

# Position Paper

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## 1. Democratic Freedom Rights

In Silba we believe in the democratic freedom rights; freedom of speech, freedom of religion, political independence, freedom of association and freedom of assembly. These rights are inspired by the European Convention on Human Rights - In a world in which democracy is threatened in many places, we find it crucial to protect and defend these as fundamental rights. Even though we firmly believe that these rights are inviolable, they come with individual responsibility for what one says or does.

## 2. Suffrage

In Silba we believe that young people should have influence on the political decisions that shape their future. We are the ones who will live with the consequences of today's policies. Therefore we believe that the Danish suffrage should be lowered to 16 years of age. Where democracy is decreasing in other places in the world, we want to expand it. We believe that we make the best democratic citizens and democratic habits by allowing young people to have the responsibility and possibility of voting at a young age - to increase hope and prevent powerlessness among the younger generation.

## 3. Online Debate Culture

Today we unfortunately see a harsh and hateful debate culture in many cases online. As a promoter of good dialogue, cultivating a positive online culture is paramount to our mission. We believe that fostering a culture of respectful dialogue and active participation is essential for a healthy digital society. Our commitment to promoting good online culture centers on creating spaces where individuals engage in constructive conversations, exchange diverse viewpoints, and have their voices heard. A good and constructive online dialogue also creates a space for accountability and transparency, both essential aspects of democratic principles. We aim to empower citizens to become informed participants in democratic debate. We firmly believe that in nurturing these values, we contribute to the development of a digital landscape that strengthens democracy and encourages civic engagement. We believe that social media can be a great channel for increased democratic dialogue if we learn how to use it respectfully.

## 4 .International Solidarity and Understanding

We are committed to promoting international solidarity and fostering a global environment where cooperation and mutual understanding thrive. Solidarity to us is between those who enjoy the rights and freedoms described in point 1 and those who are deprived of them in some way, shape or form. We firmly believe that in a world interconnected like ours, it is crucial to bridge cultural, social, and ideological divides. Our mission centers on creating opportunities for individuals from diverse backgrounds to come together, share their experiences and build connections. We are dedicated to facilitating dialogue, education, and collaboration to transcend mental and physical boundaries. By working towards international solidarity and a deeper understanding of one another, we aim to contribute to a world where collective efforts lead to solutions for global challenges.

## 5. The Value of Work With and By Youth

We believe in the power of youth. Therefore youth should be involved more in all aspects of decision making and projects - especially in those that directly affect youth. Young people are creative, responsible and experts in their own lives. Whenever young people work together, we make great results. Therefore we encourage the use of the “youth-to-youth” approach in projects. We do not only need policies and projects for youth - we also need policies and projects created with and by youth.