

# Consensus decision-making

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Consensus decision-making** is a group decision-making process that seeks the consent of all participants. Consensus may be defined professionally as an acceptable resolution, one that can be supported, even if not the "favourite" of each individual. Consensus is defined by Merriam-Webster as, first, general agreement, and second, group solidarity of belief or sentiment. It has its origin in the Latin word *cōnsēnsus* (agreement), which is from *cōnsentiō* meaning literally *feel together*.<sup>[1]</sup> It is used to describe both the decision and the process of reaching a decision. Consensus decision-making is thus concerned with the process of deliberating and finalizing a decision, and the social and political effects of using this process.



A Quaker business meeting



Members of the Shimer College Assembly reaching a consensus through deliberation.

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