

Brussels declaration on global democracy

23 February 2010

Humanity faces severe global challenges in fields such as climate change, international security, poverty reduction, human rights, disarmament and social development. The entire population of the planet has grown together into one single community that faces these issues as one.

Today's system of international institutions, including in particular the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group and the World Trade Organization, is, to a great extent, fragmented, incoherent and lacking in transparency. It is commonly recognized that far-reaching and comprehensive reforms of these institutions are overdue.

We are deeply convinced that creating sound democratic structures at the global level is essential to establish a more responsive and much more effective system of global governance. As postulated by the European Parliament, a global parliamentary assembly would help to strengthen the democratic character of the global system.

We propose that the mechanisms and preconditions are explored that make it possible to conduct a global referendum on the question whether the people of the world wish to establish a global democratic system.