

ALTERNATIVE EUROPEAN VOICES AWARDED IN WARSAW



Dystopian visions of the future, critical satire and black comedy are the prisms through which young media-makers' make us look at European society. The best videos submitted to the *Radical Democracy: European Video Challenge 2014* were awarded on Sunday 18 May in Warsaw.

An international jury announced the 10 winning entries during an Award Ceremony that appropriately took place in the Varsovian Palace of Culture and Science: a symbol of communist rule in the heart of the city, which now serves as a buzzing cultural centre. The *Radical Democracy: European Video Challenge 2014* was launched in February when Doc Next Network called on media makers and activists to share their views on 'Europe', reflect on alternatives, and create new narratives for an open society.

The 5 Winners and 5 Special Mentions offer exactly that, ranging from the powerful animation on the Gezi Park protests **Backward Run** and eery sci-fi of **Welcome to Oxmouth** to the 'dramedy' **Sincerity** and the tragicomic satire of remixed **Italy 2023** and **Party Against Citizens**. Through ostensibly small interventions and employing diverse genres and techniques, they reflect on the meaning of freedom and the position of individuals vis-à-vis political and economic systems. Together, the 10 films are an inspiration to rethink democracy in Europe and what role we have ourselves in shaping our societies. - *Watch all winning videos [here](#).*

Jury member Juan Luis Sánchez (eldiario.es) captured the essence of *Radical Democracy*: 'I learned a lot about the different realities in different countries. This generation has found new ways of expressing strong criticism of politics and representation, and demanding change. Not in an ideological way, but by demonstrating the gap between 'them' and 'us'.'

The 5 Winners each received a €2500 prize:

[Partij Tegen de Burger \(Party Against Citizens\)](#) by Stéphane Kaas

[Tornistan \(Backward Run\)](#) by Ayce Kartal

[Italy 2023](#) by Veronica De Salvo

[Welcome to Oxmouth](#) by John Panton

[Sinceridad \(Sincerity\)](#) by Andrea Casaseca Ferrer

The 5 Special Mentions won a €1000 prize:

[Boxer](#) by Agata Kochaniewicz, Anna Adamowicz, Piotr Grywacze, Mateusz Nowak

[Democracy](#) by Hande Zerkin

[La Cara Oculta de la Libertad \(The Unknow Side of Freedom\)](#) by Afra Rigamonti

[#Ocupaeldinero \(#Occupythemoney\)](#) by Terrorismo de autor

[Sme Europania \(We are Europeans\)](#) by Jozef Pollak

The 10 winning videos were selected from a total of 212 entries from across Europe. For more information about the Challenge and the 10 winners, please go to challenge.docnextnetwork.org

Radical Democracy: European Video Challenge 2014 is a project by [Doc Next Network](#), an initiative of the [European Cultural Foundation](#). The project is supported the Open Society Foundations. European Alternatives and Café Babel are communications partners. Doc Next Network is a unique movement of independent cultural and media organisations working with young people and media in the UK, Spain, Poland and Turkey.