

representative democracy, with all its institutions, is complemented by the direct democracy. (Art. 48 and 112)

In a country under tutership for half a century, it is difficult for the direct democracy to find its path. There have been during these years initiatives in all fields whereby the citizens can share in the management of political affairs in their own zone of influence and interest. However, the institutions of the representative democracy seem to fear such expressions and didn't give so far to them the necessary attention. I think that Portugal can gain from the experience of other countries who; in very diverse juridical frame, have a long tradition of direct democracy. (I am thinking of such different countries as Switzerland, USA and Jugoslavia who, according to their specific modes of organization of society, encourage their citizens to share in the management and the decision-making of important aspects of their community life.)

No doubt that, by stressing the importance of combination of these two forms of democracy, I am pointing at a mere basic question. I am referring to the building up of a common will. What are the conditions for an electoral majority to become a driving force in society? What kind of efforts are needed for the popular dynamism and expectation to be taken up in modes of "gouvernance" oriented towards the well-being of each man and all men?

