



**HELLENIC LINK–MIDWEST**  
A SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL LINK WITH GREECE  
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΠΟΛΙΤΙΣΤΙΚΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ  
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## **Athenian Democracy and Direct Democracy in Switzerland**

**On Sunday, April 6, 2019, Hellenic Link–Midwest presents *Professor Robert Wallace*, in a presentation on *Athenian Democracy*, and *Bruno Kaufmann*, Director of International Cooperation, in a presentation on *Direct Democracy in Switzerland*.**

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Ancient Athens is the mother of Democracy and the mother of the purest form of Democracy, Direct Democracy. Today democratic governments are a form of Representative Democracy, but there are many such democracies with some features of Direct Democracy. In the U.S., a number of State governments have some features of Direct Democracy, with California having the most of them—making of laws by ballot propositions, referendum, and recall. Switzerland has a representative government system with strong direct democratic features both at the national level and at the state (canton) and local levels.

Professor Wallace and Bruno Kaufmann will discuss the practice of Direct Democracy in Ancient Athens and Switzerland. This discussion is of special interest these days—politicians have greatly polarized politics, and democratic discourse and democratic government are greatly suffering.