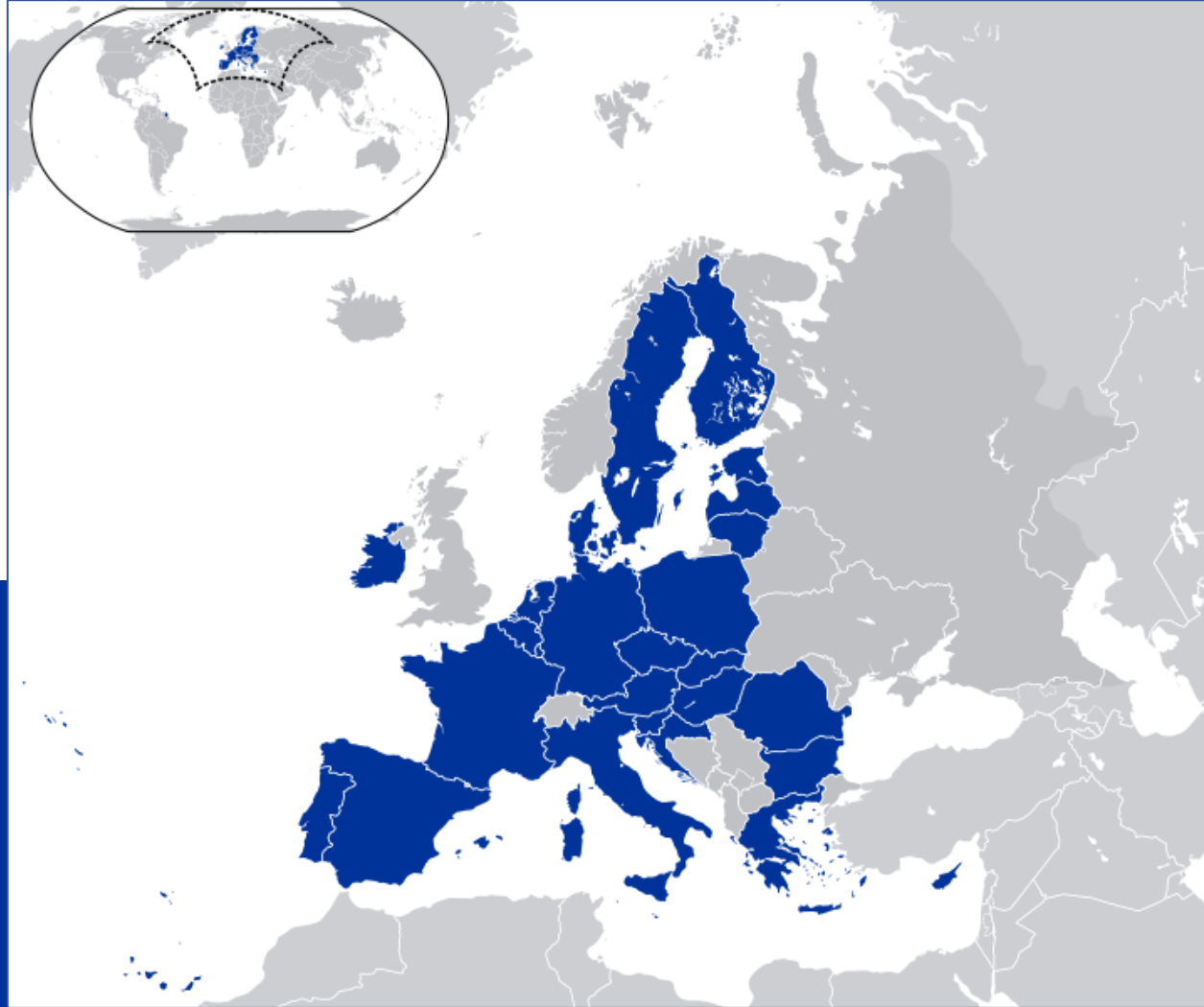


<https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/3052>

- [https://citizens.ec.europa.eu/index\\_en](https://citizens.ec.europa.eu/index_en)

# Building the European Union Stronger !!!



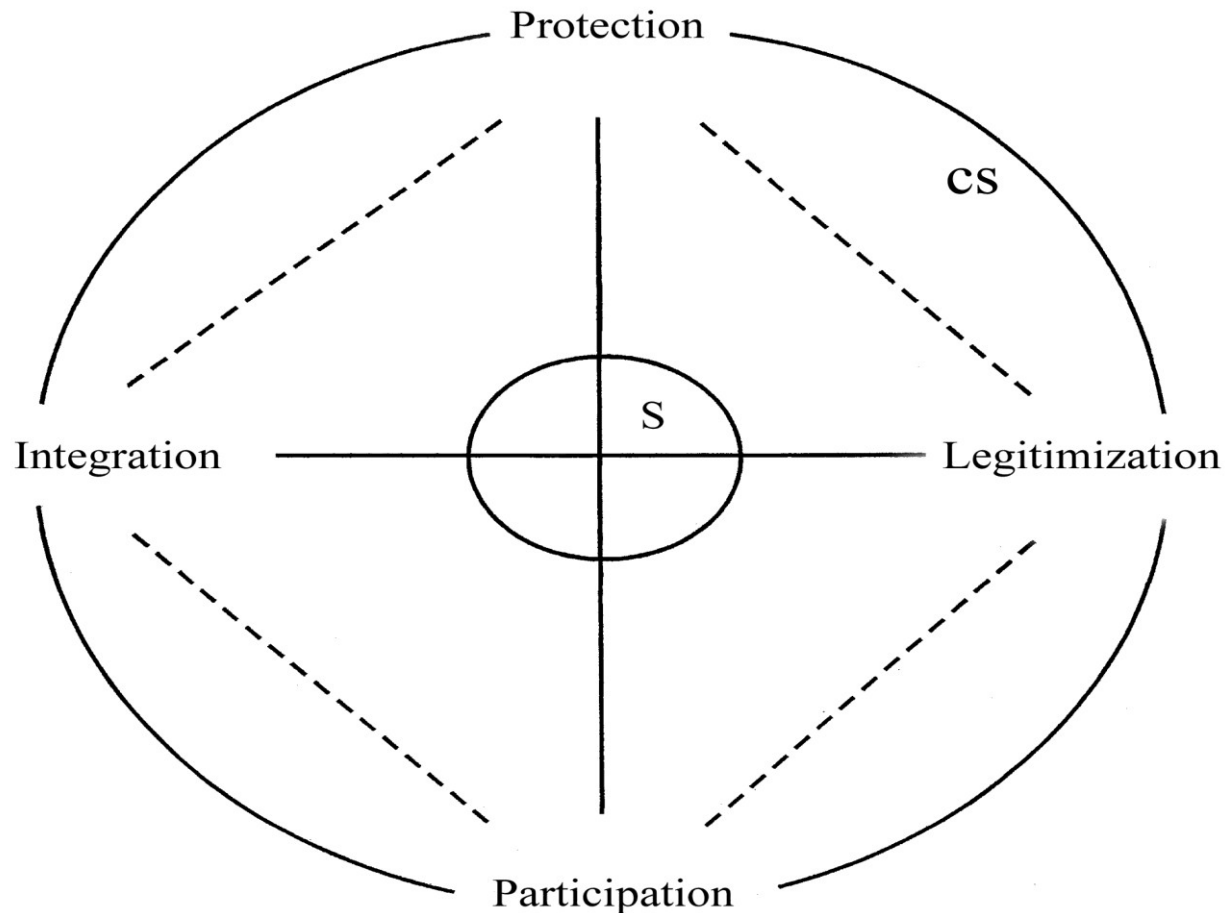
6. 12. 2022

[www.karelmuller.eu](http://www.karelmuller.eu)

# The Concept of Civil Society

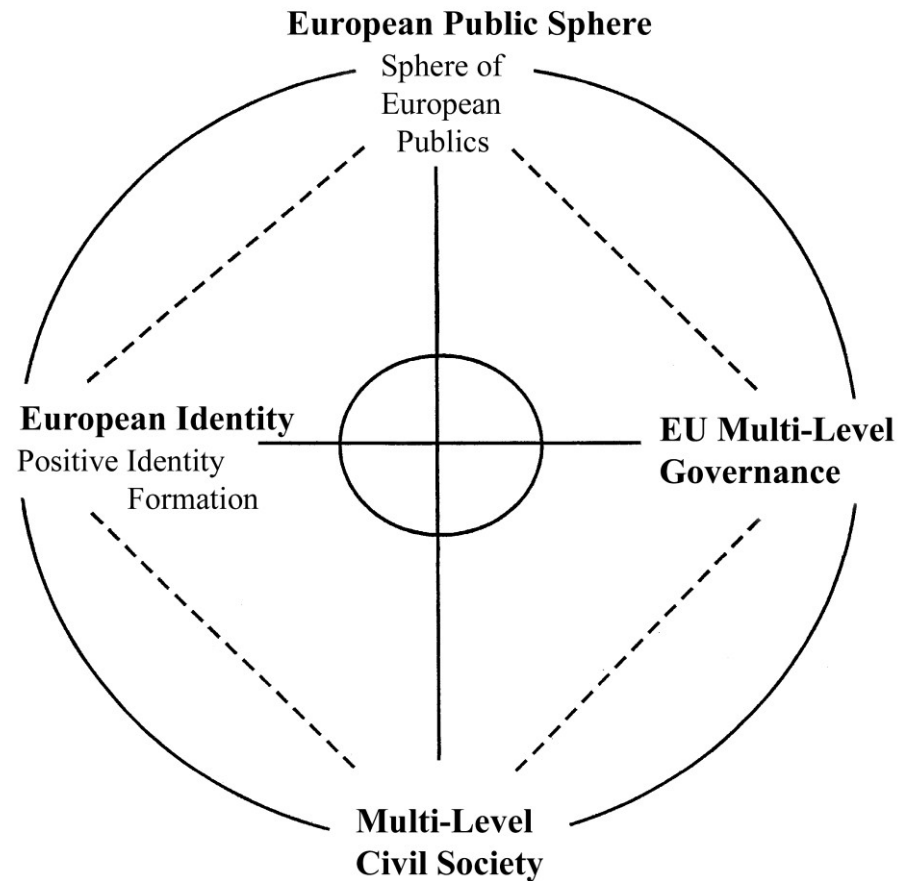
## *Complementary Giddens Perspective of Tocqueville*

**Müller KB (2006)**, The Civil Society-State Relationship in Contemporary Discourse: A Complementary Account from Giddens Perspective. *The British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 8 (2), 311-330.



- Passivity, apathy
- Abuses of power
- Crisis of legitimacy, low trust to institutions
- Anomy, low trust to others

# Predicaments of a European Civil Society



## Weak spots

Complacency

Lack of Politics (just Policy)

Legitimacy/democratic deficit

Weak European public sphere

Weak European identity

Weak European narrative



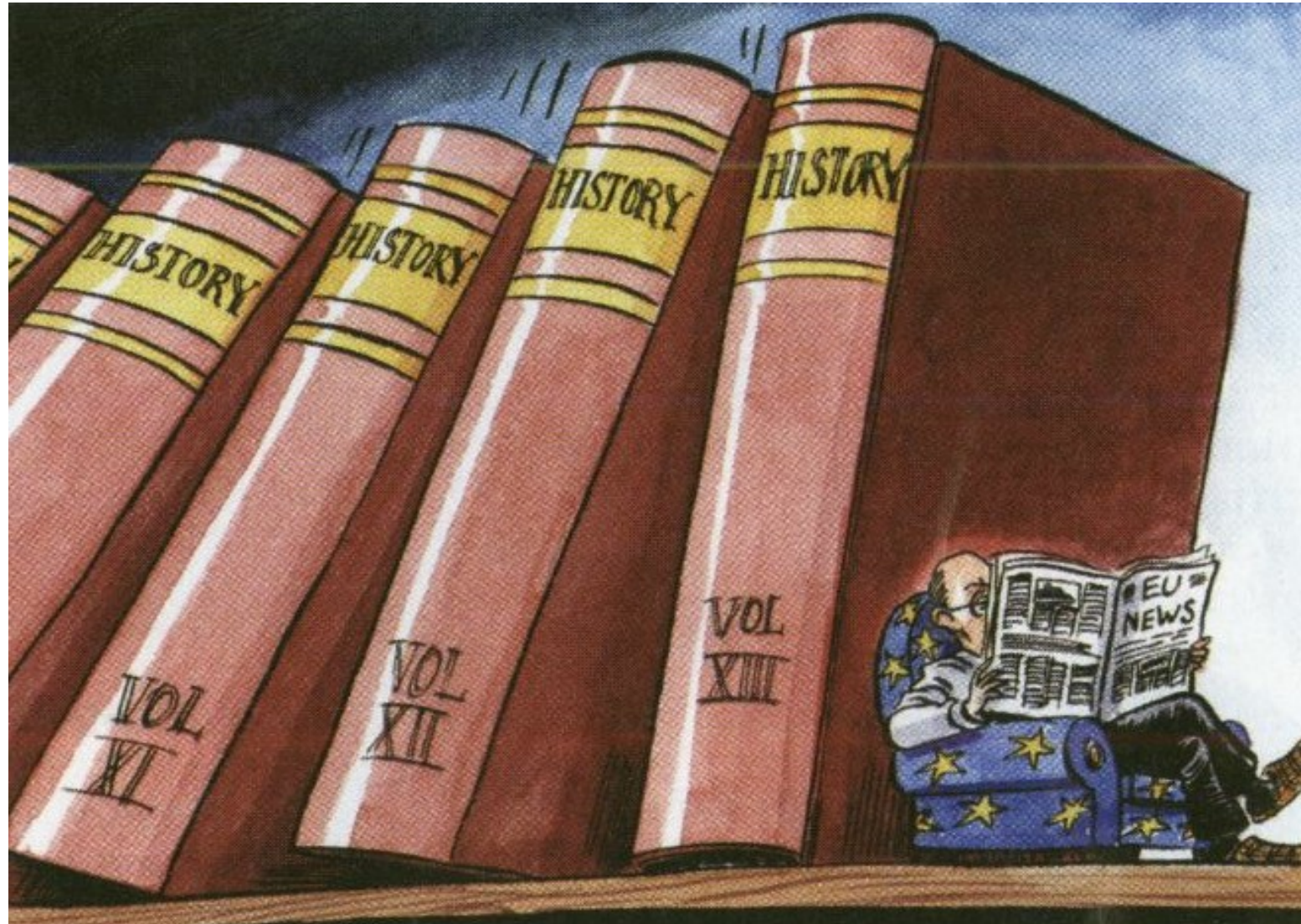


# European Identity



Aspiration for  
complementary and  
multiple positive identities

# Make history history





## Europe Day



European Flag displayed in Strasbourg (France)  
during Europe Day 2009

<b>Observed by</b>	Council of Europe European Union
<b>Type</b>	Pan-European; cultural and historical
<b>Significance</b>	European integration
<b>Date</b>	5 May and 9 May
<b>Frequency</b>	annual

# Commission work programme 2023

## PAGE CONTENTS

### Key figures

### Putting citizens at the heart of European democracy

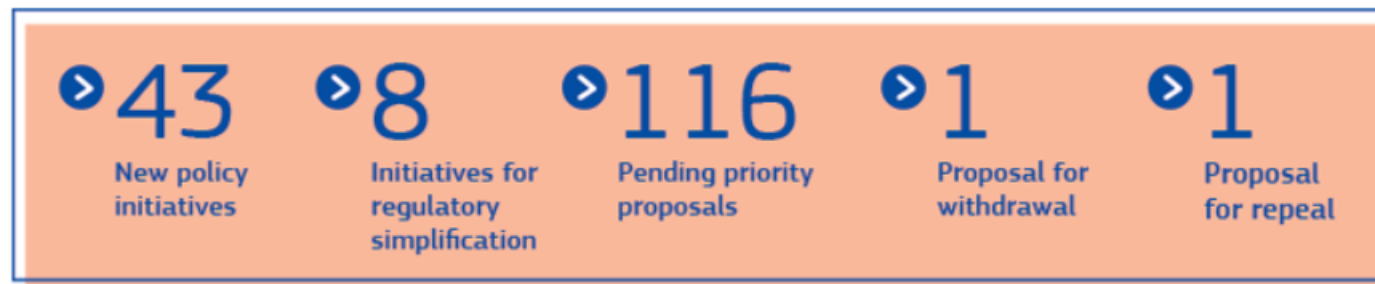
### Commission work programme structure

### Documents

On 18 October 2022, the European Commission adopted its [2023 Commission work programme](#) setting out the next steps in its bold and transformative agenda in the face of Russia's aggression against Ukraine, rising energy prices and the knock-on effects on the economy, while defending Europe's democratic values and pursuing our long-term goals and interests. This work programme also sets out targeted action to complete delivery on the ambitions the Commission set at the start of the mandate and further steer the Union towards a [sustainable recovery](#). It also lists the key legislative proposals that should get priority in the legislative process to ensure swift implementation on the ground across [all six of the Commission's headline ambitions](#).

The political strategy of this Commission is to set Europe on a path to successfully achieving climate neutrality by 2050, shaping our digital future, strengthening our unique social market economy, building a Union of prosperity, and making Europe stronger in the world. This Commission is taking action to address the challenges ahead and put the necessary building blocks in place for a better future for all Europeans.

## Key figures



# POLITICISATION of the European Union

- Policy without Politics (EU) x Politics without Policy
- Weak Public Sphere, Weak Collective Identity, Weak Narrative
- Absence of Opposition (Alternatives) – Unanimity principle
- Voting system in the Council of the EU

EU Commission or High Representative Proposals: Double (Qualified) Majority (55% of MS – 15 out of 27, and 65% of Citizens)

Member state proposal: Reinforced Qualified Majority (72% of MS and 65% of Citizens)

- The blocking minority must include at least four MS representing more than 35% of the EU population
- Lisbon Treaty (2009) → Citizens' Initiative (2012)

# European Citizens' Initiative

Home > How it works

## How it works

### Page contents

Step 1: Get started

Step 2: Get your initiative registered

Step 3: Get support

Step 4: Get statements of support verified

Step 5: Submit your initiative

Step 6: Get an answer



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