

Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union

TITLE II

PROVISIONS ON DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES

Article 10

- 1 The functioning of the Union shall be founded on representative democracy.
- 2 Citizens are directly represented at Union level in the European Parliament.
Member States are represented in the European Council by their Heads of State or Government and in the Council by their governments, themselves democratically accountable either to their national Parliaments, or to their citizens.
- 3 Every citizen shall have the right to participate in the democratic life of the Union. Decisions shall be taken as openly and as closely as possible to the citizen.
- 4 Political parties at European level contribute to forming European political awareness and to expressing the will of citizens of the Union.