



CHARTER OF THE 'LIBERALES FORUM'

In *Man*, the Liberales Forum sees the creator of his own living conditions, empowered to use his free will and take responsible action. From this derives the obligation for him and policy making to exemplify, awaken and permanently foster power of judgment and a personal and social sense of responsibility.

Political Liberalism seeks to guarantee and promote the opportunities for autonomy and self-fulfilment for the individual and for social groups; it opposes any form of authoritarian and dogmatic claims to truth in politics, culture and science.

Liberal Politics looks for a road between the extremes of untrammelled egotism and patronizing egalitarianism, leading to as much freedom as possible for as many people as possible. It rejects any restriction of liberty and human dignity as well as any discrimination on the grounds of gender, political conviction or ethnic affiliation.

Freedom can only evolve within a structure. The liberal principle of structure is based on the safeguarding of liberty. **The democratic constitutional state** with the principles of the separation of powers and individual freedom of contract represents the polity best in keeping with safeguarding liberty.

In the economic sector, freedom can best unfold within a business framework based on private property, competition and the **free market**. The market economy ensures a maximum of performance and development potential. Threats to the market economy and economic equality of opportunity must be forestalled by appropriate framework legislation.

The guarantee of material subsistence is a prerequisite of individual liberty. From this derives the **social dimension** of Liberal Politics. Ensuring freedom from poverty and want constitutes an indivisible mission for the individual **and** society. Nobody should be absolved from personal responsibility, but nobody should be exposed to impotence.

A healthy environment is the precondition for the free development of man. The destruction of the natural foundations of our existence is a threat to future generations' right to life. For this reason, **ecological responsibility** is an obligation for Liberals. Subjugation, violence and war represent the worst intrusions on the freedoms of other persons, groups or nations. Hence, Liberal Politics is fundamentally committed to a **world in and of peace**.

Freedom is not just a right, but also a responsibility.