



## The Innovation in Politics Awards

Every year, the most innovative political projects in Europe are identified and awarded by a citizens' jury. In spring 2025, the finalists will come to Vienna to present their projects and attend the award ceremony. [More Informationen.](#)

## Truth, Lies and Democracy

Truth, Lies and Democracy is a project that calls on the gaming community in Europe to engage against fake news. Teams develop video games and propose interactive methods to advance the fight against misinformation. [More Informationen.](#)



## ACT NOW Mayors' Conference

This conference gathers mayors, practitioners, scientists, and young people to discuss local solutions to global crises. The innovative conference design ensures stimulating exchange, action-oriented insights, and an empowering sense of community. [More Informationen.](#)

## Art of Democracy Art Festival

Art creates awareness for an open, just, and free society and can move and unite people. Art of Democracy is a participatory art festival as a part of the Democracy Year of each European Capital of Democracy. [More Informationen.](#)

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**Michael Ludwig**  
Mayor

"As European Capital of Democracy, Vienna will demonstrate how social cohesion can be further strengthened through the participation of citizens."

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**Jürgen Czernohorszky**  
City Councillor

"Together with civil society, we will set new impulses so that more people can actively shape their living environment."



**Helfried Carl**  
Founder

"Vienna has convinced an international audience twice: first, the expert jury, and second, the citizens' jury, consisting of 4,000 Europeans."

# European Capital of Democracy Vienna

## 2024/25



## Vienna is the European Capital of Democracy

**A jury of over 4,000 Europeans has chosen Vienna as the second European Democracy Capital.** In the course of the Democracy Year, numerous, local as well as international activities on the topic of democracy will take place.

### The Application

With a variety of innovative and participatory projects, Vienna has convinced not only an experts' jury but also a citizens' jury. Among them were, for example, the Cultural Laboratory Community Building, the Children and Youth Million, and the Vienna Climate Team. The entire application, including the mission statement, can be downloaded [here](#).

## ECoD Non-Profit GmbH

**As a non-profit organization, the goal of ECoD (European Capital of Democracy) NPO is to strengthen democracies and promote social cohesion.** With this mission, the ECoD NPO annually hosts the election of the European Democracy Capital. In collaboration with civil society, the selected city curates a Democracy Year. Visitors from all over Europe are invited to participate and contribute.

### ECoD City Network

The EU-funded city network enables the exchange of successful projects with a sustainable impact on the well-being of citizens and the environment. City representatives share expertise and best practices for promoting democracy on the local level.

### Special Partnership with Kyiv

In August 2023, ECoD NPO signed a special partnership with the city of Kyiv. It was agreed that Kyiv, due to its current situation, should play a prominent role in the Democracy Year 2024/25.

## A Diverse Democracy Year

**As the European Democracy Capital, Vienna will be the venue for a diverse programme of events, projects, and initiatives from October 2024 for one year.**

The goal is to make democracy in its various facets tangible for all social strata and to bring people from all over Europe together who share an interest in a dialogue about the democratic future of Europe.

### Become Part of the Democracy Year!

The Democracy Year offers a unique platform and numerous opportunities for participation. We invite citizens, institutions, organizations, businesses, associations, and all those who advocate for more democracy to become part of the European Democracy Capital 2024/25 and participate in a diverse programme. More information can be found at <https://capitalofdemocracy.eu> or [demokratiehauptstadt@post.wien.gv.at](mailto:demokratiehauptstadt@post.wien.gv.at)!

## Vienna 2024/25: Bolster Social Cohesion

**More democracy is a central political concern of the Vienna city government. Against the backdrop of increasing authoritarian tendencies in the world, Vienna, as the European Capital of Democracy, aims to create awareness towards the importance of democracy for social peace and set new impulses so that more people can actively shape their living environment.**

Therefore, one focus of the Democracy Year is on expanding participation and decision-making opportunities for citizens. With a hub for participation and a democracy workshop, the city will set new initiatives to enable more people to participate in their immediate living environment. The goal is to break down barriers, strengthen cohesion, and develop participation formats that better suit the diversity of a major city like Vienna.

