

Demo*i*cracy

Present and Future

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Seeing the *dêmos* as singularity ...

problematic from normative point of view:

- demos problem
 - negative externalities of self-government for other *demoi* and citizens
 - mobility of citizens reduces rights

Seeing the *dêmos* as singularity ...

problematic from a descriptive point of view:

- *dêmoi* are not self-contained
- fact of the plurality of *dêmoi*
- increased interdependence and functional integration
- effects of political fragmentation of globalization
- ever greater political singularities is not plausible

Democracy:

- liberal democratic *dêmoi* governing together in areas of their choice
- citizens and *dêmoi* as legitimating actors

Democracy: liberal democratic statespeoples who

- open up their political systems, economies, and civil societies to each other
- engage in common political institution building
- accept common institutional constraints
- enhance trans-national rights of citizens

Democracy:

1. multilateral democracy
 - veto right of every member *demos* for changes of power conferring rules
 - right to exit of every member *demos*
 - delegation of specific governmental tasks to common majoritarian institutions or supranational agencies

Democracy:

2. federal state democracy
 - change of power conferring rules by majoritarian decision (e.g. double majority)
 - delegation of specific governmental tasks to common majoritarian institutions and domestic agencies

Who is sovereign?

question of sovereignty:

“Who decides, who decides?”

→ the legitimate source of political power

“The Law”:

1. laws creating obligations or prohibitions
2. power conferring rules

Two types of decision on power conferring rules:

1. deciding to keep rules the way they are (status quo)
2. deciding change of power conferring rules (change)

Democracy:

1. multilateral *democracy*: EU, ?
2. federal state *democracy*: e.g. CH, ?

The future of multilateral democracy:

- liberal democratic states persist
- need for economic integration and the quest for larger market opportunities
- need for common ecological and security policies

The future of multilateral democracy:

- ➔ need to transpose governmental functions to higher levels
- ➔ social pressure to fulfill certain standards of democracy in multilateral relations (“holistic constructivism”)
- ➔ if statespeoples do not want to form a federal state, multilateral democracy remains a viable choice
- ➔ “new regionalism”
- ➔ EU stability