

What is the advantage of Democracy over other forms of Government?

Democracy minimizes power over others.

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This is a question someone asked in FMS (the forums in Freenet). The current answer is short, it might expand.

From all forms of government, Democracy has the lowest amount of power-over-others.

Add all power that people have over others. Think it through (power can come from information control, from crypto-contracts, from loyalty of armed people, ...).

Add the principle of [subsidiarity](#), which is part of the core of modern democracies (decide on the lowest level that can decide — those affected by something decide about it).

Add the [rule of law](#) (laws must be written and general; they apply the same way to people who are practically the same — take actual differences into account but do not create differences where there are none).

For things I'm missing here, look at further [General principles of the European Union law](#).

Then, starting from the idea that you want to minimize power-over-others and thinking it through, democracy is where you end up.

This is also a good metric to compare implementations of democracy to each other: How well do they minimize power-over-others?