

SHOULD FRANCE MOVE TOWARDS A

6th Republic?



Historical Context

→ 5 Republics since 1792

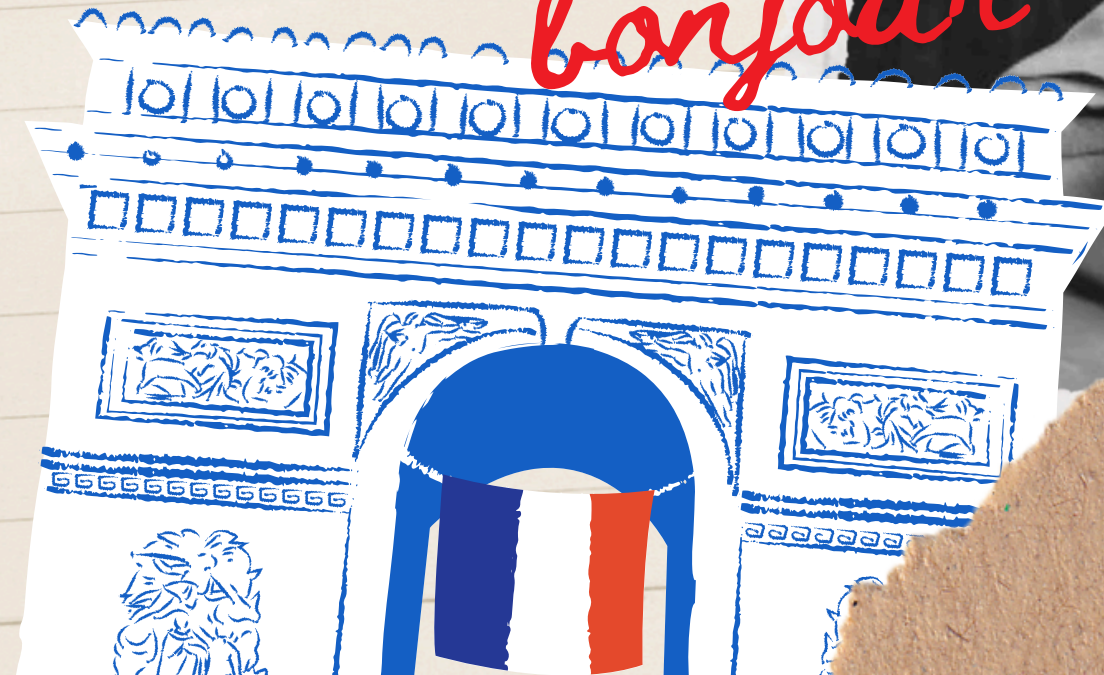
5th Republic (1958): Reaction to 4th Republic's instability

Objective: Strong executive power & stability

Current debate: Adapt institutions or maintain stability?



bonjour



Strengths of the 5th Republic

- **POLITICAL STABILITY**

Long mandates: Mitterrand 14 yrs, Chirac 12 yrs

- **STRONG EXECUTIVE POWER**

COVID-19 crisis management

- **INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE**

UN Security Council, Global diplomacy





Weaknesses of the 5th Republic

- "MONARCHIE PRÉSIDENTIELLE"

Article 16, 49.3 - Pension reform controversy 2023

- REPRESENTATION CRISIS

52.49% abstention, 2022 elections

- WEAK PARLIAMENT

Dominated by executive

Vive La France



Arguments FOR a 6th Republic

- **CITIZEN REFERENDUM (RIC)**

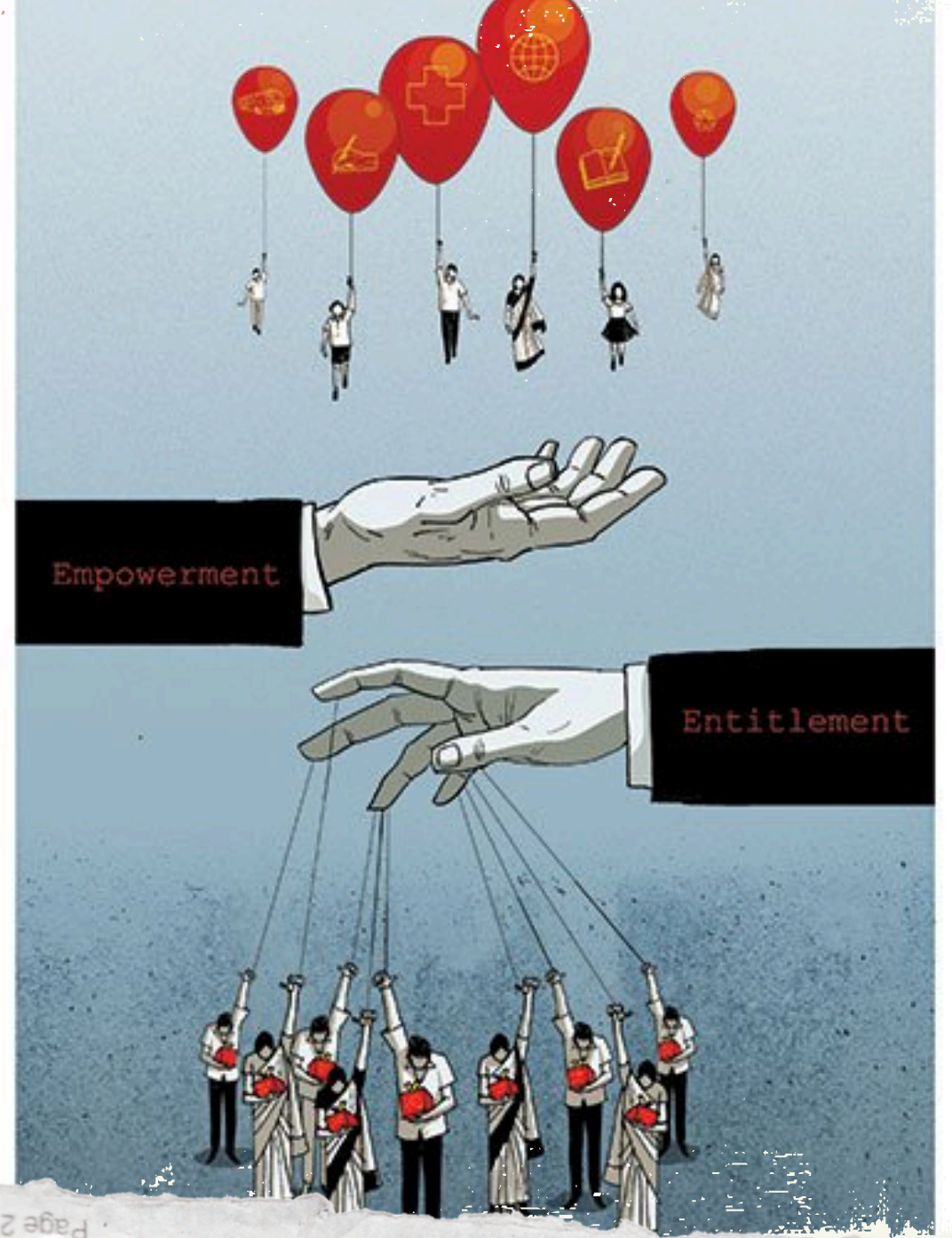
Swiss model — citizen empowerment

- **PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION**

Better representation of political diversity

- **PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM**

Reduce president's power, like Germany



Supporters for a 6th Republic

Jean-Luc Mélenchon (LFI):

- Constituent Assembly

Arnaud Montebourg

- Stronger Parliament

EELV (Les Écologistes)

- Participatory democracy



Foreign Examples

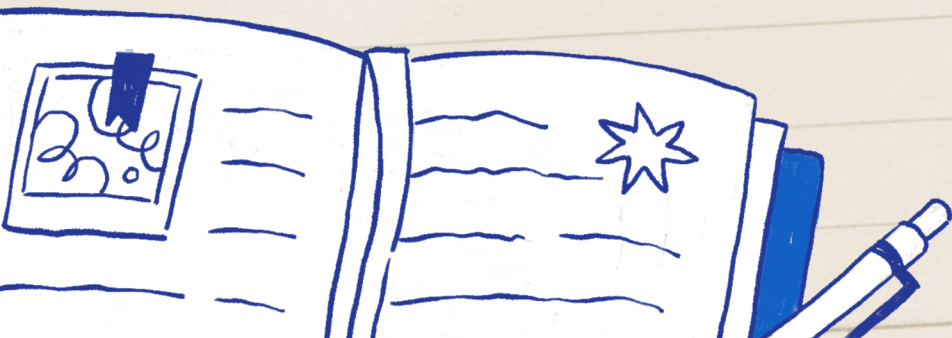
- ICELAND (2011)

Participative constitutional rewrite attempt (failed)

- CHILE (2022)

New Constitution rejected by referendum

Shows challenges of radical change



Arguments AGAINST a 6th Republic

- **POLITICAL INSTABILITY**

Risk of returning to 4th Republic chaos

- **COST AND COMPLEXITY**

Lengthy transition, societal division

- **CONSENSUS DIFFICULTY**

Division, paralysis



Opponents to a 6th Republic

Emmanuel Macron

- Gradual reform preferred

Les Républicains

- Stability essential

Marine Le Pen

- Targeted reforms, not total overhaul



Counterarguments

Possible internal reforms (electoral system, term limits) without new Republic

Stability essential in uncertain global context



Conclusion

→ 56% of French support a 6th Republic

→ 85% want institutional reforms

Key question remains:

Radical change or progressive adjustments?

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