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DEMOCRATIC
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**INDEPENDENT
AND EFFECTIVE
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WHAT ARE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS?

— In a functioning democracy, independent branches of government share power: a parliament represents people and makes laws, an executive governs while remaining transparent and accountable, and courts apply the law fairly to everyone, in an independent and impartial manner.



SEPARATION OF POWERS



The legislative, executive and judicial branches operate **independently** and **without excessive concentration of powers**.



Parliaments oversee and control the executive, including its power to legislate, with clearly defined and strictly limited exceptions.

Government actions are **transparent**, **accountable**, and **oversight is ensured**.



INDEPENDENT, IMPARTIAL AND EFFECTIVE JUDICIARIES



Judicial independence and impartiality are guaranteed.

Accountability and transparency of the judiciary is ensured.

Prosecutors are **objective, impartial, and accountable**.



Everyone can **access justice effectively**.



3 THEMATIC AREAS

INDEPENDENT AND EFFECTIVE PARLIAMENTS



A **pluralist** political system allows representation of **diverse interests**.



Integrity frameworks and the regulation of financing ensure the effective functioning of parliaments.

The role and participation of the parliamentary opposition is regulated, enabled and respected.



Parliamentary immunity guarantees that members of parliament can fulfil their democratic mandate.



Contribution to the
New Democratic Pact for Europe