

The four fundamental principles which determined the basis for government in the Federal Republic of Germany were:

Social welfarism:

the state is obligated to protect and support socially weak citizens and to strive for social justice and human dignity



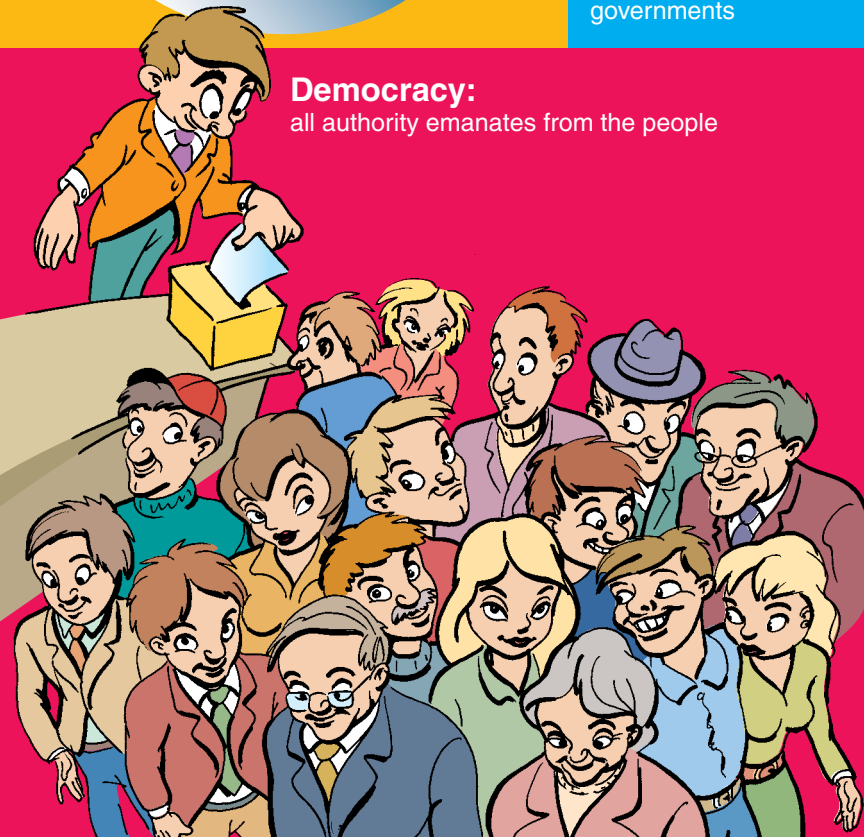
Federalism:

the government's power and sovereignty are shared between a central government and regional (state) governments



Democracy:

all authority emanates from the people



Rule by law:

actions of the state are subject to law and justice