
**EUROPE'S DEMOCRATIC WINTER - HOW EU LEADERS IMPOSE DEREGULATION,
BYPASSING CITIZENS AND MEPS**

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11.02.2026

EU Observer (10 February 2026)

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EU leaders meet this week in a 16th-century castle to navigate a geopolitical landscape that forces them to make some of the most consequential strategic decisions since the Cold War.

As the gates of the castle close on this high-stakes summit, one question remains outside: what role, if any, should EU citizens play in shaping this new era?

In the name of necessity and urgency, choices about defence, industry, trade, and strategic autonomy are being made at a break-neck speed, often with minimal debate and limited scrutiny.

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