

## THE BUSINESS CASE FOR DEMOCRACY

### *Covid-19 and the Business Case for Democracy:*

#### *Do Democracies Deliver?*

#### Virtual Roundtable

October 5th, 2020

14.00 -15.30 CET (Stockholm, Paris, Brussels)

We welcome you to a virtual roundtable on “Covid-19 and the Business Case for Democracy: Do Democracies Deliver?” on 5 October 2020. This event is organized by the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) Institute in collaboration with the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

The roundtable shares the knowledge and experience of leading academics and policymakers and offers participants a Q&A session. The panelists will provide a global perspective on the Business Case for Democracy from their respective backgrounds and discuss how democracies across the world have responded to the Corona crisis.

This roundtable is part of the broader Business Case for Democracy initiative launched by the V-Dem Institute – a drive with the goal to distill and promote what we know about how and why democracy is good for human development and health, socio-economic prosperity, and human and international security. Providing evidence is of utmost importance in the present era of global challenges to democracy, and “fake news” that are often generated in support of autocratization.

#### Participants

**Staffan I. Lindberg**, Professor & Director, V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg, co-Principal Investigator of V-Dem

**Anna Lührmann**, Assist. Professor & Deputy Director, V-Dem Institute, Principal Investigator of the Pandemic Backsliding Project, University of Gothenburg

**Carl-Henrik Knutsen**, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Oslo, Peace Research Institute Oslo, co-Principal Investigator of V-Dem

**Annika Silva Leander**, Head of Democracy Assessment and Political Analysis, International IDEA

**Achim Johannsen**, BMZ Division – Governance, Democracy, Rule of Law, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

**Thomas Millar**, Team leader, Democratic Governance, DG DEVCO, European Commission

#### Audience

This is a closed event for development cooperation professionals working for the EU, BMZ/GIZ, or their partner organizations as well as academia. Pre-registration required. To register, please email [natalia.natsika@v-dem.net](mailto:natalia.natsika@v-dem.net).

**For questions:** Vanessa Boese, Post-doctoral Research Fellow, V-Dem Institute, [vanessa.boese@v-dem.net](mailto:vanessa.boese@v-dem.net)

**For registration:** Natalia Natsika, Associate Researcher, V-Dem Institute, [natalia.natsika@v-dem.net](mailto:natalia.natsika@v-dem.net)

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