# A LOOK INSIDE THE WORLD FORUM FOR DEMOCRACY



77 More than 2500 participants. More than 100 countries. All continents.

Open and free for anyone who wants to share ideas on how to make democracy stronger

#### An annual event organised jointly by:

- ► Council of Europe
- European Parliament
- ► French Authorities
- Region Grand Est
- City of Strasbourg



### COUNCIL OF EUROPE







Initiated in 2012, the World Forum for Democracy is a platform for dialogue and innovation in democratic governance, which promotes the Council of Europe principles across the world. A unique event of its kind, it addresses key CHALLENGES facing democracy taking as a starting point ground-breaking initiatives, and fostering debate between different actors in order to find concrete SOLUTIONS. A democratic exercise in itself, the Forum aims at giving the people – demos – their rightful place in political decision-making. It thus contributes to the evolution of democracy towards more participatory and inclusive structures and institutions, and to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16 on building just and peaceful societies.

> GOVERNMENTS PARLIAMENTS CIVIL SOCIETY PRIVATE SECTOR ACADEMIA INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS YOUTH COUNCIL OF EUROPE SCHOOLS OF POLITICAL STUDIES CITIZENS







# Incubator for participatory democracy

An alliance of democracy innovators, brought together by the Council of Europe at the World Forum for Democracy. Its purpose is to connect city governments in Europe and beyond with democracy innovators to replicate and scale up democratic innovations. The incubator supports initiatives – digital and offline – that contribute to the redistribution of political power towards citizens, and that support the broadest possible citizen participation in the cities' decision-making procedures. The incubator builds an open infrastructure to boost democracy for inclusive and innovative cities.

# Satellite events

The Forum welcomes the organisation of "satellite events" by universities renowned in the sphere of political studies and international relations, non-governmental organisations, municipalities and other institutions. The organising institutions are free to decide independently about the dates and format of the event, the speakers and the specific topic(s). The satellite events can take place any time during the year. Possible formats include seminars or a seminar series, lectures in schools, surveys, social media campaigns, hackathons, local implementation of innovation initiatives presented in previous Forums, radio/TV debates, or lightening talks with public at large (at NGOs, schools, community centres, etc.).

## **Children's Forum**

Recognising the importance of educating children for democracy from the early ages, the Council of Europe offers to them a dedicated space, "Children's Forum", to allow them to express freely, to participate, to learn voting as the parliamentarians do, to cast their vote, to learn and ask questions about their rights, to innovate, in a context which allows their voice heard at European level.



## WORLD FORUM FOR DEMOCRACY KEY THEMES

- Innovation
- Participation vs influence
- Inclusive decision-making
- Participatory democracy
- ► E-democracy
- Competences for democratic citizenship
- ► Democracy literacy
- ▶ Freedom vs control

For more information: www.world-forum-democracy.org @coe #CoE\_WFD @WFDemocracy www.facebook.com/wfdemocracy

# www.coe.int

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.









ENG