


**HOW DEMOCRATIC IS
FRANCE ?**





"Power of the people"

Key Principles:

- Free elections
- Separation of power
- Respect to individual rights
- Equality before the law

CONSTITUTION OF 1958



President

Parliament

Courts

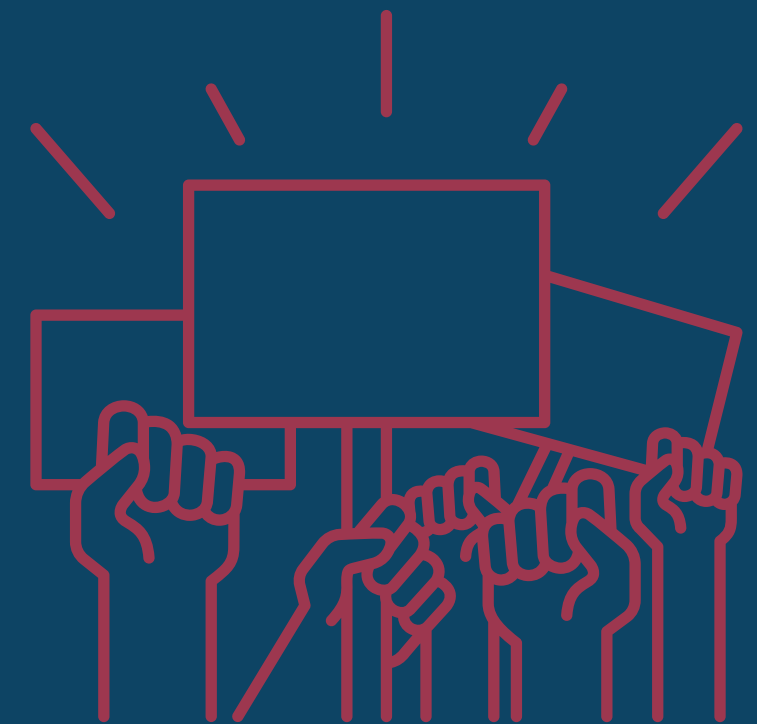


Table 2
Democracy Index 2022

	Overall score	Rank	Change in from previous	
Norway	9.81	1	0	
New Zealand	9.61	2	0	10.00
Iceland	9.52	3	2	10.00
Sweden	9.39	4	0	9.58
Finland	9.29	5	-2	10.00
Denmark	9.28	6	0	10.00
Switzerland	9.14	7	2	9.58
Ireland	9.13	8	-1	10.00
Netherlands	9.00	9	2	9.58
Taiwan	8.99	10	-2	10.00
Uruguay	8.91	11	2	10.00
Canada	8.88	12	0	10.00
Luxembourg	8.81	13	1	10.00
Germany	8.80	14	1	9.58
Australia	8.71	15	-6	10.00
Japan	8.33	16	1	9.17
Costa Rica	8.29	17	3	9.58
United Kingdom	8.28	18	0	9.58
Chile	8.22	19	6	9.58
Austria	8.20	20	0	9.58
Mauritius	8.14	21	-2	9.17
France	8.07	22=	0	9.58

HOWEVER.....



WHY IS FRANCE DEMOCRATIC ?



1) A solid institutional framework

- Universal suffrage
- Parliamentary representation
- Separation of powers

2) A politically engaged society

- Elections
- Protests and strikes
- Free media

3) Principles of liberty and equality



Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE





CONCENTRATION OF EXECUTIVE POWER

Extended powers of the President:

Dissolution of the National Assembly on (June 2024) after the European elections

Use of Article 49.3 (used 106 times since 1958)

Major influence in international relations often sidelining the power of Parliament



DECLINE IN CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Abstention in the 2022 legislative elections :
Reflecting a deep crisis of citizen trust in their representatives

Social movements (Yellow Vests):
In 2018-2019 287,000 participants, more than 60 weeks





INEQUALITIES AND SOCIAL TENSIONS

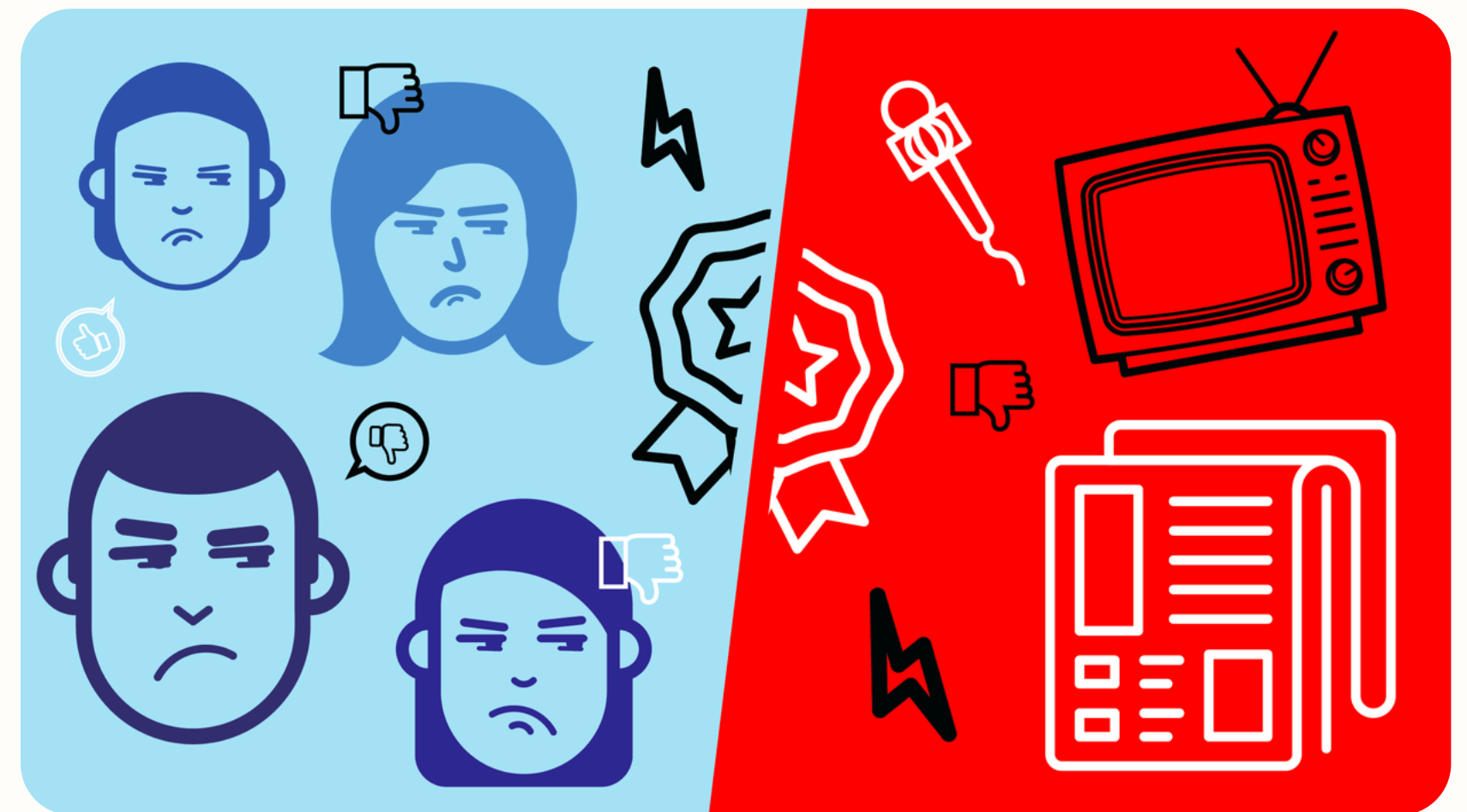
Under-representation of minorities :

In 2022, only 4.6% in the National Assembly were from minority backgrounds, far actual proportion of minorities in France

Territorial divides :

In 2020, 85% of senior officials were from the Paris region, reinforcing the perception of centralization





DIGITAL CHALLENGES AND MISINFORMATION

Impact of fake news : In 2021, an IFOP study found that 36% of French citizens believed fake news on social networks, fueling distrust towards institutions

Polarization of opinions: A 2022 Reuters Institute survey found that only 29% of French citizens trust the media, making democratic debate more challenging

36%
**BELIEVED FAKE
NEWS**

29%
**FRENCH CITIZENS
TRUST THE MEDIA**



КАНУТ TIME !



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THANK YOU

