



## **Concept of the Global Democracy Initiative (GDI)**

Several partner organizations will officially launch the Global Democracy Initiative (GDI) together on Saturday, 29 May 2021. The launch will take place online. The Initiative's aim will be to conceptualize and implement a global democratic system to find global solutions for today's global challenges.

The following organizations are starting this initiative together:

<b>Organization:</b>	<b>Contact person:</b>	<b>Web address:</b>
Democracia Global	Emilia Ismael	<a href="http://www.globaldemocracy.online">www.globaldemocracy.online</a>
Democracy Earth	Santiago Siri	<a href="http://words.democracy.earth">words.democracy.earth</a>
Global Online Democracy	Assaf Eshed	<a href="http://www.globalonlinedemocracy.org">www.globalonlinedemocracy.org</a>
Global People Power	Barnaby Flynn	<a href="http://www.globalpeoplepower.org">www.globalpeoplepower.org</a>
GloCo.ch	Gery Colombo	<a href="http://www.gloco.ch">www.gloco.ch</a>
Young World Federalists	Eston McKeague	<a href="http://www.ywf.world">www.ywf.world</a>
World Service Authority	David Gallup	<a href="http://www.worldservice.org">www.worldservice.org</a>

The main motivation for all partners in the GDI is as following:

"Rather than pursuing our synergistic missions independently, all member-organizations of the GDI will work together to achieve the goal we all share — a Global Democracy, by and for all the world's citizens. Each member-organization will contribute its individual strengths and expertise to the Initiative without having to compromise its own unique goals or agenda, so that together, as equal partners, we can take democracy into the global age.

Why now? Existing regional and national governments (democratic and non-democratic ones) continue to be able to address concerns related to their respective jurisdictions. Some of us believe in the ongoing legitimacy and local effectiveness of these authorities, imperfect though they may be, and do not aim to replace them. Others think that even (some of?) the existing governments need to be replaced. What worries all of us is the fact that their thinking often ends with their own borders at a time when many pressing issues are global in nature.

On the international level, conventional institutions also appear increasingly overwhelmed by the novel tasks they face. The scope of most current international decision-makers tends to be too narrow in terms of both geographical scale and time-horizon to adequately address today's increasingly global issues. The organizations that are presently focused on solving global problems frequently suffer from a democratic deficit: they are led and operated by elected or appointed officials rather than individual voters, who find themselves several degrees removed from the deciding bodies whose actions affect them directly.

The organizations that will comprise the Global Democracy Initiative all have one common goal: we want to achieve a democratic system that allows global citizens to weigh in on how global problems will be solved. In detail, each participating organization might have its own approach to this historic task — but the potential for synergies is real and significant. Ultimately, we all agree that a Global Democracy is necessary. The importance of this project outweighs the particulars of how we will achieve it, so let us unite on the common ground we know we share.

That is the vision that brings together all partners in the Global Democracy Initiative. Together, we can make it a reality, in a joint effort of aligned, pro-democratic organizations that exceeds the sum of its parts. We hope you will join us as we introduce our Initiative to the world and sign the Letter of Intent stating the GDI's scope and purpose on Saturday, 29 May 2021.

There are different ways to reach our goal of implementing a system of global direct democracy, and multiple dimensions to consider. We propose an approach along the following key steps:

1. **Unique, safe, and accessible digital identities** for every human being on earth to participate in a global democratic forum.
2. **Topic collection:** Citizens across the world propose and discuss which global (or even local?) concerns they want to address.
3. **Topic selection:** Global topics must be identified, e.g. on a digital platform, with an unbiased artificial intelligence (AI) identifying clusters of topics that are relevant on the global level. Local or national problems can be handled locally or nationally depending on the approach of the organization.
4. **Solution collection:** Global solutions for the identified global problems are formulated, presented, and refined, e.g. by using a crowd-sourcing platform.
5. **Solution consolidation:** After sufficient evolution, these sets of ideas are aggregated into digital ballots complemented by explanatory notes.
6. **Global debate:** Global citizens discuss the consolidated solutions and deliberate alternatives in both digital and non-digital forums.
7. **Global vote:** Global citizens vote digitally on the ballot proposals (following the principle of "one-person-one-vote").
8. **Global impact:** The gathered voting data becomes publicly available; it serves to hold the relevant decision-makers accountable for their political decisions and makes transparent the degree to which the actions of relevant decision-makers align with their democratic mandate.

Potential benefits of working together within the GDI include:

- Discussion forum for exchange of ideas and resources via regular online meetings and workshops
- Common marketing platform (website and/or social media channels)
- Common initiatives to advance in some of the developments needed

For more information, further discussions or to share your ideas please do not hesitate to contact us.