



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Trade and
Development Cooperation

- What will you do to safeguard democracy? -

INVITATION

International IDEA EU Launch of the Global State of Democracy publication

Presentation and High-Level Panel Discussion

Thursday, 30 November 2017, 13:15 – 15:30

Venue: Egmont Palace, Place du Petit Sablon 8bis, 1000 Brussels

Programme: Attached

Globally, democracy is at a crossroads. International IDEA's Global State of Democracy publication assesses the state of democracy worldwide, with the aim of providing evidence-based analysis and actionable recommendations for current threats and challenges to democracy.

The publication's first edition focuses on 'Exploring Democracy's Resilience' and analyses a set of key challenges to democracy and the enabling conditions for its resilience. In addition, accompanying the launch of the publication is the new Global State of Democracy (GSoD) indices, the evidence base for the publication. The GSoD indices are built on an elaborate conceptual framework, based on a broad range of attributes and sub-attributes of democracy and rooted in International IDEA's well-established State of Democracy (SoD) framework, and cover 155 independent countries for the period 1975–2015.

On the occasion of the launch of the first edition of International IDEA's publication, "The Global State of Democracy", the Office of International IDEA to the EU is organizing, in collaboration with the Federal Public Service for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Kingdom of Belgium, a presentation and high-level panel discussion. The objective of the event is to formally launch and present the findings of the publication, as well as to discuss the State of Democracy in the European Union.

The Office of International IDEA would like to invite you to the official launch event, taking place on Thursday, 30 November 2017, 13:15 – 15:30 at the Egmont Palace, Place du Petit Sablon 8bis, 1000 Brussels. RSVP before 28 November 2017, via the following link: <https://goo.gl/yZiZLd>

Participants will be required to present a passport or ID card upon arrival.



PROGRAMME

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12:15 – 13:15	Light lunch
13:15–13:30	Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Andrew Bradley, Director of the Office of International IDEA to the European Union• Yves Leterme, Secretary-General, International IDEA [recorded video message]
13:30–13:45	Keynote Address <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Didier Reynders, Belgian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs
13:45–14:15	Presentation of the Global State of Democracy publication ¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nathalie Ebead, Head of Democracy Assessment, Analysis and Advisory Unit, International IDEA<ul style="list-style-type: none">➢ Key findings and challenges of the Global State of Democracy publication➢ Global and regional democracy trends➢ Brief overview of the publication's chapters and the GSoD indices
14:15-14:30	Keynote reflections on the State of Democracy in the European Union <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Heidi Hautala, Vice-President, European Parliament
14:30–15:25	High Level Panel Discussion on the State of Democracy in the European Union Moderated by: Joan Hoey , Regional Director Europe and Editor, The Democracy Index, Economist Intelligence Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Matjaž Gruden, Director of Policy Planning, Council of Europe• Richard Youngs, Senior Associate, Carnegie Europe• Emine Bozkurt, Member of the International IDEA Board of Advisers Questions and answers: Exchange with participants Concluding remarks: Ramona Coman , Director of the Institute of European Studies, Université Libre de Bruxelles
15:25-15:30	Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gonzalo Gutiérrez Reinel, Ambassador of Peru to the European Union and Local Chair of the Council of International IDEA Member States

The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) is an intergovernmental organization that supports sustainable democracy worldwide. International IDEA's mission is to support sustainable democratic change by providing comparative knowledge, and assisting in democratic reform, and influencing policies and politics. In addressing our mission, we focus on the ability of democratic institutions to deliver a political system marked by public participation and inclusion, representative and accountable government, responsiveness to citizens' needs and aspirations, and the rule of law and equal rights for all citizens.

¹ The presentation will start with a display of the Global State of Democracy publication promotional video