



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



DEMOCRACY INTERNATIONAL

Democracy International is largely funded by donations of committed citizens. We are always looking for new possibilities to guarantee our independence, and in the past year, we have directed a lot of our efforts towards widening our financial base. If you have ideas or want to support us, please let us know - we are stronger together.

If you want to help us with your donation, you can use the form on the back or donate using our website:



www.democracy-international.org/become-sponsor

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OUR JOURNEY IN 2022

1 JANUARY

DigiDEM project started



26 JANUARY

133 MPs from 44 countries supported our We the Peoples campaign



1 APRIL

ASA trainees arrived in Cologne to spend 6 months at Democracy International



9 MAY

The Conference on the Future of Europe concluded its work. The follow-up phase is ongoing



3 JUNE

ECI Day: celebrating 10 years of the European Citizens' Initiative



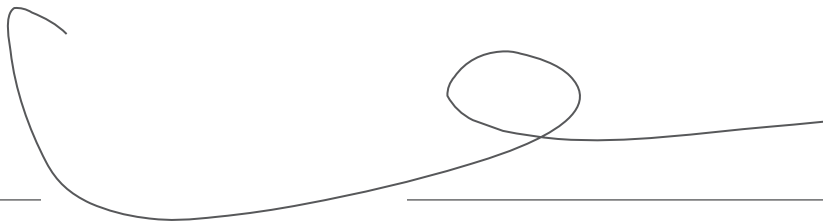
14-18 SEPTEMBER

Our first Democracy Camp for youth is launched in Switzerland



21-25 SEPTEMBER

10th Global Forum on Modern Direct Democracy took place in Lucerne



26 JUNE

Ukrainian Vibes
offline tour
opening in
Cologne



9-14 JULY

The next
Global Forum
in Mexico City
was officially
announced!



1 SEPTEMBER

Weltwärts
trainees came
all the way from
South Africa to
spend one year
with us



2 OCTOBER

Team
competed in
the Cologne
marathon



5 NOVEMBER

Democracy
International
General
Assembly took
place. Welcome
our new board!

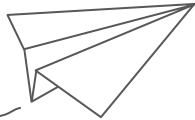


9 DECEMBER

We had a
Christmas
party!



2023



YEAR IN NUMBERS

8

INTERNS
EACH SPENT
2-3 MONTHS
AT DEMOCRACY
INTERNATIONAL

WE WERE
JOINED BY **2** NEW TEAM
MEMBERS

160 NEW MEMBERS
JOINED THE
INTERNATIONAL
DEMOCRACY
COMMUNITY

4 ECIS MET
THE **1 MILLION**
SIGNATURES
BENCHMARK



**14 TRAINEES
AND VOLUNTEERS**
HELPED US TO
IMPLEMENT
PROJECTS

667 DECISION-MAKERS RECEIVED
A EUROPEAN PUBLIC SPHERE
CATALOGUE OF IDEAS IN 2022 **!**

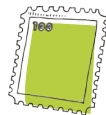
18 CITIZEN-INITIATED
REFERENDA TOOK
PLACE OVER THE YEAR
ON A NATIONAL LEVEL
BUT 12 PLEBISCITES
WERE HELD

8,000+
PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN
ALL 4 PHASES OF DIGIDEM

500+
PARTICIPANTS
TOOK PART IN **49** SESSIONS
AT THE **10TH EDITION** OF THE
GLOBAL FORUM ON MODERN
DIRECT DEMOCRACY IN LUCERNE

FUN FACTS

In 2023, German letters will feature a democracy stamp developed in a competition organised by the German Post. Democracy International was one of seven partners of the competition. From ten designs our team member Josephine Schnee helped select the winning stamp.



Don't miss your chance to buy the stamp next year!

On May 24, our Ukrainian Vibes 2021 edition was awarded the **3rd place of the European Charlemagne Youth Prize.**



Germany announced it will lower the age to sign and launch an ECI to 16 as of January 2023, and Belgium will lower the age as of May 2023. These two countries join Estonia, Malta, Austria, as well as Greece.



DEAR FRIENDS

This year was undoubtedly challenging for democracy. Wherever you are, we know you felt the consequences of global crises in many aspects of life, as even more people are now living in places that are in democratic decline. We invite you to have a look together at the world's democracy and Democracy International in 2022.

While the war in Ukraine really started eight years ago with the occupation of Crimea and the Donbas region, since 24 February the world of Ukrainian people has been shattered and democratic developments in Ukraine have come under threat. *Illegitimate votes, which were held on temporarily occupied territories and were unfairly called "referendums", violations of fundamental human rights and terror of civilians* were used to subjugate even more population to the autocratic regime in Russia.

In places where people live far from the standards of a democratic society, *we witness dangerous developments*. A

plebiscite to change the constitutions - once again mislabeled as a referendum - was held in Belarus, and Turkey and Russia are considering reinstating the death penalty. Moreover, we are concerned about the decline of democracy within Europe. Hungary organised four plebiscites, held not up to democratic standards, and was declared a state with a regime of hybrid autocracy by the European Parliament. In Tunisia, the democratic advances of the Arab spring were single-handedly undone by the President who replaced the participatory-created constitution with his own draft.

This trend of abusing the tools or, rather, the terminology of democracy to create the illusion of living in a free democratic society is indeed terrifying. *Yet, we do have faith in the future!*

The protest movements in Iran and Sri Lanka are living proof of people's will to keep fighting for human rights and dignity. The new constitution drafted by a citizens' assembly in Chile

was rejected by voters. This might not sound like a complete success story, but it is a persuasive sign that citizens taking the initiative may become the ground of change. The new Australian government has also made a solid commitment to enshrine the rights of indigenous people in political decision-making, promising to hold a referendum next year on adding an indigenous "voice to Parliament".

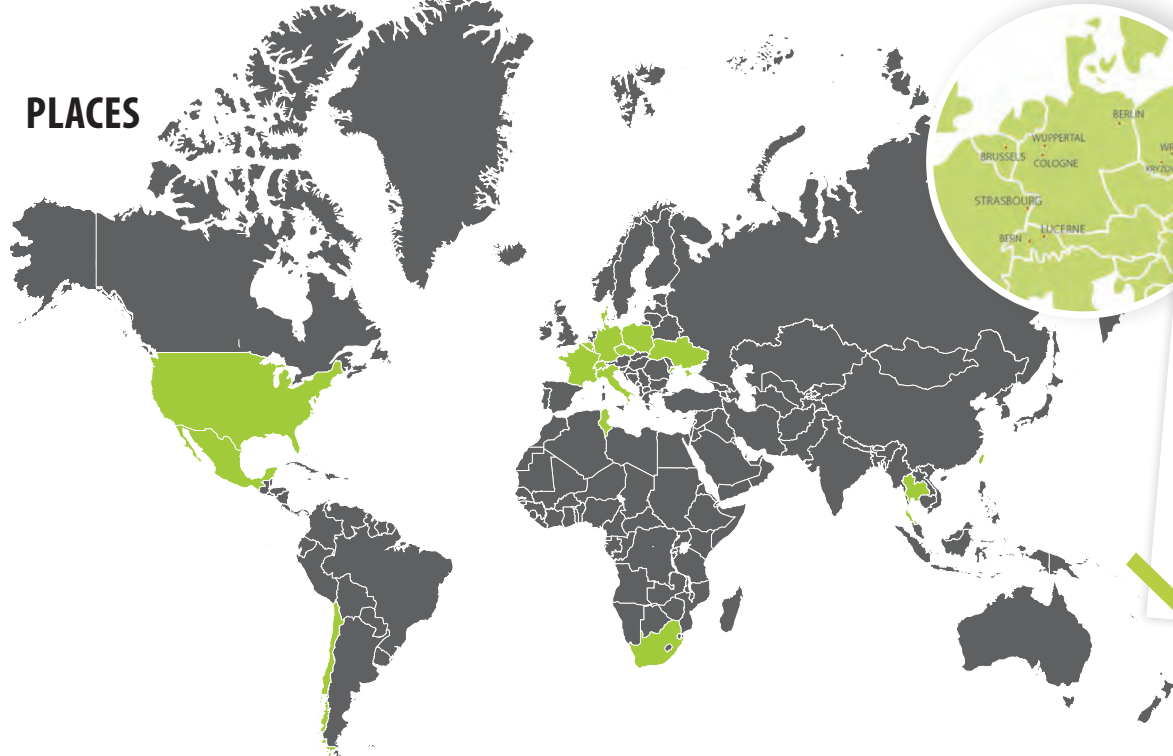
The year 2022 proved the impactfulness of citizens' sense of responsibility on happenings in any corner of the world and the influence of a united community and concerted actions. For sure, we believe that people have the power to make changes and intend to continue the efforts towards a more democratic future. We are paying close attention to the United Nations Summit of the Future in 2024 as an opportunity to empower people worldwide, as well as to a periodic review of the European Citizens' Initiative that potentially can lead to further reforms. Moreover, three citizens' assemblies will take place on the European level in 2023. As the Democracy International team, we are honoured by the

people we are sharing this journey with, and we hope to have you with us for many more years. Thank you. *You influence our work and the world!*

The Democracy International team



PLACES



PLACES



Discover more
on the following pages!

DEMOS KRATOS- PEOPLE REFORMING DEMOCRACY

To tackle the threats democracy is facing, we aim to not limit ourselves to making changes on the local level but also set a goal of supporting democratic reforms on the global level. Our goal this year was to unite people for a variety of purposes: to educate them regarding direct democracy, enhance communities of activists or debate the modern tools that allow for more societal engagement in decision-making. Cooperation between citizens, civil society and decision-makers on all levels helps to pass every rocky road. Working together we can change the world!

With a lot of our projects, Democracy International works towards encouraging the active use of already available mechanisms of participation, as well as towards reform on local and global levels. In the current setting with nations blocking each other in the international arena, the transition to more transnational democratic institutions is indeed a vital need that will bring peace and stability closer to reality.

CONFERENCE OF THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

A step towards more citizens' involvement in envisioning and building a common future, the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) also provides hope for the development of a bottom-up reform process. 800 randomly selected citizens, a 449-member plenary body, 49 policy proposals and 325 policy measures – this was the yearlong series of discussions in a nutshell.

For the first time in the EU's history, citizens' assemblies, called European Citizens' Panels (ECPs), were carried out to represent Europe's diversity and to deliberate and decide policy recommendations for the future of Europe. Together with the Citizens Take Over Europe coalition, we independently monitored the CoFoE and

observed the European Citizens' Panels and plenary on the ground in Strasbourg, which promised to put citizens and decision-makers on equal footing.

One month after the official closing of the CoFoE and the handover of the proposals and policy measures to the presidents of the three EU institutions, the European Parliament, for the first time in history, took the lead by adopting a resolution calling for a Convention for the revision of the EU treaties: a decade-long demand of Democracy International and other civil society organisations. The road to a new European Constitutional Convention to reform the treaties was now opened. However, doubts of

some Member States in the EU Council hindered the Convention process from going forward. While there are political roadblocks ahead for the Convention, the Conference was able to break taboos when it came to discussions around the urgency and need for EU treaty reform.



The European Citizens' Panels will continue, with the European Commission promising to give the process the time and resources to meet on three already decided topics in 2023: food waste, learning mobility, and virtual worlds. While this is a highly welcomed effort, the Commission needs to draw from the lessons learned from the first trial run with the European Citizens' Panels, including criticisms raised by us and other civil society actors in the Citizens Take Over Europe alliance. This includes ensuring greater inclusivity of marginalised groups in the panels, strengthening the quality of deliberation, and ensuring visible and accountable follow-up to the panels' work.

With the pandemic consequences still being felt and the consequences of the war in Ukraine still unfolding, the time to renew Europe's fundamental treaties is not only now, but it is long overdue.

<https://www.democracy-international.org/future-europe>



PARTICIPATING TO CHANGE EUROPE

Using direct democracy tools adapted to the current global needs is what unites the following two activities. Their common goal is to introduce citizens' drafts into the process of decision-making in politics.



Participating digitally is a new convenient way to make an impact. Since January 2022, Democracy International has been part of the DigiDEM project - the first transnational, digital citizen participation tool at the European level. On a digital participation platform developed especially for this project, citizens from nine countries have developed legislative proposals on the

topic of air quality improvement. DigiDEM consists of four stages, namely problem-mapping, problem-solving, the categorisation of ideas together with voting on proposals and, finally, the joint reformulation of the proposals into concrete legislative texts. In 2023, we will hand them over to politicians and call for these ideas to be brought to action.

2022 was a particularly active year for the world's first and only tool of

transnational direct democracy. This year saw a huge milestone in the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) lifespan. The ECI reached its 10-year anniversary since it went into effect. The ECI gives citizens the right to directly participate in setting the legislative agenda of the EU if they collect one million signatures from at least seven EU Member States within one year.

On 2 June we celebrated the ECI's 10th anniversary. As one of the permanent partners of the yearly ECI Day conference, Democracy International organised two parallel workshops related to civil society's role in running an ECI and the new improvements to the central online collection system.

This year's landmarks include three initiatives reaching the necessary threshold, and ten new registered initiatives this year, bringing the total number of admissible registered initiatives to 95. And, we can proudly say we have been there for every step of the ECI's development: from the implementation into law, to the reform process of 2017, to the establishment of the ECI Forum, and all the successes and challenges in between.

Now that the tools of direct democracy are getting more and more varied, and it is wonderful to see them growing more popular each year!

Read more on:
www.democracy-international.org/eu-citizens-panels

A graphic titled 'PLACES' featuring a pink location pin icon. Below the icon, the text reads: 'Brussels, Belgium' followed by 'All over the EU citizens can collect signatures for an ECI to submit them to the European Commission in Brussels. This year, four ECIs cleared the 1 million hurdle.' The graphic is styled to look like a white card with green corner tabs.

PLACES

Brussels, Belgium

All over the EU citizens can collect signatures for an ECI to submit them to the European Commission in Brussels. This year, four ECIs cleared the 1 million hurdle.

WE THE PEOPLES - A MORE DEMOCRATIC UN

Inspired by the successful implementation of the ECI on the European level, we also aim at contributing to democratic reform on a global scale. With a vicious war returning to the heart of Europe, the shortcomings of our existing global governance institutions have once again been laid bare, at the same time demonstrating the need for arenas of multilateral diplomacy and action. 77 years after being founded to ensure peace and stability in the aftermath of another devastating war, the United Nations (UN) falls short of reaching this goal. The solution is not less UN, but an even more democratic one. Our We the Peoples campaign calls for three reforms to make the UN more democratic and inclusive: a World Citizens' Initiative, a UN Parliamentary Assembly and a UN Civil Society Envoy. This year, over 130 national parliamentarians joined our call and endorsed our three proposals. Highlighting the need for global instruments to address global problems, they joined our alliance of over 200 civil society organisations from around the world.

Stressing the urgency for democratic participation to guarantee peace and stability around the world and strongly pleading for democratic reform of the UN, UN Independent Expert on the Promotion of a Democratic and Equitable International Order, Livingstone Sewanyana, endorsed our campaign in his report to the UN Human Rights Council this year.

In the meantime, we turn towards the UN Summit on the Future, which has been postponed to 2024 and where an "Upgrade of the UN" will be decided on by member states as a historic, and perhaps last, chance to make the UN the effective and democratic arena we need it to be to address unprecedented challenges.



*Join the campaign at
[https://www.democracy-international.org/
we-the-peoples](https://www.democracy-international.org/we-the-peoples)*



EUROPEAN PUBLIC SPHERE

In 2022, Democracy International kept travelling with the European Public Sphere (EPS), the project that gathers people to develop ideas on the future of Europe, creating a democratic discussion culture. June marked the end of the Remember tour with the handover of the Catalogue of Ideas to European decision-makers. A big EPS milestone of 2022 was the Ukrainian Vibes tour, which you will have a chance to read about later.

With the very same goal of creating common visions for a better future, the Europe

Dome hosted discussions on digital democracy in Hanover and joined the Global Forum on Modern Direct Democracy. In August, 70 students aged 12 to 15 discussed democracy under the Europe Dome at Kaiserin-Theophanu-School in Cologne. Demo-



Our Remember Tour brought us to six cities in six countries last summer





We handed over our final report to Christa Schweng, President of the EESC and EU Commissioner Šuica. Left to right are Dubravka Šuica, Daniela Vancic and Anne Hardt

cracy International also created a Back to Democracy – Escape Room for the first time ever. Is there a better way to learn about the German constitution and democracy than by playing a game?

*Learn more about the events:
<https://www.democracy-international.org/europeanpublicsphere>*



PLACES



Lucerne, Switzerland

The Global Forum participants enjoyed five days in the beautiful lakeside city of Lucerne, Switzerland

Understanding the vital role of youth activism and awareness for the future of Europe and the world, Democracy International has been particularly active in engaging young people during the European Year of the Youth 2022. Democracy International involved young adults in the conversation on direct democracy and democratic tools in an even bigger variety of participation projects to support them in finding out the keys to inspiration for being active members of civil society. We also worked on including young professionals in the management and implementation of our projects and towards giving young people a voice in our internal structures. Creating the habit of participating democratically in their livelihoods and their country, fostering democracy and building networks of proactive young people were some of the focuses of our work this year.

SPREADING UKRAINIAN VIBES

After the 2021 edition received the award of the European Charlemagne Youth Prize at the end of May, Ukrainian Vibes 2022 team was thrilled to start working. A project within the European Public Sphere initiative, set as its main goal to identify potential ideas for more participation at the moment that can bring the post-war situation in Ukraine to a nearer future. The team aimed

to identify roads towards direct democracy and participation as a way for people to take responsibility in their own communities and the world and to display possibilities of taking action. In other words, to help Ukraine and the world as much as possible in the battle for peace and democracy.

Anna, Olha, Nele and Katharina, the four young professionals carrying out the 2022 project, conducted discussions on the topics of difficult history, civic participation, environmental consequences and human



Ukrainian Vibes travelled to four cities and held eleven discussions offline and online. Ukrainian flag, European Dome, and three hours discussion just fly by!

rights during the war, and collected visions for a better future of Europe beyond the borders of the EU, including Ukraine, in the Catalogue of Ideas.

Four young managers from Germany and Ukraine, eight dialogues in four cities in Germany and Poland, three online events, seven invited experts and over 180 participants - This year the Ukrainian Vibes project has brought a lot of attention to the importance of actions!

“As a Ukrainian, I can say that the thing that makes us participate and that makes changes is the sense of responsibility for everything that happens in our country and the world in general. Euromaidan started with a sense of responsibility for the future.” said one of the attendees in Berlin and we couldn’t be happier to continue spreading this message with the Ukrainian Vibes project in the upcoming year!



[https://www.democracy-international.org/
ukrainian-vibes](https://www.democracy-international.org/ukrainian-vibes)

PLACES



**Cologne, Berlin,
Wroclaw, Krzyzowa,
Germany/Poland**

The Ukrainian Vibes offline
tour took place in four cities in
Germany and Poland



CAMPING AND LEARNING - DEMOCRACY CAMP

Asking 50 young Europeans from Germany, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria and also South Africa under the age of 25, and experts to devote five days to voicing their ideas for democracy is a big request!



Democracy Camp 2023 in Germany is already in the making!

Of course, this Democracy Camp was bound to take place in the home country of direct democracy, Switzerland. To arrive at ten demands for improved youth participation, the

participants explored Bern on Thursday - the Day of Democracy - to then spend the weekend in a mountain hut on the famous Rigi, learning, networking and brainstorming on their vision of civic engagement! The programme included a visit to the autumn session of the Parliament in Bern, democracy games, world cafés on youth participation in different countries and shared democracy hot spots, workshops on project management, fundraising and advocacy work, and naturally lots of exchanges around democracy, participation, Europe and commitment to these ideals. Ranging from limiting corporate power in governance, to easier access to participation, digitalised public services, and introducing degrowth principles into the economy, the ten demands are as diverse as the participants themselves!

<https://www.democracy-international.org/democracy-camp>



Participation is impossible without the development of old and the creation of new mechanisms. Democracy International has always been dedicated to strengthening and advancing tools of direct and participative democracy and creating an infrastructure for changes in Europe and worldwide. One of our main activities has this core aim: to unite people in their vision of the democratic future and to debate how democratic mechanisms can meet current challenges.

GLOBAL FORUM ON MODERN DIRECT DEMOCRACY

One of our key events for discussing current needs, developments and possibilities of democracy is the Global Forum on Modern Direct Democracy, the largest gathering in the world devoted to topics of direct democracy and citizen participation. After two years of pandemic-related uncertainty, we were finally able to have the first in-person Global Forum on Modern Direct Democracy since 2019 from 21 until 25 September in Switzerland, the most advanced direct democracy on the planet.

More than 500 activists, experts and public servants joined us in the



beautiful lakeside city of Lucerne. The Forum was co-hosted with the Swiss Democracy Foundation and the City of Lucerne and supported by over 30 partner organisations, leading to an unprecedentedly varied programme.

Over five days, we discussed the future of democracy and the future of our planet in four different tracks zooming in on how to combine deliberative and direct democracy, how a deepened democracy can help combat the climate crisis, how we can build good and in-

clusive democratic infrastructure and how we can create global instruments to tackle global challenges.

We kicked off the Forum on Wednesday with a keynote by philosophy Professor Robert B. Talisse, who focussed on political polarisation and the necessity for reflection, followed by Sevgil Musayeva, Editor in Chief of the Ukrainska Pravda newspaper, who spoke on the war against Ukraine, denouncing it also as a war on democracy and a war on truth. These topics reverberated throughout the conference.

Thursday was an intense working day with plenary sessions and workshops in the unique Lucerne Neubad, a former swimming pool turned into an event and co-working space. On Friday, participants had the possibility to discover different cities in Switzerland, with excursions to Aarau, Bern, Lucerne and Uster, each with a different thematic focus.

On Saturday, the Forum was officially closed with participants debating and formulating the Lucerne Declaration on Modern Direct Democracy. Finally, on Sunday, participants had a chance to witness direct democracy in action and visit polling stations in Lucerne, as 25

September was a national voting day in Switzerland.

It has as usual strengthened our global network of activists, scholars, journalists, and political practitioners that work to nourish global knowledge about direct democracy and improve the procedures and practices of citizens' rights.

Find out more at
<https://www.democracy-international.org/global-forum-modern-direct-democracy>



PLACES



Mexico City, Mexico

In May we participated in an official observation mission of the city-wide participatory budgeting exercise. We'll head back to CDMX for the 2023 Global Forum on Modern Direct Democracy from 1-4 March.

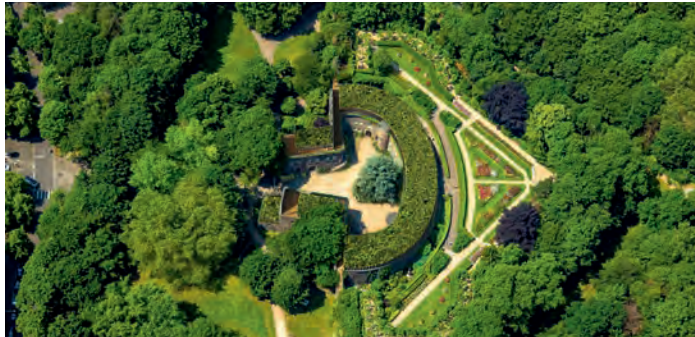


**2022 GLOBAL FORUM
ON MODERN
DIRECT DEMOCRACY**
21-25 September - Lucerne, Switzerland



COLOGNE INITIATIVE HOUSE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

Beside the motivation, engagement, tools and political will to enforce direct democracy, the infrastructure is, of course, needed to create changes and build networks of activists. We are convinced



Our idea for Fort X becoming a place to meet, plot and engage

that Cologne - the home town of Democracy International - needs a place dedicated to human rights and democracy where civil society organisations can work, network and create synergies. At the same time, this place should be a meeting place for citizens, politicians and administrations to promote democratic education and engagement. And we're not the only ones!

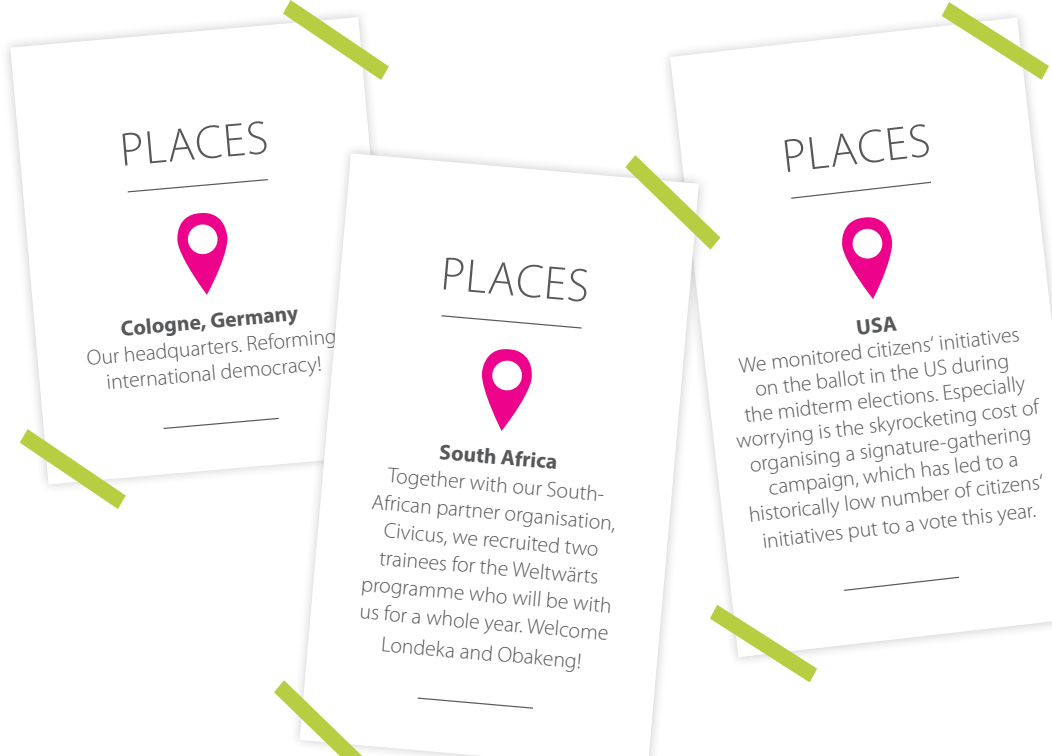
In this regard, a lot has happened with the „Initiative House for Human Rights and Democracy“ this year. After the city of Cologne launched an application process for the socio-economic use of a property in the heart of Cologne at the beginning of 2022, we were naturally on fire. In a short period of only two months, we, together with our partner organisations, developed a solid concept for „Fort X“ in Cologne, an old military building in the city centre. Fort X would really be a great place to meet, plot and engage!

While we are still waiting for the city council's decision on the application, Democracy International has already started to implement

the idea of an Initiative House. Through a new office concept, we are sharing our quarters with other initiatives and organisations. Over 15 organisations have met and worked on our premises in 2022. This adds incredible value, also for our everyday work, opens up new perspectives and creates space for ideas and cooperation, which is even more meaningful and special in times of a global democracy crisis.



*Find out in detail:
<https://initiativenhaus.de>*



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Cologne, Germany

Our headquarters. Reforming international democracy!

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South Africa

Together with our South-African partner organisation, Civicus, we recruited two trainees for the Weltwärts programme who will be with us for a whole year. Welcome Londeka and Obakeng!

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USA

We monitored citizens' initiatives on the ballot in the US during the midterm elections. Especially worrying is the skyrocketing cost of organising a signature-gathering campaign, which has led to a historically low number of citizens' initiatives put to a vote this year.

THE POWER OF SCIENCE

Effectively facing worldwide challenges and conducting democratic reforms is impossible without knowledge. Hence research on direct democracy and the evaluation of the available data, as always, constituted a sound part of our activities this year. With the long-ongoing Direct Democracy Navigator, Democracy International collects analytical data on direct democracy, provides a structural overview of different democracy practices and informs all interested parties about national and regional legislation on direct democracy. Deep knowledge and new developments in the scientific community combined with energetic and proactive civil society initiatives are undoubtedly fertile ground for the blossoming of direct democracy.

DIRECT DEMOCRACY NAVIGATOR

At the beginning of 2022, we received good news: the Navigator's scientific conference „Ballots to Stop Bullets“ will be funded by the German Foundation for Peace Research! Exploring referendums as a means to resolve violent conflicts, the conference has gained even more relevance now with the full-scale war in Ukraine and the frequent improper use of democratic mechanisms. The symposium

will take place on 27-28 April 2023. Can direct democracy be peace-keeping when used properly? Let's find out together next year!

As always, in 2022 we continued our work researching and analysing direct democracy instruments worldwide, focusing specifically on the constitutions of indigenous peoples in the United States of America. A big variety of traditional participatory tools are now in place, and collecting them is a great way to learn from the past.

The Navigator has also been conducting several online and offline

events throughout the year. Dr Eike Hornig from the Liechtenstein Institute spoke during an online talk about referendums all over the world, such as the one in Chile. At the Global Forum, the Navigator ran its own workshop on the concepts of direct democracy. During the workshop, participants also worked out many suggestions to



At the Global Forum, the Navigator ran its own workshop on the concepts of direct democracy.

help improve the Navigator website.

To make the Navigator web page and database more user-friendly and accessible, the Navigator's partners - the Liechtenstein Institute, the Swiss Democracy Foundation and Democracy International - decided on a redesign. A completely new user interface is being developed, easing the use of the web page and improving access to data. The current typology of the database is also going to be simplified so users can get the data quickly and easily.



Read more:

<https://www.democracy-international.org/navigator>

PLACES



Taipei, Taiwan

Taiwan is the most recent direct democracy after introducing new citizens' initiative legislation in 2018. With our Direct Democracy Navigator, we took a closer look at the instruments at citizens' disposal during a webinar.

UNITED FOR DEMOCRACY

Building resilient alliances for democratic development is a source of strength and motivation for the Democracy International team. We have wonderful partner organisations, colleagues and supporters all over the globe. In 2022, we continued carrying out our projects with many long-standing partners, as well as expanded our democracy network. Along with that, we dedicated our efforts to uniting democracy stakeholders from around the world via the International Democracy Community. The motto has proven to be true time and time again: together we are capable of more!

WE HAVE WORKED WITH

300+
PARTNERS



MORE THAN
70
COUNTRIES



ON 6
CONTINENTS

PLACES



Tunis, Tunisia

In the next year, we will work together closely with partner organisations in Tunisia focusing on supporting local democracy activists in their work.

DEMOCRACY COMMUNITY

In times of dramatic democratic backsliding, we are even more grateful for and impressed by the people around the world working to make their communities more democratic. To visualise and reinforce this network, we have our International Democracy Community, an online platform that allows activists and organisations to publicise their work, promote their events and share their stories. This year, 160 new members joined the community, we published 22 stories on direct democracy around the globe, and promoted 19 events.



160 new members joined International Democracy Community this year

Join the Community here:
<https://www.democracy-international.org/democracy-community>



PLACES



Bangkok, Thailand

We presented our demands for a more democratic and inclusive UN at the Chulalongkorn University Right Livelihood Summerschool during a panel focusing on global citizenship.

FUNDRAISING

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the institutions that have made our work in 2022 possible through their support: Swiss and European Democracy Foundations, the European Commission's Europe for Citizens, and Citizens, Equality, Rights, and Values programmes, Engagement Global/ German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Stiftung Mercator GmbH, GLS Treuhand, Schöpflin Stiftung, Alfred Toepfer Stiftung FVS, SAP Solidarity Fund, Cultura gGmbH, German Foundation for Peace Research, and the Franco-German Youth Office.

We would also like to express our gratitude to our members and individual supporters who have helped us with their donations and contributions throughout the year!

If you would like to support our work, reach out to us at

hardt@democracy-international.org or
mueller@democracy-international.org

Make a donation here:



PLACES



Bern, Switzerland

Starting in Bern, participants of Democracy Camp moved to the Swiss Alps

AS FOR US

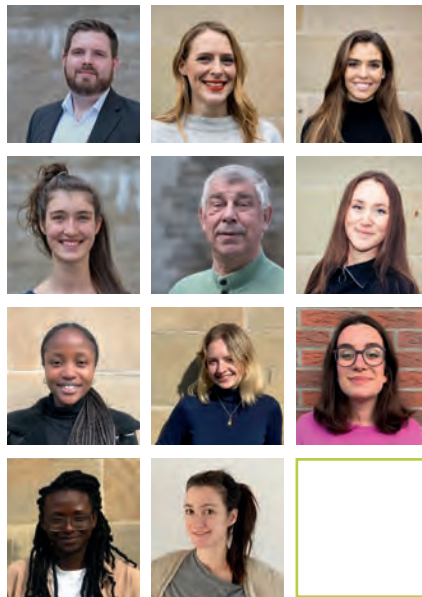
TEAM

In 2022, we were again able to strengthen and expand the Democracy International team. With Sophie and Anna, we have consolidated our public relations and social media departments. At the same time, the volunteer programmes ASA and weltwärts made it possible for us to grow. Londeka and Obakeng joined our team for a year as trainees to assist with our project work.

As a team, we are very thankful that our work is constantly supported by interns and volunteers. We would like to thank Alina, Otso, Yunus, Kim, Isabelle, Jacqueline, Theo,

Angel, Quirin, Katia, Regine, Anna, Olha, Nele and Katharina for their much-needed support and commitment!

Changes have also taken place at the board level. At our general assembly in November, we elected a new executive board. We are looking forward to working with Dr Clara Egger, Daniel Schily and Bruno Kaufmann! At the same time, we are eagerly anticipating breaking new ground with our extended advisory board and making Democracy International even more international and representative in the next years.



GOING FORWARD

Despite all the challenges this year was an eventful and varied adventure for Democracy International! Our hope for changes towards a more democratic future and strong belief in the power of people kept us motivated. We are incredibly lucky to share this hope and passion within the team and with many of you.

In 2023, we, for sure, are not planning to slow down! Old and new inspiring projects will keep us busy in the new year. For instance, after the Global Forum is always before the Global Forum. The next Forum is already in the making and will take place from 1-4 March in Mexico City. Hoping to see you there!

Our commitment to actively involve youth will smoothly transition to the following year, as well. Not only will we see a 2023 Ukrainian Vibes edition. In challenging times, four young professionals will bring together democracy activists in Tunisia, Germany, and the MENA region. Moreover, a new version of the inspiring Democracy Camp in Germany in 2023 is already in the making!

Laying the groundwork for bottom-up EU reform, we are happy to announce one of our core projects in 2023: Parliament for the Future of Europe. Revisiting the proposals of the Conference on the Future of Europe, participants will develop them into seven transnational citizens' panels to better fit the needs and aspirations of marginalised groups. To really make the 2024-European Parliament (EP) the Parliament for the Future, these reshaped proposals will then be discussed with candidates to the EP in the six partner countries.

We are deeply grateful to have you, dear reader, as our unceasing supporter in 2022. Know that none of our projects would be possible without you! In light of the growing need for action, *Democracy International is looking forward to safeguarding, reforming and enhancing democracy and civic participation* with you by our side also in the coming year!



THANK YOU

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- 10 euros other amount _____ euros
- 20 euros
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- 100 euros Monthly
- 250 euros Yearly

Tick the amount and frequency relevant to you



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THANK YOU!
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