these organizations to utilize special mechanisms to influence who has how much influence on which decisions as well as to which behavior they want to incentivise. Current research investigates specific design dimensions of how these tokens can be conceptualized. However, we are lacking an aggregated overview over the dimensions and their specific implications for voting and individual behavior.

### **The goal of this thesis is to:**

- Provide an overview over and discuss different governance token design dimensions based on current research
- Conduct a case study of the organization KLIMA Foundation and their proposed new token model

### **Starting Literature:**

- Chen, K., et al. (2023). "Token Incentives in a Volatile Crypto Market: The Effects of Token Price Volatility on User Contribution." *Journal of Management Information Systems* 40(2): 683–711.
- Han, J., et al. (2025). "A review of DAO governance: Recent literature and emerging trends." *Journal of Corporate Finance*: 102734.
- Jirásek, M. (2023). Klima DAO: A crypto answer to carbon markets. *Journal of Organization Design*, 12(4), 271-283.