Worksheet 1.17a: The rule of law and democracy

1. Read the definitions below.

The rule of law
Everyone (including judges and politicians) has to follow the country's laws.
Laws are fair and clear.
When laws are broken, the people who make decisions about justice are skilled and unbiased.

Democracy
The belief in freedom and equality between people, or a system of government based on this belief, in which power is held either by elected representatives, or directly by the people themselves.
A system of government where equality and freedom are prioritised.
A democracy is run by elected representatives (or by citizens themselves).

2. Answer the question below. The vocabulary at the bottom might help.
Why is the rule of law important in a democracy?

Vocabulary
balance, bias, check, cohesion, community, conflict, consistent, crucial, differences, discrimination, elected, equality, fair, favouritism, fundamental, integration, judges, justice, mutual, necessary, politicians, prison, privacy, representation, respect, responsibility, right, similarities, solicitor, threat, tolerate, underpin, unfair, vital

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