

Democracy27 Fact Sheet & FAQ:

Name	Democracy27
Tagline	Time to listen, Time to act
What it is	A citizen-rooted European initiative, built from civil society and connected to decision-making, committed to understanding why confidence in democracy is eroding and identifying practical and actionable recommendations to upgrade democracy, participation and public trust.
Who convenes it	A broad civil society network of democracy organisations that have collectively engaged more than one million people through democratic participation and civic initiatives.
Task force	A task force bringing together people with first-hand experience across democratic life, chaired by Věra Jourová and vice-chaired by Leo Varadkar and Najat Vallaud-Belkacem.
Method	Country visits, citizen conversations, civil society engagement, expert input and task force discussions. France is the first confirmed country visit.
Output	A report and roadmap in early 2027 with practical and actionable recommendations for European, national and local decision-makers, civil society organisations and citizens. The recommendations will identify what institutions can change, how civil society can help connect people to action, and how citizens can take part in upgrading democracy in everyday life.
Why now	Europeans strongly support democracy, yet many are dissatisfied with how it is working. The 2027 political cycle is a moment to understand this confidence gap and identify what needs to change.

FAQ:

What is Democracy27?

Democracy27 is a citizen-rooted European initiative, built from civil society and connected to decision-making. It is committed to understanding why confidence in democracy is eroding and identifying practical and actionable recommendations to upgrade democracy, participation and public trust ahead of the 2027 political cycle.

Why is Democracy27 needed if most Europeans support democracy?

Because support for democracy and satisfaction with how democracy works are not the same thing. Four in five Europeans strongly support democracy, yet two in three are dissatisfied with how it is working. Democracy27 exists to understand that gap and identify what needs to change.

Why is it launching now?

The 2027 political cycle will shape major national debates and Europe's future agenda. Democracy27 aims to make sure the confidence gap in democracy is understood before that moment, and that practical recommendations are ready to be taken forward.

What is Democracy27 trying to understand?

It is trying to understand why people who value democracy may still feel disappointed, unheard or unconvinced that democratic systems are responding to their concerns.

Who is behind Democracy27?

Democracy27 is rooted in a broad civil society network of democracy organisations that have collectively engaged more than one million people through democratic participation and civic initiatives. It also brings together a task force of people with first-hand experience across democratic life.

How will citizens be involved?

Citizens will be involved through country visits, citizen conversations and civil society engagement. France is the first confirmed country visit. The aim is to understand lived experience together with hard data.

What will the report include?

The report will combine what is heard through country visits and citizen conversations with civil society input, expert analysis and task force discussions. It will set out practical and actionable recommendations for decision-makers, civil society and citizens, showing both what institutions can change and how people can take part in upgrading democracy in everyday life.

What is Democracy27's commitment?

Democracy27 commits to listening, understanding why confidence is eroding and identifying practical and actionable recommendations to drive change.

How is Democracy27 different from other initiatives?

Democracy27 builds on existing democratic innovation across Europe. Its role is to listen, connect what is already happening and turn those lessons into practical recommendations that bridge decision makers and citizens.

Why should citizens care?

Because democracy is experienced differently by everyone and shows up in daily life: whether people feel heard, whether decisions feel close to them, whether public services respond, whether jobs and prices feel shaped by fair choices, and whether information can be trusted.

Will Democracy27 look at digital technology?

Yes. Technology is changing how people receive information, speak to each other and take part in public life. Democracy27 will look at how social media and digital platforms can support democracy rather than weaken trust, safety and participation, including questions of children's online safety and disinformation.

Will Democracy27 look at topics like security, education and the economy?

Yes. Democracy27 will look at democracy through the issues that shape people's daily lives and trust in public decision-making. This includes security, education and the economy, from resilience against interference and disinformation, to civic education and media literacy, to how economic insecurity, inequality and cost of living affect trust, participation and social cohesion.