



Education on Democracy and Educational Programs in Parliaments

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Overview

- ♦ The Role of Parliaments in Strengthening Democracy
- ♦ Educational Programs in the Austrian Parliament
- ♦ Impact and Benefits of these Programs
- ♦ Key Objectives and Future Outlook



The Role of Parliaments in Democracy

- ♦ Parliaments should go beyond legislation and control to provide transparency about political processes and decisions.
- ♦ Informing the public is fundamental for a representative democracy.
- ♦ Knowledge of parliamentary democracy is a fundamental prerequisite.



Democracy Education: A Cornerstone of Representation

- ♦ Promoting awareness of democratic processes and parliamentarianism is essential, especially in times of global challenges.
- ♦ Strengthening democratic institutions and political participation is vital for the future.



Austria's Commitment to Democracy Education

- ♦ The Austrian Parliament actively promotes democratic education through various programs.
- ♦ Offering learning opportunities at the authentic place of legislation — Parliament.





Programs for Different Target Groups

- ♦ **Democracy Workshop Program:** 150,000 participants since 2007
- ♦ **Youth and Apprentices' Parliament:**
Role-play game simulating legislative process in Parliament
- ♦ **Interactive guided tours**





Mobile and Digital Learning Initiatives

Programs extend beyond the parliament building itself, reaching different target groups nationwide.

- ♦ **“Parliament Comes to You”**: mobile workshops
- ♦ **“Parliament on Tour”**: traveling interactive mini-museum
- ♦ **“Democracy Webstatt”**: online portal



Impact and Reach of Parliament Programs

- ♦ Over one million visitors have engaged with the Austrian Parliament since the reopening in 2023.
- ♦ Public interest in learning about democracy and parliament is growing.





Benefits for Participants and Parliament

- ♦ Active engagement provides benefits for all involved.
- ♦ **Key Benefits:**
 - ♦ Participants gain first-hand experience of Parliament.
 - ♦ MPs engage with the public, promoting democratic dialogue.
 - ♦ Parliament increases public understanding of its workings.



Goals and Future Outlook

- ♦ The aim is to foster active participation, media literacy and democratic values.
- ♦ Empowering citizens to actively engage in political processes is essential for a vibrant democracy.





Conclusion and Call to Action

- ♦ To strengthen democracy, we must deepen knowledge and encourage active participation from the public, particularly youth.
- ♦ Each citizen has a role to play in fostering and preserving democracy.



Thank you for your attention!