



# A MANIFESTO FOR DEMOCRATISING EUROPE

**Europe will be democratised, once the oligarchy is overthrown!**

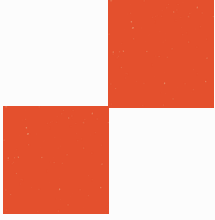
For all their concerns with inflation, migration, populism, climate change, pandemics, security and terrorism, only one prospect truly terrifies the powers of Europe: Democracy!

They speak in democracy's name but only to deny, exorcise and suppress it in practice. They seek to co-opt, evade, corrupt, mystify, usurp and manipulate democracy in order to break its energy and arrest its possibilities.

At the heart of the resurgent authoritarianisms, both 'liberal' and 'populist', there lies a guilty deceit: A highly political, top-down, opaque decision-making process is presented as apolitical, technical, procedural, neutral and, yes, democratic. Its actual purpose is to prevent European residents from exercising democratic control over their communities, workplaces, environment, money, technologies and impact on the rest of the world. Raw exploitation of people, animals and our planet becomes the hidden purpose, the sole motive, the only compass.

The price of this deceit is not merely the end of democracy, but also the permanent economic decline, societal stagnation, technological backwardness, xenophobia and climate destruction – a frightful, wholesale defeat of European civilisation.

There must be another course. And there is! It is the one that 'official Europe' resists with every sinew of its authoritarian mind-set: A democratic revolution!



Our movement, DiEM25, was formed in Berlin on February 9, 2016 to call forth just such a revolution. We come from every part of Europe, and beyond. We are united by different cultures, languages, accents, political party affiliations, ideologies, skin colours, gender identities, faiths, abilities and conceptions of the good society. The one, simple, radical idea that had brought us together became the foundation of DiEM25: Europe will either be democratised or it will disintegrate.

Democracy means 'rule by the many' who are, by definition, the poorer. Its opposite is oligarchy which means 'rule by the few', by definition the richer. Europeans are told that we live in democracies, unlike those to our East who are under the thumbs of Slavic oligarchs. This is a lie. The rule of law is, thankfully, better established in Europe but, in reality, Europeans live in harsh oligarchies featuring occasional elections whose results are ignored if they clash with the interests of Europe's oligarchs.

In the shadow of this sorry legacy, DiEM25 is now updating its simple radical idea: To democratise Europe, the people must overthrow its united oligarchy!

## **OUR CALL**

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We are inspired by the vision of a non-exploitative Europe that nurtures reason, freedom, tolerance and imagination made possible by real solidarity, comprehensive transparency, and authentic democracy.

We call upon people in Europe and beyond to join us so that, together, we stem the onslaught of authoritarianism, both its 'liberal' and populist variants.

We invite people of conscience to recognise that, together, we can tear down the paper tiger that is today's seemingly invincible euro-oligarchy.

We bid people who share our vision to work tirelessly until a deep democracy spreads into the corporate system, our money and credit system, our local councils, our parliaments, our governments and all our institutions - and culminates in a transformed European Union.

We urge the public to see that, what starts as mere opposition to socialism-for-bankers and austerity-for-the-rest, will produce a world where our advanced technology works to help us control our lives, to run our corporations on the basis of one-member-one-share-one vote, to found Deliberative Democracy Councils that draft legislation for our parliaments to approve; and even to evaluate the social and ecological worthiness of corporations and other institutions.

If you are ready and willing to help us in leading this change, join this new vision of DiEM25 – a movement that's more radical, more confrontational and ready for the world of 2022 and beyond.

Join us. Carpe DiEM25!