Governance & Democracy

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Lisboa, january 31th, 2008

Work Package 1.5. – Democracy and Governance

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Outline

- Katarsis – Idea and Objectives
- Contributors
- Definitions: Governance & Democracy
- Socioeconomic Transformations
  - From Government to Governance
- Results and Questions

KATARSIS

- **overcoming social exclusion** by promoting socially creative strategies of social inclusion
  - social inclusion - social cohesion-justice/equality
  - Links between social inclusion, governance and democracy
- **Experimentation**, given context-specific circumstances

KATARSIS: dialectical approach

- analysis of socioeconomic relations, **stretching horizons**, stressing linkages, **fostering alliances** of socially creative initiatives and engaged intellectuals
- Linking experience-based knowledge with scientific knowledge
- **Social innovations**
  - form (how?) and content (what?)
  - process and outcome
  - Social creativity as the dialectical unity of theory (thinking, reflection) and practice (acting, doing)

Definition – Democracy

	Procedural dimension	Content dimension
Domain?	Political	Socioeconomic
What about?	RULE-MAKING	RESULT-ORIENTED
Prime Value?	Freedom	Equality and justice
How?	Access to decision making: Control of state apparatus: bureaucracy/ public control/ private control Participation/ empowerment	Access to resources Social & economic rights as entitlements: universal or targeted
Forms of democracy	Direct, representative, participatory Liberal vs. republican	Socioeconomic citizenship (welfare)
Utopian Form of Socioeconomic organisation	Democratization and participation	Embedded capitalism, post-capitalism, solidarian economy, socialism

Definition – Governance

- **Analytical** concept: describes a *form of organising society* (from government to governance)
  - Mode of coordination and negotiation, relating to control, resistance and steering
  - Interplay of public and private actors solving societal problems or creating societal opportunities
  - State an important, but not the sole agent (enlarged state)
  - Multi-scalar mode of organisations
- **Normative** concept: elaborates a *best-practice of organising society* (good governance, network society)
  - Post-Washington consensus of liberal governance ("neoliberalism with a human face")

GOVERNMENT: Keynesian Welfare National State (1945-1970s)

- Consensus on a **wide understanding of social democracy** (welfare state, social citizenship)
  - 1945: Liberal democracy (political democracy without welfare state) was unable to avoid Fascism and war
  - **Political right** in favour of social inclusion!
  - Social and political entitlements linked to the **national state**
- Planning from above
  - Bureaucratic top-down approaches
  - **Social engineering** as an innovative strategy of social inclusion

GOVERNANCE: Schumpeterian Postnational Workfare Regime (from 1970s onwards)

- Crisis of a wide understanding of democracy
    - **"Crisis of the welfare state" and Fordism**
    - Decentralisation and Privatization → criticism of bureaucracy and state failure
    - **Political Left** in favour of more social inequality
- **Democracy limited to its procedural dimension**
    - Micro-participation
    - Civil society involvement and a new/old **elitist** forms of politics

Preliminary results of WP1.5. (**Dialectics**)

- **Dialectical approach**: from either-or to as-well-as
  - micro- **and** macro-participation
  - bottom up **and** top down
- linking micro- and macro-development: interactions / relations / institution

Preliminary results of WP1.5. (**Scale**)

- **Multi-scalar bottom-up empowerment strategies**
  - From Multi-level to multi-scalar strategies and governance
  - democratisation and participation of civil society
  - local self-organisation
- **Upscaling of bottom-linked initiatives:**
  - **centralised public funds and public rules** (laws and regulation) are decisive for the flourishing of bottom-up creativity
  - Which is the best level of centralised intervention in Europe (EU or nation state?)

Preliminary results of WP1.5. (**public**)

- Combine **universalistic** elements of the welfare state with **diverse** service delivery at the local level

- Valorisation of **participatory** methods at the local and initiative level (integrated approach in territorial policies and practices)

- **Strengthening the public sphere**: public as different from state; overcoming the state - private - dichotomy: self-management, socialisation

Preliminary results of WP1.5. (**experimentation**)

- **Experimentation** with the democratisation of society, economy and politics
- no best practice creative strategies "out" of exclusion, but mutual learning processes fostering **cooperation from below**
- **Social innovations** are needed to increase social inclusion (participation of the whole populace)

Democratic governance as a concrete utopia

- **Porto Alegre**-inspired (participatory budgeting)
- **1945**: from liberal (restricted) democracy to social democracy (from two nations to one nation) - inclusive democracy also supported by the political Right!
- **after 1970s**: neoliberal turn (including adherence of the political Left to an elitist project of restricted democracy (and unlimited economic freedom)

Democratic governance as a concrete utopia

- ○ **Europe in the 21st century**: new accomodation of freedom, equality and solidarity
- ○ **Diversity** of social experimentation with social inclusion and participatory democracy
- ○ **Bottom-linked initiatives**, but **guaranteed** (legally and financially) **from above**