



Democracy Workshop

of the Austrian Parliament

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Politics



Participation



Parliament

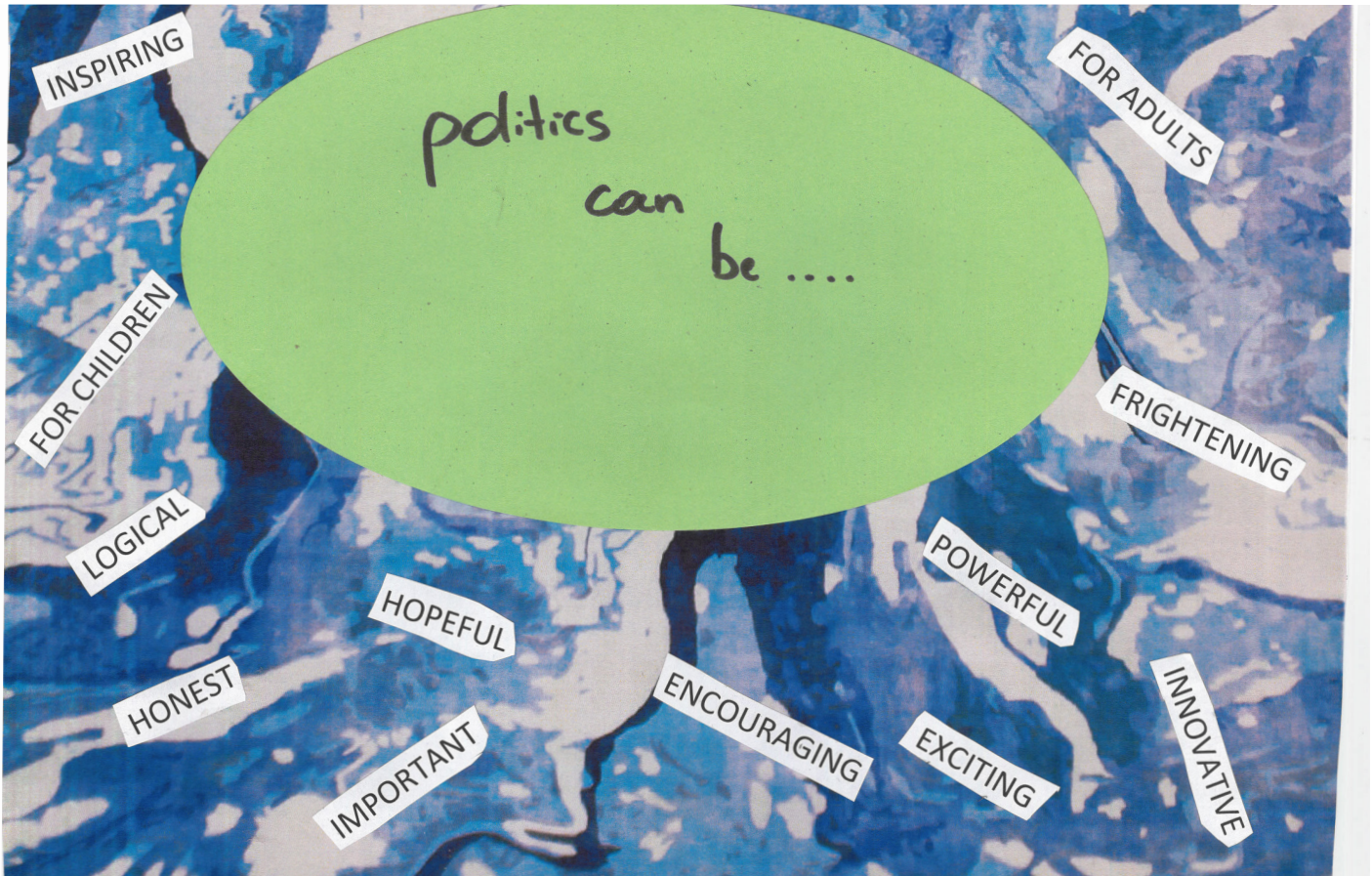


Living democracy

How we can use our voice!

Politics, politique, politica

Marco(12), Maria (12), Adem (14), Charano (14), Hiba (14) and Laura (14)

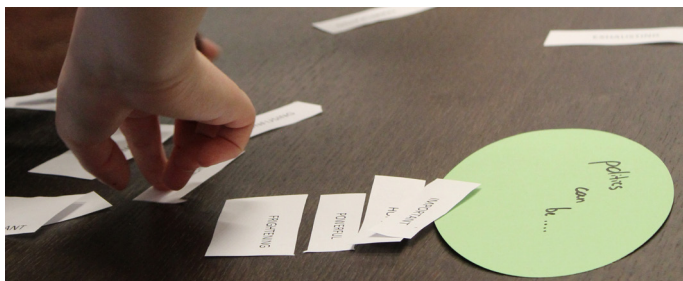
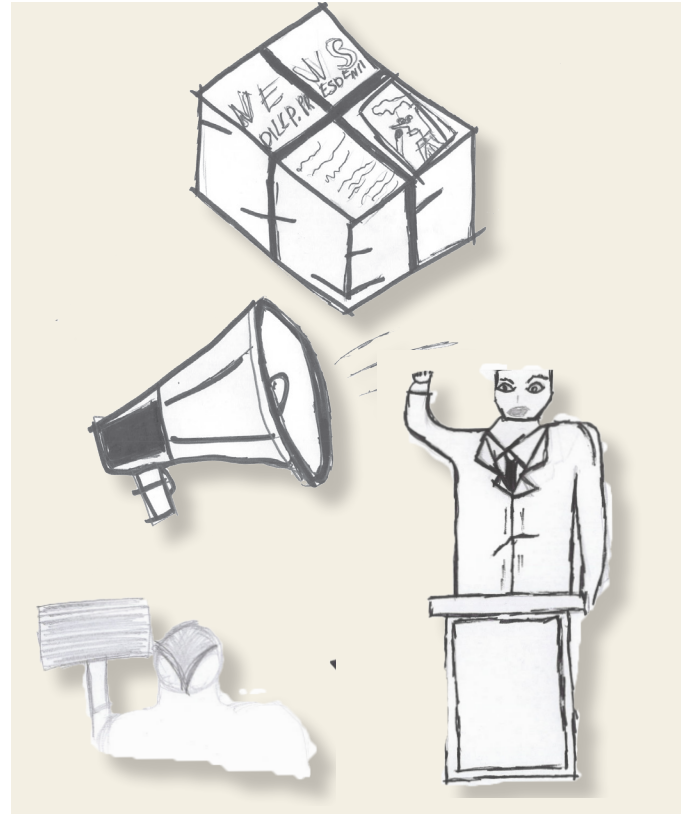


In this article you can find out what we think about politics and what is important to us!

When it comes to politics, these words are central to us: conversation, president, topics, arguments, law, government, and many more. Conversation is useful for discussing and solving problems; the president has the power to make decisions, which was given by the people, and the debates in Parliament are the basis for solving complicated decisions. In politics there are other words that have

nothing to do with it for us at first sight: sports, restaurant, and shopping. These three words are not immediately associated with politics because they are daily actions and do not cause problems, but they are political as well! Another very important topic is political participation, and the words we most associate with this term are “making decisions,” “solving problems,” and “the elections.”

When making decisions, you can express your opinions and avoid problems. By solving problems, we can achieve collective well-being by guaranteeing rights, justice, and a balance between different interests. Elections consist of guaranteeing a free and transparent process of participation in which every citizen can feel free to express their vote by choosing representatives aware of the need to listen to citizens.



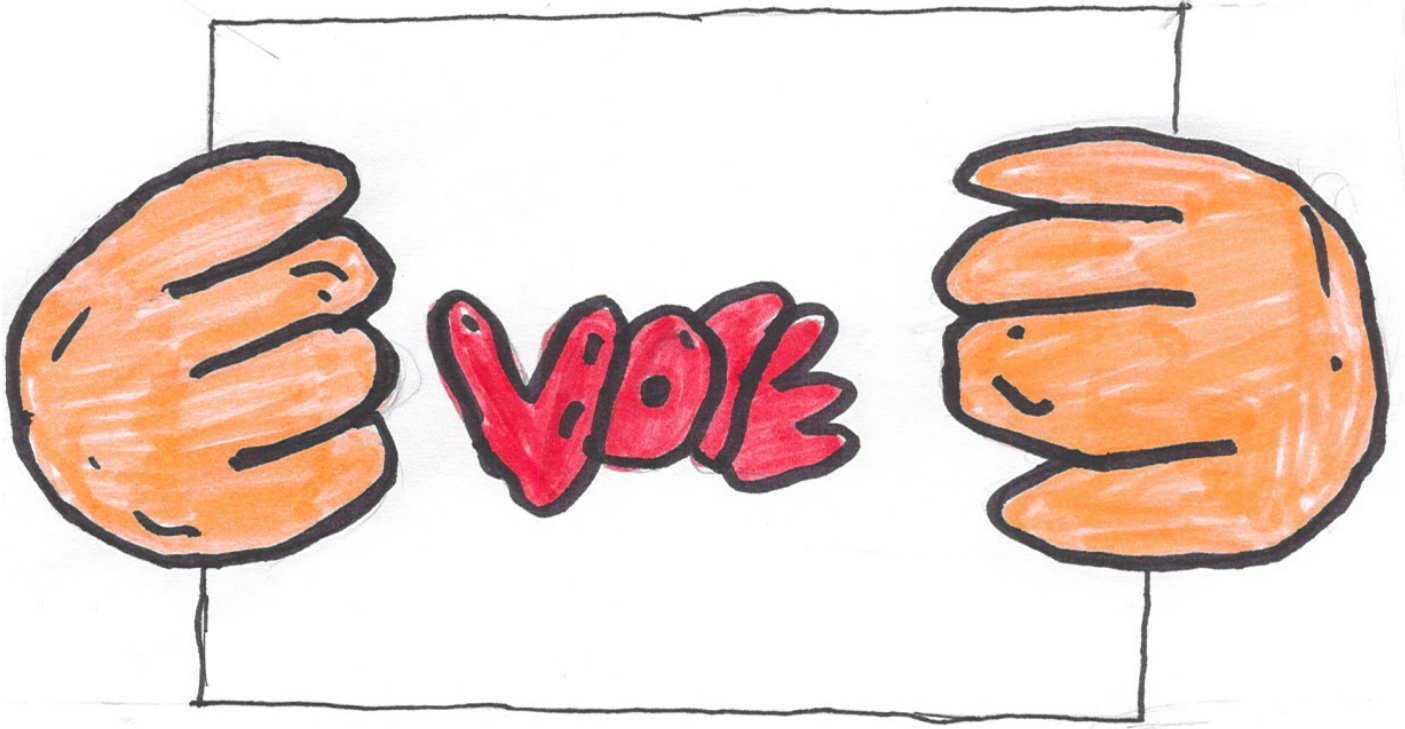
To us, all these things are political.

We need politics...



The Power Of Democracy

Francesco (12), Antonio (12), Marley (14), Ludovica (12), Batoul (14)
and Mohamed (13)



In this article we explain democracy to you.

In a democracy the people have the power and can participate, people also have the right to vote and to be heard by other people. That means all voices are equal, no matter the religion, the color of the skin, the gender or if someone is rich or poor. In a democracy the medical field is also very important because every person should have the right to access proper medical support. In a democracy the people also have the right to think what they want and express their opinion. People should respect everyone. Freedom of speech and



Laws are passed in Parliament, they belong to the power of the legislative.

choosing how to live, which education you want to have, and what profession you choose are also important rights within a democracy. Within a democracy the power should be divided into legislative, executive and judicial powers.

Legislative: This power creates the law; mostly politicians debate and pass laws.

Executive: This power approves and enforces the law.

Judicial: This power implements the law; it sees if people respect the rules and punishes those who don't. These powers are important to give people a calm and good life. There are other rights that are important for us: the right to go to school, to have a family who takes care of us, and also the right to speak without being judged. We like to live in a democracy because we can live in freedom, we have a great life.

What can we do - as children - to preserve democracy and keep it alive? We can, e.g., think of the consequences of what we do and tell people how important democracy is.

Democracy also is important to avoid chaos. It guarantees individual equality under the rule of law, participation, citizenship, and free elections.

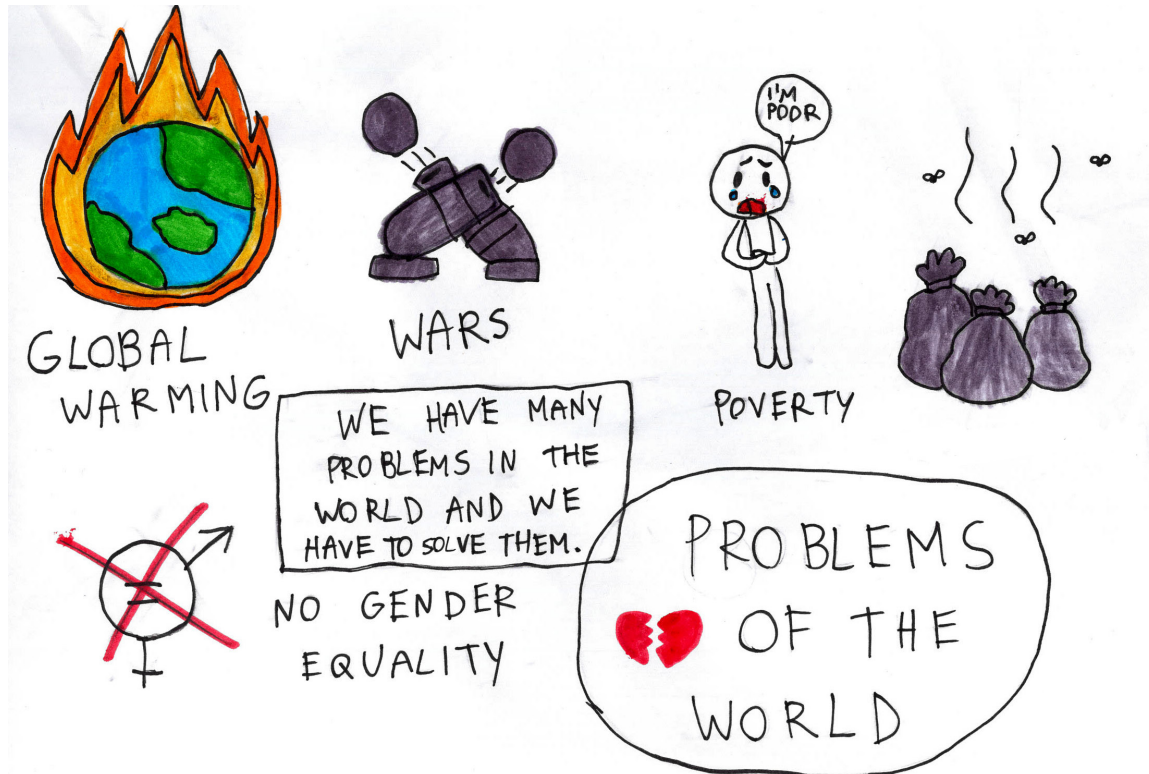
What you can do for democracy:

think for yourself, express your opinion, discuss and vote!



Parliament Works For Us

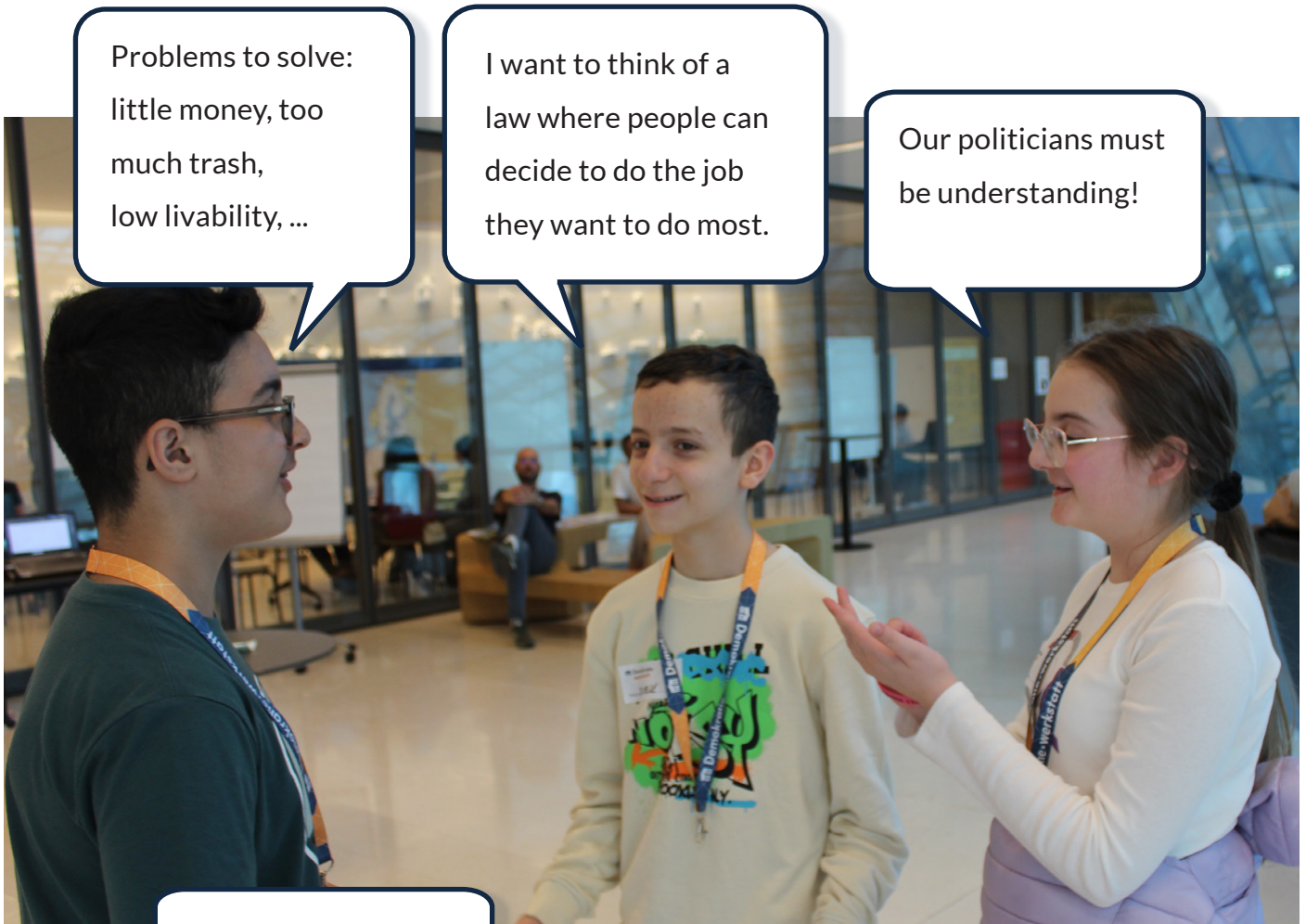
Faysal (15), Giuseppe (12), Ilan (14), Noemi (12), Simone (13) and Imane (13)



Parliament works for us to fix the problems of the nation for us.

In Parliament the MPs (members of parliament) are elected by us, the citizens. Parliament tries to fix the problems expressed by the nation with a debate. And they make decisions for laws. Our politicians must be understanding, rational, and creative in finding a solution to solve the various problems. They all meet to agree on different subjects and debate at the same time to solve problems. We think that they already do a lot, but there is always room for improvement.





Problems to solve:
little money, too
much trash,
low livability, ...

I want to think of a
law where people can
decide to do the job
they want to do most.

Our politicians must
be understanding!



Parliament works
for us!

I can say what I
think.

We can all work
together!



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