

DiEM25 2.0:

A vision for taking the world's first transnational political movement to the centre of the European political stage

By DiEM25's Coordinating Collective

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1. Growing our support

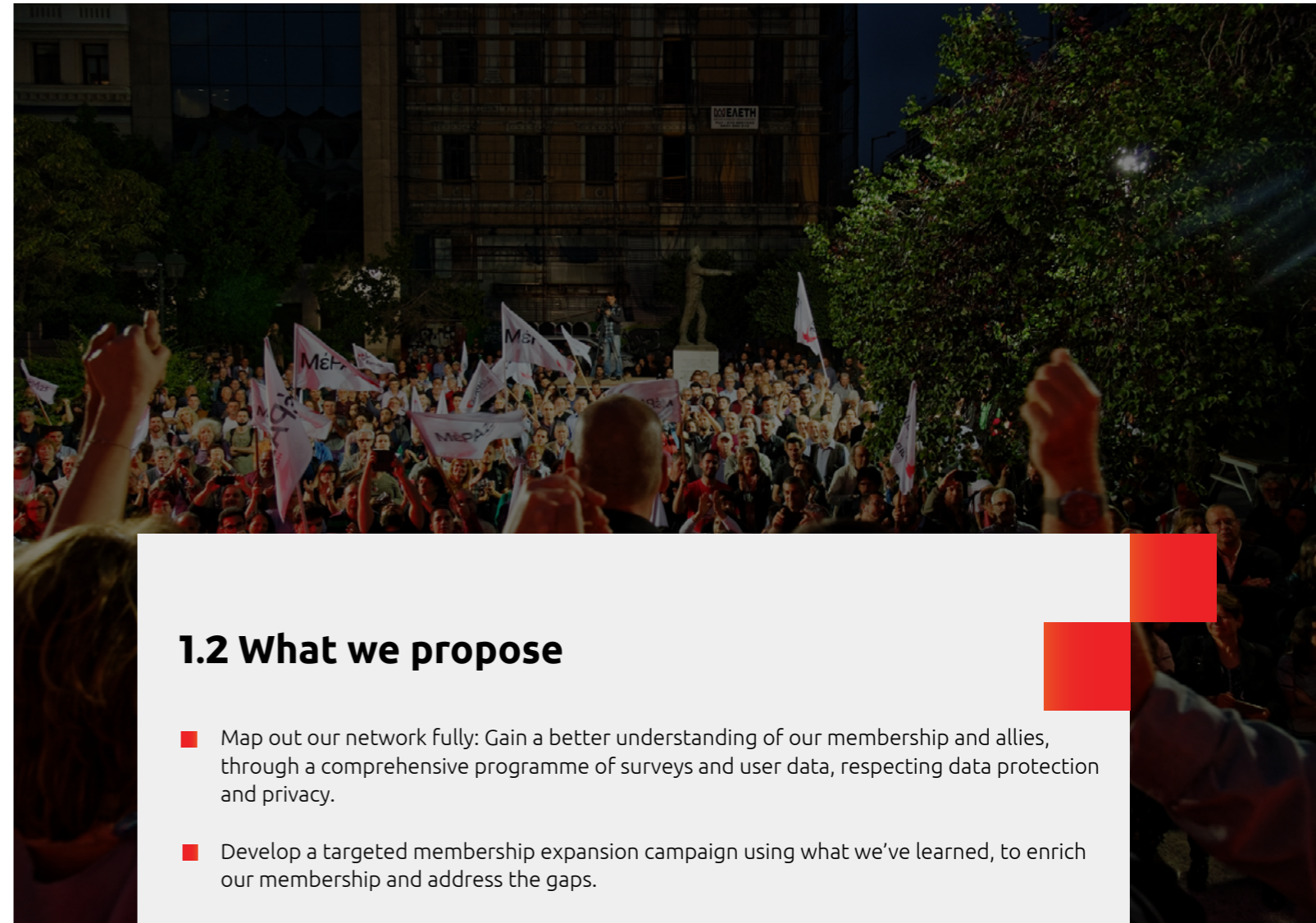
1.1 Where we are today

- Membership activity:
 - 120,000 members
 - [180 DSCs](#) and 14 thematic DSCs
 - 10 National Collectives (Germany, Greece, Czech Republic, Italy, France, Netherlands, Belgium, UK, Spain, Portugal)
 - DiEM25 has organised three DiEM25 Academies
 - DiEM25 is active in all European countries, and beyond

- We have built out our [Advisory Panel](#) with some of the brightest progressive minds in the world.

- We are committing to our feminist principles and have elected NCs and a CC with either gender parity or female majority (eight out of twelve CC members, ten out of twelve Italian NC members, six out of ten Portuguese NC members and five out of nine of our Greek Members of Parliament are women!

- Beyond the European Spring, we have established relations with parties, organisations and NGOs from Barcelona to Belgrade. We have partnered and worked together with Extinction Rebellion and others through our GNDE campaign. Together with the Sanders Institute, DiEM25 inaugurated the Progressive International, and opened DiEM25 up to new audiences.



1.2 What we propose

- Map out our network fully: Gain a better understanding of our membership and allies, through a comprehensive programme of surveys and user data, respecting data protection and privacy.
- Develop a targeted membership expansion campaign using what we've learned, to enrich our membership and address the gaps.
- Update diversity "tool kits" and communication guidelines for NCs and DSCs, including suggestions on how to organise DiEM25 meetings, use language and make our culture more inclusive and accessible.
- Create a working group (of interested members) to develop a holistic feminist vision for DiEM25, a lens through which all of our policies and activity should be examined; (e.g. intersectionality, rejection of neo-liberal feminism etc).
- Create a working group (of interested members) to bring minorities into DiEM25 (black, refugees, LBGT+, and all other) and ensure the development of appropriate policies and activities; (e.g. intersectionality, fusing identity politics into a class narrative etc.).
- Strengthen our presence in countries with no major representation (especially Scandinavia and eastern Europe) by intensifying our engagement efforts there.
- Deploy concrete actions, coordinated at a European level and implemented locally, to identify and bring more DiEMers onboard who might so far not have been able (or inspired enough) to engage with the project (e.g. establish "permanent" DiEM25 academies coordinated by the CC and NCs).
- Map existing organisations (NGOs, informal grassroots, or others) where we could play a facilitator role, with the goal of enriching our movement via partnerships or recruitment, while also establishing potential electoral partnerships for our EWs.

But, we have:

- Low percentage of engaged, voting members
- Few paying members
- Insufficient diversity (our membership is largely urban and educated)
- No coherent mapping of our partnerships with local grassroots movements and civil society organisations developed by our volunteers

2. Influencing and winning

2.1 Where we are today

- Since our founding in 2016, we developed a set of comprehensive and concrete policy proposals to transform Europe, from our [Manifesto](#) to the [END, GNDE](#), and the New Deal for Greece (now taking the Establishment head-on in Greece's Parliament).
- Began forming an ambitious participatory Progressive Agenda for Europe with our European New Deal (later the GNDE).
- Took the lead in promoting the "In the EU – against this EU" narrative prior to the Brexit referendum, playing a decisive role in shaping debates in the Labour Party.
- Articulated a sophisticated, Europeanist, progressive position on Catalonia; a position that, for the first time in Europe, laid down an approach to democratic independence referenda within a democratised European Union [EU].
- Organised high-level events (e.g. The Real State of the Union in Brussels) that brought DiEM25 onto the radar of the Establishment and positioned us in the debate for Europe's future.
- Established the Progressive International with Bernie Sanders, the Prime Minister of Iceland and thousands of progressives from around the world, that will be fully launched in early 2020.
- Decided to operate as a grassroots movement with "electoral wings", putting into practice a unique model of action whereby all electoral activity is subservient to the movement (our Not Just Another Political Party proposal).
- Created political parties in Germany (DiE) and Greece ([MeRA25](#)), with MeRA25 now having nine MPs in the Greek Parliament.
- Allied with parties in France, Poland, Portugal, Austria, Spain and Denmark: establishing and managing the European Spring coalition, the first pan-European list. It attracted 1.5 million votes in the European elections and substantial media coverage, but won no seats. Our bid nonetheless grew our membership numbers by 20,000 and raised awareness around the fact that there is an alternative to the current European Establishment.
- Contributed to the wider campaign to free Julian Assange - (ran a [petition](#) with 95k signatories, held simultaneous events and protests around Europe, supported the We Are Millions exhibition etc).

But:

- Our Progressive Agenda for Europe and the policy pillars that it comprises, remain unfinished and disconnected.
- Our proposals are rarely fully adapted to local (national/regional/municipal) realities; often hard for individual members to understand and campaign on them.
- We failed to build an electoral representation in Italy, after multiple attempts to form coalitions: a failure of both our strategy and the fractured Left.
- We ran specific, targeted campaigns on transparency and migration which didn't gain traction
- We were unable to expand our Rebel Cities network.
- Major campaigns: With the exception of the GNDE campaign, we have gone broad and shallow, as opposed to focused and deep. Externally, there is a sense that people are unsure of what DiEM25 stands for and what makes us unique; internally, our approach to developing campaigns, as with our policy paper development, has been somewhat scattered and disconnected.
- Our original slogan 'Europe will be democratised or it will disintegrate', while still pertinent, is difficult to defend.

2.2 What we propose

- We declare officially that the European Spring coalition is over – that its mandate expired on May 2, and that it served its purpose. We maintain friendly relations with our European Spring partners, but ensure that our continued cooperation with them is evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and not that of an expired alliance.
- We strive to implement our policies *ourselves*, by professionalising and building-out our Electoral Wing approach, as opposed to building alliances before we have the structure and strength to sustain our cohesion within them.
- We ensure the standardisation of the branding, political principles and organising framework behind all of our EWs.
- We resolve to no longer consider alliances with parties that are not:
 - based on a concrete common programme
 - united behind common representatives of that programme
 - aspire to our common values, as set out by a document to be drafted by the CC and voted through an AMV
- Build out the teams in the NCs and EWs who can implement the pan-European strategy under CC coordination.
- DiEM25 is an inclusive, grassroots movement with a holistic vision to address Europe's overlapping crises. For the next year, we prioritise work on the topics in our Progressive Agenda, by putting them into groups (current affairs might decide switching things around mid-way through the year, but this should only be done with an explicit minuted decision by the CC).
- For example:
 - **Priority 1:** Continue to build up our GNDE policy agenda and campaigns around it.
 - **Priority 2:** DiEM25 will develop, in parallel to our GNDE, a vision for a Post-capitalist Democratic Europe.
 - **Priority 3:** DiEM25 completes strategically selected pillars of the Progressive Agenda for Europe (depending on strategic priorities) and campaign around them.
 - Policy papers: We finish or refresh policy proposals on these topics, adapting them where possible to local/national contexts, and publishing and PRing the results widely.
 - Campaigns: We build teams that can advocate, agitate, and organise to sell our demands, both in terms of thought leadership and electorally, and go out and do it.
 - **Priority 4:** DiEM25 completes all remaining pillars of the Progressive Agenda For Europe (depending on strategic priorities) – even if we choose not to campaign around them.
 - Policy papers: We aim to finish most of the papers on these topics, or group them together if appropriate.
 - Campaigns: We do not actively campaign on these topics, but we may connect to and visibly support the campaigns of others on these topics.
 - **Priority 5:** DiEM25 institutes process for identifying new pillars/issues.
 - We identify new pillars and clarify intersections between them, mapping our published positions to date, and aim to integrate them where possible into our Progressive Agenda.

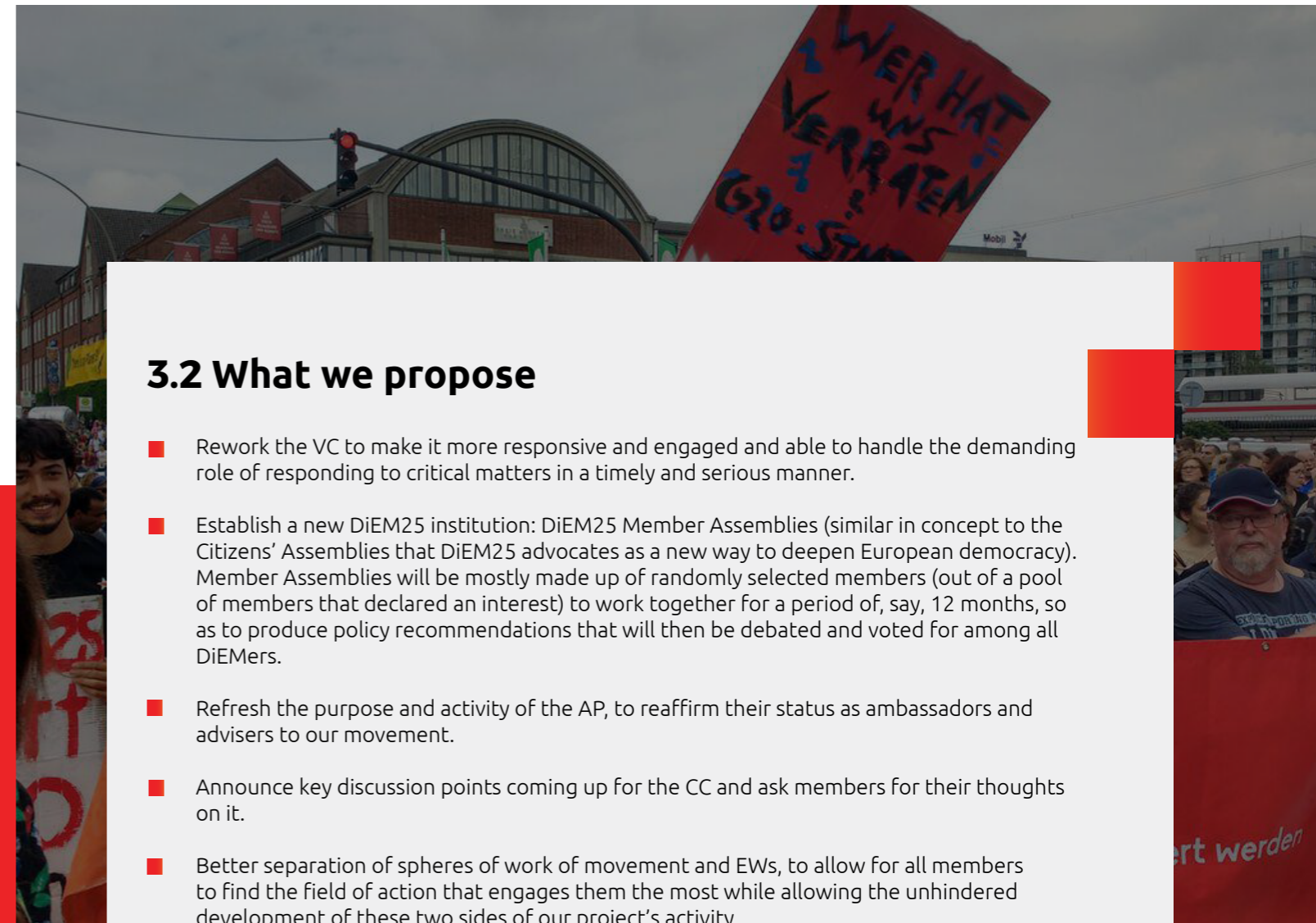
3. Running an effective movement

3.1 Where we are today

- Our [Organising Principles](#) have been innovative in their combination of horizontality and verticality, and have given us a form of online democracy that is under constant development.'

But:

- We believe that online deliberation and online decision-making is key to our transnationality. At the same time, there are limits to what we can achieve online. Ultimately, we will be measured by what we can achieve offline.
- There is a need for better membership on-boarding and mentorship to ensure a good level of understanding of internal rules within DiEM25, our movement's strategy and priorities, and how one can become active.
- There is sometimes a sense of mistrust towards the CC, often resolving from poor communication practices.



3.2 What we propose

- Rework the VC to make it more responsive and engaged and able to handle the demanding role of responding to critical matters in a timely and serious manner.
- Establish a new DiEM25 institution: DiEM25 Member Assemblies (similar in concept to the Citizens' Assemblies that DiEM25 advocates as a new way to deepen European democracy). Member Assemblies will be mostly made up of randomly selected members (out of a pool of members that declared an interest) to work together for a period of, say, 12 months, so as to produce policy recommendations that will then be debated and voted for among all DiEMers.
- Refresh the purpose and activity of the AP, to reaffirm their status as ambassadors and advisers to our movement.
- Announce key discussion points coming up for the CC and ask members for their thoughts on it.
- Better separation of spheres of work of movement and EWs, to allow for all members to find the field of action that engages them the most while allowing the unhindered development of these two sides of our project's activity.
- Reshape the NC elections to ensure that NC members, like CC members, are elected with identical mandates and self-organise. Instead of grouping candidates by 'areas of responsibility', technical jobs in NCs should be entrusted to ex-officios best suited for the tasks, and directly coordinated by and accountable to the pan-European coordinators of the CC to ensure European-wide coherence, consistency and continuity.
- Make the CC more visible for the DiEM25 community, and communicate decisions more transparently and faster.
- Hold regular calls between CC representatives and NCs, to ensure pan-European coordination.
- Establishing DiEM25's Office in Brussels, which will help with day-to-day organisation and serve as an international hub for our members and partners.
- Introduce a Participatory Budgeting process to allow members to allocate a certain percentage of DiEM25's budget.
- Develop a Code of Conduct to deal with cases of discrimination and uncomradely behaviour within the movement.
- Strengthen our fundraising activities, making the entire movement involved in it, to arm DiEM25 with the necessary material and human resources.