

# Operating System and Democracy

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## What is Democracy?

According to the definition: **Democracy is a form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation ("direct democracy"), or to choose governing officials to do so ("representative democracy").**

(Taken from Wikipedia)

In this essay, we'll discuss the topic of whether every country called "democratic" is a real democracy and whether some countries are more democratic than others.

While there are many ways to assess a country's democratic credentials, it's important to recognize that democracy is a complex concept. In addition to that, other important elements of a functioning democracy include an independent judiciary, the rule of law, protections for minority rights and etc.

For example, a country may have regular, free, and fair elections, but if the judiciary is not independent and subject to political influence, then the ability of citizens to challenge government actions and hold officials accountable may be severely limited. Similarly, if the government can ignore the rule of law or violate individual rights without consequences, then the democratic system may not be functioning properly.

Furthermore, a democratic society should also protect the rights and interests of minority groups, including ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities. Without these protections, certain groups may be marginalized or excluded from the political process, undermining the principle of equality that is at the heart of democracy.

One example of a country that has faced significant challenges in maintaining its democratic credentials is the United States. Despite being one of the world's oldest and most established democracies, the U.S. has seen a decline in certain democratic norms and institutions in recent years.

For example, many observers have expressed concern over the increasing polarization of American politics, which has made it more difficult for the government to function effectively and for citizens to participate meaningfully in the political process. Additionally, some critics have argued that recent changes to voting laws and procedures have made it more difficult for certain groups, particularly minorities, to vote, which could undermine the fairness and legitimacy of elections.

Other countries that have faced challenges to their democratic systems in recent years include Hungary and Poland, both of which have seen significant backsliding in areas such as media freedom, the independence of the judiciary, and the protection of minority rights. In both cases, the governments have taken steps to consolidate their power and limit opposition voices, raising concerns among democratic watchdogs and international organizations.

Despite these challenges, it's important to recognize that democracy remains a powerful and resilient form of governance, capable of adapting to changing circumstances and overcoming significant obstacles. In many countries around the world, citizens continue to fight for their rights and demand greater participation in the political process, often at great personal risk.

By all listed above, we can see that not every country that calls itself a "democracy" is purely democratic, and being a pure democracy is a very hard task to accomplish.

Although we have many democratic countries in the world, some are more democratic than others, but this state changes all the time and it's very dynamic as countries politics changes all the time.

For example, take into consideration Switzerland, Finland and Denmark, which are the closest today to a "true democracy" in comparison to other countries by the "Democracy Index":

**"The Democracy Index is an index compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit, a UK-based private company which publishes the weekly newspaper The Economist. Akin to a Human Development Index but centrally concerned with political institutions and freedoms, the index attempts to measure the state of democracy in 167 countries and territories."**

(Taken from Wikipedia)

Thus, this "grading" by the democracy index implies that indeed some countries are more democratic than others.

To sum up, democracy is a very complicated and dynamic subject and is crucially important for today's society.

We hope that the democracy in Israel will thrive instead of declining and that the democratic heart of Israel will remain as it was since 1948.