

# Democracy Quiz Answers



**Welcome to the "Democracy Quiz Answers" document!  
In celebration of Democracy Day, we're excited to  
reveal the correct answers to our quiz.**

**Let's dive in and see how well you did.**

**Thank you for participating and embracing the spirit of  
democracy!**



# 1. Where was the term Democracy used for the first time?

## Ancient Greece

Athens is often credited with being the birthplace of democracy in its direct form, where citizens had the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes and the governance of the city.

The concept of democracy as practised in Athens was quite different from modern representative democracies, as it was limited to a relatively small group of male citizens and excluded women, slaves, and non-citizens from political participation.

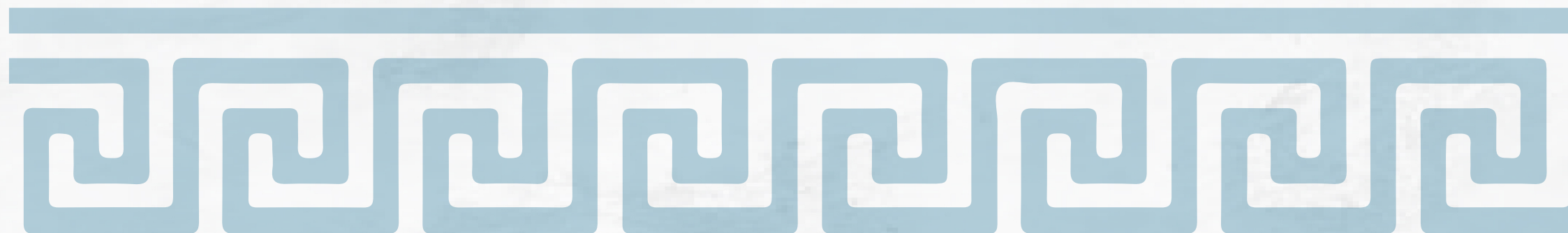
Nevertheless, the term "democracy" itself originated in ancient Greece.



## 2. Where does the word democracy come from?

The word "democracy" has its origins in ancient Greek. It is derived from two Greek words: "demos," which means "people," and "kratos," which means "rule" or "power."

So, "democracy" essentially means "rule by the people" or "power of the people." The concept of democracy as a form of government was first developed in ancient Athens in the 5th century BCE, and the term itself was used to describe this system of government in which citizens had a direct say in decision-making.



### 3. Is Democracy a value on which the European Union is based?

**Yes**

**Democracy is one of the core principles outlined in the Treaty on European Union (TEU), which serves as the EU's foundational document. The TEU states that the EU is founded on values such as "respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law, and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities."**

**The EU places a strong emphasis on democratic governance among its member states and has established mechanisms to promote and protect democracy within the Union. These mechanisms include regular assessments of the state of democracy in member countries and the potential suspension of voting rights for countries that violate democratic principles, as outlined in Article 2 and 7 of the TEU.**

**Furthermore, the EU actively supports democracy and democratic development beyond its borders through various programs and initiatives, including support for democratic institutions, civil society organisations, and election monitoring in countries around the world.**

## 4. According to you, what makes a democracy resilient?



- **Freedom of assembly:** This is a fundamental aspect of democracy as it allows citizens to gather, express their opinions, and engage in peaceful protest. Protecting freedom of assembly is crucial for ensuring that citizens can voice their concerns and hold the government accountable.
- **Strong citizen participation:** Active and informed citizen participation is essential for a democracy to thrive. When citizens are engaged in the political process through voting, advocacy, and community involvement, it strengthens the democratic system's legitimacy and responsiveness.
- **Good Governance:** Good governance practices, including transparency, accountability, and the rule of law, are vital for the functioning of a democratic system. When government institutions operate transparently and are held accountable for their actions, it helps build trust among citizens and ensures that the government serves the people's interests.

These elements, when combined, contribute to the resilience of a democracy by promoting civic engagement, safeguarding individual rights, and ensuring that the government remains accountable to the people it serves.

## **5. What tools have citizens at their disposal in order to shape the future of the EU?**

**Citizens of the European Union (EU) have several tools at their disposal to participate in and shape the future of the EU:**

- **European Citizens' Initiatives (ECIs):** ECIs allow EU citizens to directly propose new legislation to the European Commission if they can gather a sufficient number of signatures from citizens in multiple EU member states. This is a mechanism for citizens to influence EU policy making.
- **Citizens' Consultations:** These are organised events and processes that provide a platform for citizens to express their views and participate in discussions about the future of the EU. They can involve town hall meetings, surveys, and other methods to engage with citizens.
- **Petitions:** Citizens can submit petitions to the European Parliament on various issues they care about. If a petition receives enough support, it may be considered by the European Parliament, allowing citizens to raise specific concerns or advocate for particular changes.

**These tools are designed to promote citizen engagement and participation in the EU's decision-making processes, helping to ensure that the EU is responsive to the needs and concerns of its citizens.**

**6. Which is the Treaty that guarantees the principle of local democracy and lays down standards for protecting the rights of Local authorities?**

**European Charter of Local Self-Government" (ECLSG)**

**European Charter of Local Self-Government" (ECLSG). This charter, adopted by the Council of Europe, is also known as the "European Charter on Local Democracy."**

**It outlines principles and guidelines for the functioning of local governments and their relations with central governments, emphasising the importance of local autonomy and democratic governance at the local level.**

## **7. Which participatory democracy tool was established in 2021 and concluded its works in May 2022?**

### **Conference on the Future of Europe**

**The Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) was a pivotal participatory democracy initiative. The CoFoE was a significant initiative undertaken by the European Union (EU) to engage citizens in shaping the future of the EU. It provided a platform for people across Europe to voice their ideas, concerns, and visions for the EU's future.**

**ALDA played a significant role in this endeavour. As leader of the European Democracy thematic cluster within the Civil Society Convention for the Conference on the Future of Europe (CSOCoFoE), Mrs. Antonella Valmorbida, the Secretary General of ALDA, actively participated in the process. The goal of this platform is to bring together various civil society organisations and networks from across Europe, and provide a space for civil society to actively engage in the discussions and processes related to the Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE). It allows civil society organisations to contribute their perspectives, expertise, and recommendations on various aspects of European governance, policies, and societal issues.**

**The Conference on the Future of Europe (CoFoE) itself brought together diverse European networks and platforms, uniting millions of individuals engaged in various aspects of European life. Their collaborative efforts led to the formulation of recommendations across five thematic clusters, one of which was European Democracy. These recommendations were developed through a bottom-up approach, involving national and civil society organisations.**

**The CSOCoFoE organised a Final Event in March 2022 to present these recommendations, and Mrs. Antonella Valmorbida represented ALDA during the Democracy Panel. This initiative exemplified the power of civil society engagement in shaping Europe's future, showcasing how organisations like ALDA contributed to the dialogue within the broader framework of the Conference on the Future of Europe.**

## **8. How many years of democracy in action did the European Parliament celebrate in 2022?**

**70 years**

**The first meeting of the Common Assembly took place on September 10, 1952, in Strasbourg, France. This marked the beginning of the European Parliament's role in representing the citizens of the member states in the European integration process.**

**Over the years, the European Parliament's powers and influence have grown significantly, particularly through a series of treaties and reforms.**

## 9. What type of democracy allows all citizens to vote directly on matters? Direct

**Direct democracy is a form of democracy in which all eligible citizens have the opportunity to participate directly in decision-making by voting on specific issues, laws, or policies.**

**In a direct democracy, there are typically mechanisms like referendums or initiatives that allow citizens to cast their votes directly on matters without relying on elected representatives to make those decisions on their behalf.**



## 10. Which is NOT a characteristic of a democracy?

**Only the wealthy can vote**

**In a democratic system, the right to vote is typically extended to all eligible citizens, regardless of their wealth or socioeconomic status. Democracy aims to ensure equal political participation and representation, and limiting voting rights based on wealth would go against the principles of democratic governance.**

**Instead, democracies emphasise the principles of inclusivity, accountability, freedom of speech, and free elections to promote fair and representative governance.**