

# Citizens House

## Introduction

Right now, 174 people control Ireland —from picking judges and the Ombudsman to deciding the budget. The Irish system needs to be updated : it doesn't fit today's world. After World War II, the split of Germany showed how different systems, even with the same people and history, create totally different societies .

In pre-war Germany Wernher von Braun's story shows this at Individual level: he built rockets to destroy in one society, but later, in the USA, he built rockets to explore space.

To face today's challenges, Ireland needs a new way for people to take part in government. The Citizens' House would be a new group of randomly chosen citizens, like a jury. This would give ordinary people a voice and help keep politicians' power balanced.

## Problems with the Current System

- A small group of 174 people holds too much power.
- This means not enough voices or opinions are heard.
- Powerful groups can influence politicians too easily.
- The system is old and can't handle today's challenges well.

## Benefits of the Citizens' House

- People are picked randomly, so many different voices are heard.
- It uses the **wisdom of the crowd**, meaning groups of regular people can make good decisions together.
- It keeps an eye on the government and stops too much power in one place.
- It helps people trust the system more because they take part directly.

## Technological Age

The recent election in the USA was a remarkable spectacle. Nowhere have people had the same level of freedom and individual participation as in the USA. And nowhere have we seen such a significant contribution to human development.

Today, we live in the technological age, where a certain degree of human freedom can lead to great advancements. But before we can fully unlock these potentials, a system of government that ensures widespread individual participation seems necessary.

## Conclusion

- As the anniversary of Catholic Emancipation approaches, is it time to quietly continue Daniel O'Connell's work and take the next step in Irish democracy?
- In this Technological Age, when individual participation is more possible than ever before, Ireland may be one of the few states able to lead by example.
- The alternative is that Europe continues to fall behind, unable to adapt to the changing needs of today's world.