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Thesis 2

A culture of debate and productive disagreement is part of democracy.

Liberal democracy thrives as long as there are democrats who actively stand up for it and embrace all associated negotiation processes. Controversies involving people who listen to one another and are engaged in constructive disputes are part of the democratic culture of debate and productive disagreement. They make an important contribution to a society based on peaceful and respectful coexistence and foster the development of individual and social positions. Any process involving negotiations requires a willingness to compromise. It is the opposite of populism and helps keep social polarisation at bay. A strong democracy must resolutely oppose any form of extremism and anti-democratic behaviour.

Group-focused enmity such as antisemitism, racism and all other forms of discrimination and exclusion weaken the foundations of democratic culture. They have no place in a liberal democracy. Those who stir up hatred or use violence against people must face the legal consequences.

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Thesis 1

Thesis 3

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