Over 500 World Leaders Call to Defend Democracy

Today, Thursday the 25th of June, the OSET Institute is proud to join more than 500 civic leaders, pro-democracy institutions, and Nobel Laureates who have signed an open letter warning that the freedoms and liberties western liberal democracies cherish and embrace are under threat from some governments that are using a global health pandemic and social crisis to tighten their grip on power. At worst these governments are driving toward authoritarianism. A threat to democracy anywhere is a threat to democracy everywhere.

The COVID-19 pandemic threatens democracy. We’re witnessing governments across the planet marshal emergency powers. These mandates are empowering state surveillance and threatening human rights with little regard to legal safeguards, checks and balances, or the rule of law. Worse, without time frames for ensuring a return to constitutional order they threaten an unprecedented era of authoritarian rule.

In today’s letter, “A Call to Defend Democracy,” 73 democracy institutions, 13 Nobel Laureates and 62 former heads of state and government, as well as civic leaders around the world, have come together to issue a serious alert.

The letter is focused on raising awareness and mobilizing citizens and policymakers to protect democracy. It calls to realize and recognize that doing so is the most effective means for addressing what is rapidly becoming a global crisis, while also protecting the rights of citizens—especially minorities and vulnerable groups.

We invite you to promote the statement widely on social media and to your personal networks using the hash-tag #DefendDemocracy.

Read the full statement here:


Find the list of signatories here:

https://www.idea.int/news-media/multimedia-reports/call-defend-democracy

Thank you for your continued support.

Gregory A. Miller
Co-Founder & Chief Operating Officer