

Newsletter: Popular Initiative in Poland

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o) EDITORIAL: TERRA INCOGNITA

by Ronald Pabst

Let's face it: Most people living in old Europe hardly know the new member states. For them these regions of Europe are still terra incognita. This term appeared on European maps from the 15th to the 18th century which were used by the seamen while exploring the world.

But it is a big mistake to stick to a picture full of prejudices painted by Western media. You are invited to form an own opinion. For those of you who cannot go there personally our new report about the popular initiative in Poland is a good starting point. It is written by Anna Rytel from the University of Gdansk. In addition, we inform about old Europe : Berlin and Austria.

1) POPULAR INITIATIVE IN POLAND

The report describes on six pages the procedure of the popular initiative in Poland. In addition you find a detailed list showing the course of the 55 initiatives which have been started so far.

www.democracy-international.org/initiative-poland.html

2) BERLIN: MORE DEMOCRACY

In Berlin there are still serve restrictions to the initiative and referendum process. But an Alliance lead by Mehr Demokratie has used the current political situation to achieve several improvements.

democracy-international.org/berlin-moredemocracy.html

3) AUSTRIA: ACTIVITIES FOR DIRECT DEMOCRACY

A new group has started the struggle for more democracy in Austria.

democracy-international.org/austria-activities.html

Ronald Pabst / Carsten Berg / Lars Bosselmann

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