



DIRECT DEMOCRATIC EURO-VISION NEWSLETTER

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WORLDWIDE DIRECT DEMOCRACY NEWSLETTER **DIREKTAKRY**

Organizations or Spontaneous Grassroots Movements?

Several attempts have been made to promote DD by means of organizations of various types. The most important so far is the German **Mehr Demokratie e.V.** which has achieved an official status and has been able to influence German politics on the local and even regional level, even outside Germany. Similar, but by far less important organizations have emerged in various countries.

An attempt at founding an international organization was made at the Second International DD Conference in Athens/Delphi in 2000. Recently, the e2d International is meeting a promising response. In Italy, **Democratici Diretti** put forward a draft of a European DD Constitution.

Even political parties based upon the concept of *Direct Democracy* emerge, for instance: **Direktdemokraterna** in Sweden. In Czech Republic, a few years ago, a DD Party (Demokracie DK) obtained a certain response, without, however, making it to Parliament. Recently, the party **Dawn of Direct Democracy**, founded by Senator *Okamura*, of Japanese origin, has entered the political scene.

Apart from attempts of this type, some activists begin to realize that an organization is not the only possible way to work for a change of the political system. The basis of any Western type system is the Constitution. It is logical, and need not be proved, that any system deserving to be called democratic, must be based on a Constitution approved by the majority of the citizens, participants of a referendum organized expressly for this purpose. The system of a country where this has not happened is not legitimate and should not be called "democratic". The citizens of such countries, i. e. almost all Western ones except Switzerland, live on a gigantic lie. However, in the long run, this situation is untenable. In Czech Republic, for instance, since many years, a proposal for a truly democratic citizens' constitution has been published on the website of the formal Movement for Direct Democracy. A poll, in which more than 1,400 persons participated, showed that almost all citizens (more than 98 %) agree to the basic principles of this draft. Whether through organizations or spontaneously and individually, sooner or later, the citizens are bound to push through a radical change.

Dr. Mike Stagman: Leafleting!



Honest People

Reasons YOU,
Your Children and Grandchildren
should support proposals for
DIRECT DEMOCRACY

Direct Democracy [let's call it DD sometimes] means **Rule by the People themselves**, NOT rule indirectly by [purchasable, unduly influenced] representatives, delegates, etc.
[The term Democracy comes from the ancient Classical Athenian direct, grassroots democracy, *Rule by the People, the Demos*.

Indirect, representative democracy, devised by **Aristocracy** to perpetuate **Oligarchy** [Gr. Rule by the Few, the Rich and Powerful] -- our fraudulent, pseudo-democratic system - is **Oligarchy in the disguise of democracy**. That's precisely what our terrible system is -- Rule by the Rich & Powerful, pretending it is democracy.

How do the Corporate Elite oligarchs dominate political systems, educational systems, most all of us, etc? Secondarily via **massive Bribery & Corruption**. [The Classical Athenian Direct Democracy had almost ZERO Bribery & Corruption during 150 years!! Please note this!]

But primarily via their **corporate mass media Thought Control machine**. Thought Control is the great perverter, because Corporate domination, Corruption, and volumes of Injustice depend absolutely on an **ignorant, passive/misled General Public**, [ignorant of **essential information on vital issues**; the mass-media Machine regularly suppresses truth, distorts truth, and showers outright propaganda lies]

Results of Oligarchy rule:

- Brutal wars for profit & power;
- **Gigantic Banking cartel fraud and theft** [Corruption then **punishes the victims** with Austerity!!believe it or not.Leaning the looters are the 3 biggest American banks -- Citigroup (Rockefeller-controlled for ages), JPMorgan Chase (Rockefeller), Bank of America (very probably Rockefeller)];
- **Oil cartel prices** 100 times the cost of production, oil driving doomsday Global Warming [the international Oil cartel dominated by the Rockefellers since the 1870s];
- **Nuclear power plant disasters** [Chernobyl killed one million people! Fukushima is much worse and continues, still pouring out 300 tons of radioactive water into ocean and air **daily**, savagely poisoning animal and plant species - and already beginning on **us**!];
- **crippling GMOs and sacrilegious Patents on Life** -- poisonous food&medicine, corporate domination of Agriculture, ruin of small farmers everywhere on earth;
- **Lousy educational systems** chaining students [in the United States and UK, for example] with mountains of debt, Etc. etc. with these Evils & Injustices.

WHAT TO DO about corporate mass media Thought Control? How to create an informed, sparetime-activist General Public? [Sparetime participation in the social-political system was the Classical Athenian secret, **just a few hours per week, but regularly as part of an ethical life-style**. Simply talking with your friends about a vital issue is participation.]

Some Key Features of Direct Democracy:

1. **an informed, sparetime-participating** [regarding vital issues] **General Public**
2. **Community Assemblies** -- get together with others in your community [town, university, workplace] and decide what you want and what you don't want. [When enough people & communities do this, they will **BECOME** the political system!]
3. **Insist on a National Initiative & Referendum**, which is NOT subject to executive, legislative, or judicial approval. The People's judgment is final.

What To Do? Support DD, Direct Democracy.

How?

1. Read this leaflet and think a little about it.
2. **Photocopy it** and hand it out to family, friends, colleagues, well-meaning people you know. Talk to them about it.
3. Ask them to **PASS IT ON** also, furthering a **Chain Process** of education (with essential info on this vital issue)

For the really inspired, please do one of the following:

1. You and a companion go to a **university**, pass out leaflets, talk to students about DD. Ask them to consider becoming a DDer.
2. You and a companion go **Door-to-Door** in your community, passing out leaflets and talking just a little to folks who answer the door. Tell them why you are doing this, and that it benefits their children and grandchildren.
3. **Telephone** all around, certainly including strangers. Tell them why you are calling, ask if they would be interested in receiving a leaflet.

In this simple way, we begin to create an **informed, sparetime-activist General Public. AND a Grassroots Mass Media** ["game over" for the corporate mass media Thought Control machine!].

These are THE foundation of DD, a direct democracy which will reverse the horrors brought to us by Oligarchic, indirect, pseudo-democracy dominated by the Rich & Powerful.

Freedom, Equality, Justice and Friendship for us.

Note: This kind of **de-centralized, self-generating Grassroots Public Education** campaigning is **EASY** and virtually **COST-FREE** (LEAFLETS are cheap).

Become a DDer, Join the DD Movement, and help rescue our desperate Planet and give a good, decent life to your kids, grandchildren, everyone.

Note: *The above project has received moral support from Ph.D. **Ted Becker**, professor of political science, USA, undoubtedly the most prominent expert on Direct Democracy globally. Apart from the above leaflet, Dr. Stagman sent us detailed suggestions how to carry out a democratization campaign. For more information please contact him at artemesium@yahoo.co.uk*

INTERNATIONAL

Czech Republic

Recently published:



Moderní přímá demokracie

Švýcarsko-český dialog

V RÁMCI PROJEKTU ŠVÝCARSKÉ JARO 2013

Ustavil se shromažďovat. Ustavil se
www.swissworld.org



Modern Direct Democracy (45 pages)

Swiss-Czech Dialogue, within the framework of the project *Swiss Spring 2013*

Edited by the *Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Secretariat, Institute for Initiative and Referendum Europe* and the *Swiss Embassy in Czech Republic*, in cooperation with students of the *Faculty of Law of the Charles' University, Prague*.

The booklet brings the history of the development of the Swiss system since 1848 and of the Czechoslovak and later Czech Systems since 1918. It is a very useful source of information, not only about the specific Swiss institutions – initiative and referenda on various levels – but also about how they are used in reality. Referenda play a more important role in Switzerland than anywhere else, but even there, there are some limitations: It is the Parliament which decides whether an initiative may be presented for referendum. To be accepted, the initiative has to have a homogenous form, it has to focus on one issue only, and it has to be compatible with international law.

In Czech Republic, the limitations are much more strict, they leave almost all power in the hands of (party) politicians. The right to I&R hardly exists at all,

Nevertheless, in Switzerland and everywhere else in the West, the general trend is a successive strengthening of the

Vznik parlamentu

Římská říše

Další pokus o nastolení demokracie probíhal ve Starém Římě od 4. století př. n. l., kdy systém obsahující munitivní prvky (dvě kruznicové) a amfiteatrickou instituci (senát) byl zkombinován s veřejným shromážděním. Později však tyto demokratické prvky vymizely, neboť autokratická panovníci, jako Cezar a Augustus (Octavianus), si začali přisvojovat veškeré pravomoci státu.

Středověké inovace

Ve 12. a 14. století byla zavedena důležitá součást mnohých současných forem demokracie: volený parlament. Velikost však parameitry byly zavedeny v 11. a 12. století, jejich pravomoc byla velmi omezená. Poskytovaly nicméně inspiraci myslitelům a filozofům a vznikaly nové koncepce, jako například systém čestů a vyvažování moci mezi jednotlivými státními orgány (tzv. checks-and-balances (John Locke)). Další významnou novinkou v tomto období byly vydání Listiny práv (Bill of Rights) v Anglii v roce 1689. Jednalo se o první krok směrem k ustanovení lidských práv jako důležité součásti moderní demokracie.



Pláněný ústavní konvent – podpořeno americkými dětmi

Moderní průlom

První skutečně moderní demokratické státy vznikly až po revoluci ve Spojených státech amerických a po Francouzské revoluci v roce 1789. Francouzská ústava z roku 1793 jako první zavedla po libovolný systém, který představoval spojení volené vlády a národní přímé demokracie ve formě občanské iniciativy a referenda. Tato koncepce moderní zastupitelství demokracie a suverenity lidí od té doby inspirovala země a lidi po celém světě – včetně Švýcarska.



Obraz „Dobry Bystly“ malovaný vlnitými hroty

Nedokončená cesta

Podstatné snahy o získání vlády

Myšlenka účasti veřejnosti na veřejné správě byla po tisíce let zdánlivě fascinací a důvodem čelných bojů o moc. Krok za krokem však tato myšlenka byla proměňována ve skutečnost a lidé získávali reálnou možnost proměňovat svůj životní svět. Říkem této doby se značně rozvíjely základní představy o tom, co znamená „demokracie“. Ve starověku demokracie znamenala jednoduše snahy, kde občané mohli být diskuse a rozhodovat o veřejných záležitostech. Dnes „demokracie“ představuje mnohem složitější soubor zásad a procesních pravidel, včetně lidských práv, právních norem a práva na otevřenost a spravedlivé veřejné hlasování (volby, referenda).

Starověké Řecko: Aristotelés byl prvním, kdo mluvil o „demokracii“ (vláda lidu) zrodila. Právě zde byl v roce 594 před naším letopočtem zaveden princip rovnosti práv a zepsán zákon lidu k moci. Lidé na veřejném životě a práva vykonávat úřední funkce byly poprvé dostupné pro širší vrstvy populace.

Z této počáteční formy demokracie však stále byla vyloučena většina lidí, jako ženy a otroci, a ve skutečnosti měla vláda lidu strukturu té cnby byla za ožena na otrokářském systému, který elitě umožňoval náctník se shromažďování.

Nástup politických teoretiků

V této době žili významní političtí teoretici, slavníci, a filozofové: Perikles, Sokrates, Plátón a Aristoteles, kteří přispěli k rozvoji a činných koncepcí demokracie, jako je konstitucionalismus a politická veřejných debat před přijetím rozhodnutí. Tyto nadčasové myšlenky dnes stále na inspiroji snahy směřují k demokracii začít. Jelikož však nelze vytvořit dokonalý systém, demokracie zůstane nedokončenou cestou.



Aristotelés na Řeckém hrobového Aristotelés



Marionová socha spartanského hoplita a charakteristickou grifem



„Přepel“ v Alžírě – snímek, který se stal symbolem demokracie

elements of direct democracy. It can't be denied that the Swiss, essentially I&R based, system has created a prosperous, peaceful and flourishing society. And not only that. There are considerable differences among the cantons as to the degree of direct democracy existing in them. Statistics show that the cantons with much DD are reaching a higher degree of living standard than those which have less of it. Something to be kept in mind in Czech Republic!!

Recently, Ms **Miluš Kotišová**, a well-known political theorist, published an article inspired by the fact that participation in elections is steadily diminishing. "In my opinion, in elections, democracy confirms its legitimacy. To preserve at least some sort of legitimacy, it is necessary to invent a mechanism able to evaluate more accurately what do NON-voters want and why they do not participate in elections. How? The best way is to adjudge to behaviour in advance a certain explicit value." For this purpose, Ms Kotisova says we should try to find a solution including jointly several problems. Proposal:

Citizens should have four options: 1. Abstain from voting, 2. Vote on a party/candidate, 3. Vote for a program priority (if there is nobody to vote on), 4. cast an empty vote (this, however, would probably not happen frequently in the new system.)

Participation in each election should give the voter a certain tax reduction. In case of non-participation, the respective amount would be transferred to the Treasury. This would be bound to increase participation dramatically. At the same time, in the voting procedure, an electronic system would be used instead of paper ballot. (As early as several years ago, Ms Kotisova put forward a proposal of an internet-based voting system.)



Miluš Kotišová

On 29 June, from Eng. **Jan Piroutek** we received information about a new, ingenious and promising project based on the same ideas as the above, only in much more detail.

IVP&R Assignment

(Internet Voting Program & Referenda) [version 30. 6. 2013]

*Altogether, "Whoever denies freedom and non-violence to others, deserves neither."
There will always be thousands of the so-called experts claiming something isn't possible until
something ignorant comes around and makes it happen.*

A) IVP&R fast, clear and simple:

What? Computer-based voting program for electing/recalling of specific individuals and referenda against harmful laws, contracts, institutions and individuals. Furthermore, for the real feedback-enabled democratic Czech Republic using internet while setting restrictions (by the constitution) for the necessary authorities, especially their legal powers, expenditures, debts, taxes and money emission.

....(we are) against the absurd etatism, state dirigism, public debts, against public budget deficits, the arrogance of unwanted power, the growth of public spending, corruption, quota regulations, taxes, inflation, ... We are for a minimum army and grassroots home defence, revision of the now obligatory payments for unwanted state measures ... we have a clear idea about what the citizens should require state power to supply ... and, on the contrary, what public service absolutely is not allowed to do, and especially for what not to increase taxes, public debts, emit money etc."

15 May: **HZPD** (Movement for Direct Democracy) wrote (excerpt), "We are glad to inform you that HZPD has established contacts with the *Democracy International* movement whose aim is to unite and lead the fight for DD on the global level, but especially within the framework of the European Union. See: <https://www.democratieuropenow.eu>

UK

Information from **I&Rgb** (excerpts):

7 May, **"Political parties and direct democracy:** Direct democracy is for everybody, it is a human and civil right which should be available to citizens and voters in all countries and at all levels of government. Modern direct democracy with procedures such as the citizens' initiative, veto referendum and recall, has spread only slowly since its introduction in Switzerland and the USA about a hundred years ago. Blame for this slow progress, in some cases blockade, should mostly be placed at the door of political parties and with many politicians."

"Politicians know that direct democracy, in many countries, is liked and desired by a large majority of voters. Parties have sometimes exploited the people's wish for better democracy by promising to introduce some procedures of direct democracy, if elected to power. Once elected, they often failed to fulfil their promise. A recent example of this was provided by the UK government, a coalition of conservatives and liberals, elected in 2010." "The citizens' right to call a referendum has been utterly "forgotten" by the Con/Libdems."

"You may ask, what can be done to introduce genuine direct (citizen-led) democracy in the UK and its countries?

We must build a well-informed, large and active democracy movement and campaign, so big that politicians will stop resisting

We must persuade the political "class" to co-operate in introducing procedures of direct democracy. Candidates for Parliament who do not agree to this should not receive our votes."

(This strategy could and should be used in all western countries,

not only the UK. JP).

For details concerning these proposals and principles, please look at the I&R-GB website: <http://www.iniref.org>

24 May, A letter from Dr **Michael Macpherson**: "Hallo Friends and Supporters of Direct Democracy in Britain, A few days ago we received a request for a speaker, from Leon Noakes, copied below: If you would like to act as a speaker at the proposed meeting in Wales then please contact Leon Noakes via e-mail <leonnoakes@live.co.uk>

8 June, ... "According to surveys most adults in Britain, more than seven out of ten, support the principle that if a large number of citizens sign a public proposal then a referendum must be held.".....

15 June, ... "REPLY FROM EDWARD GOLDWYN, LONDON, PRODUCER OF BBC HORIZON SCIENCE SERIES AND MUCH MORE

Edward wrote 10th June 2014

I think we need to excite people by the politics they could have. Firstly devise a leaflet that shows very briefly in diagrams and cartoons what the Swiss have and what they have in California. We want to get all voters to see it."

18 June, "We have a DIRECT DEMOCRACY leaflet which you may wish to print and distribute or link on-line."

30 June, "COMMENT to the Scotsman newspaper, 30 June 2014

Beg to report legal, constitutional flaws

"M. Sheridan writes, "the constitution specifies that, in Scotland, the people are sovereign. However, there is no mechanism for people in Scotland to exercise sovereignty and it is clear from other terms that sovereignty lies with the Scottish Parliament."

Germany



mdmagazin 2/2014, Nr. 100

Editorial: **Roman Huber**

Europa: Das geheim verhandelte Freihandelsabkommen TTIP gefährdet die Demokratie

Rezension: Gerd Leipold/Walter Sittler: Zeit, sich einzumischen Europa:

Grösste Bürgerklage: Urteil gesprochen

Demokratischer Konvent für Europa

....Die Schweiz ka-pieren, nicht ko-pieren

Denn bei den vielen liegt alles

Direkte Demokratie erleben

Wir haben gewonnen

Konflikte und ihre Eskalation

Bundesweite Volksentscheide:

Sternstunde der Demokratie?

Europa:

"Kaum schranken gegen die Mehrheitsherrschaft"

Interview zur Lage der Demokratie in Ungarn

Kurz notiert:

Demokratie-Nachrichten

Bundesländer:



3/2014, Nr. 101

Editorial by Dr. **Michael Effer**

EUROPA

Für ein Europa der Bürger!

Die neuen im EU-Parlament

Die EU braucht eine Reformdebatte

100 gegen TTIP

Ein Recht auf Lobbyismus?

TTIP und das deutsche Grundgesetz

Krim, Donezk, Katalonien...

Ein Sprung nach vorn

BUNDESLÄNDER

Für stärkere Kommunen und Länder

Kommunale Kooperation

Ländertelegramm (mit Terminen vor Ort)

OMNIBUS FÜR DIREKTE DEMOKRATIE

Demokratie und Ökologie

Italy

23 May, a letter by Mr. **Teo Martini** to *e2d-international*:

"Dear Sir, Madam, we are sending you this mail to promote our direct democracy association to you and to look for a potential collaboration between our groups.

As activists directly involved in direct democracy, we have noticed for so many years that one of the main issues, possibly the main issue that direct democracy associations have is their inability or unwillingness to work together. This causes a lot of duplicated work and lots of confusion.

We would like to reach out to your association to evaluate the opportunity to work together and possibly join forces in the future.

Three years ago, a group of young Italians founded an association called 'Tecnologie Democratiche' (in English: 'Democratic Technologies') with the goal of creating and promoting an advanced direct and participative democracy software called *Airesis*.

The group now has hundreds of members and a Facebook page with over 1200 followers.

<http://www.tecnologiedemocratiche.it>

Switzerland/Europe

Europa-Magazin 1/2014

edito: Dr. **Paul Ruppen**. Quotation: "Nach dem Ja zur 'Masseneinwanderungsinitiative' gabe es in der Presse erneut kritik an der direkten Demokratie," Dr Ruppen criticizes the nonsensical standpoint Dr. Auer's according to whom '.... die Summe jener Aktivbürger, die um Stichtag eine Mehrheit bilden, keine organische Gesamtheit ist und weder denken, noch diskutieren, noch handeln kann'.

Articles:

Rudolf Strahm: Hebelt die EU die duale Berufsbildung aus?

Kurzinfos: SP Schweiz nach der Abstimmung vom 9.2.14;

Gauck warnt vor der direkten Demokratie

Paul Ruppen: Einwanderungsinitiative und Bilaterale

Buchbesprechungen

Neugründung Europas als passive Revolution?

"Denn der Menschheit drohen Kriege": Neutralität contra EU-Grossmachtschwahn

Lucius Theiler: Retour aux sources

Paul Ruppen: Quand on place ses espoirs en de lointain "élites" plutôt que dans la démocratie ...

Auf dem Weg in die Zweite Liga in www.german-foreign-policy.com

Gerald Oberansmayr: "Die Gewerkschaften werden fallen wie die Berliner Mauer"

Roman Huber: Das geheim verhandelte Freihandelsabkommen TTIP gefährdet die Demokratie ...

Kurzinfos

International

July 27, a letter from Mr. **Jesper Blaaberg** to E2D-International:

"I am writing you to ask for permission to include a link to E2D and the following text on our site *Borgerindflydelse.dk*. The text is from your mission statement.

"The mission for Electronic Direct Democracy (E2D) International is to help establish, to support and promote, and to maintain communication and co-operation between politically-neutral electronic direct democracy parties around the world." *Borgerindflydelse* is a non profit initiative that advocates for the implementation of direct democracy in Denmark."

July 27, an answer by Mr. **Paul Nolen**: "Hello Jesper, ofcourse you can link to 2D but there is little or no activity for the moment. Maybe you can use some of the information.

I am a member of the Belgian organisation for the promotion of Direct Democracy, the website is www.democratie.nu, only in Dutch.

I am also a member of Democracy International www.democracy-international.org and I am active for a while in www.participedia.net both of them working mainly in English.

All the best

Paul"

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION 300,- Czech Crowns

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