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Institut de sciences politiques Louvain-Europe
Faculté des sciences économiques, sociales, politiques et de la communication

Joint session on participatory democracy at EU in Belgium communicators mini-seminar *Participatory democracy: Setting the stage*

17 December 2024

Min Reuchamps

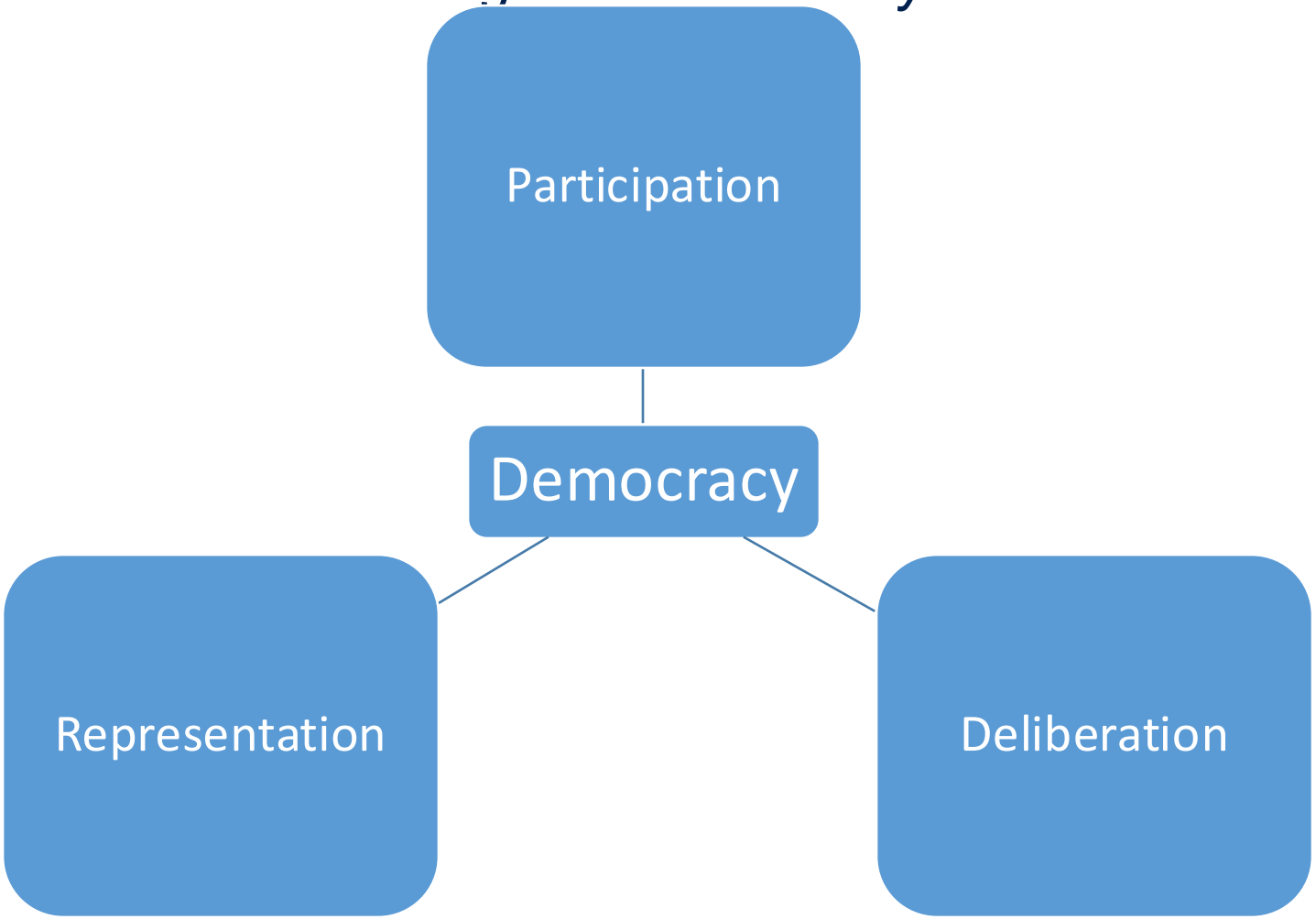
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Some paradoxes of democracy

- Dream of democracy vs. Live under democracy
- Universal suffrage vs. Universal abstention
- Right to participate vs. Participation of the few
- Professional politicans vs. Professional citizens
- Collective decisions vs. Individual norms
- => Paradoxes => Democracy => Paradoxes
- Democracy => Collective choices => Participatory and deliberative democracy

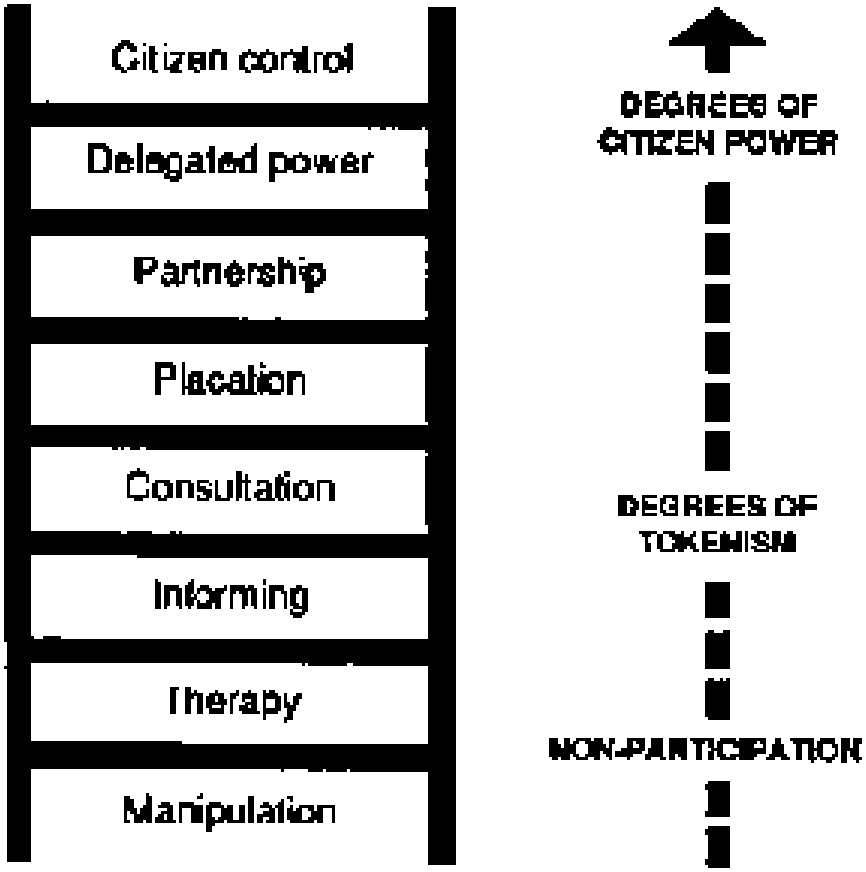
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Triangle of democracy



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Ladder of participation (Arnstein 1969)

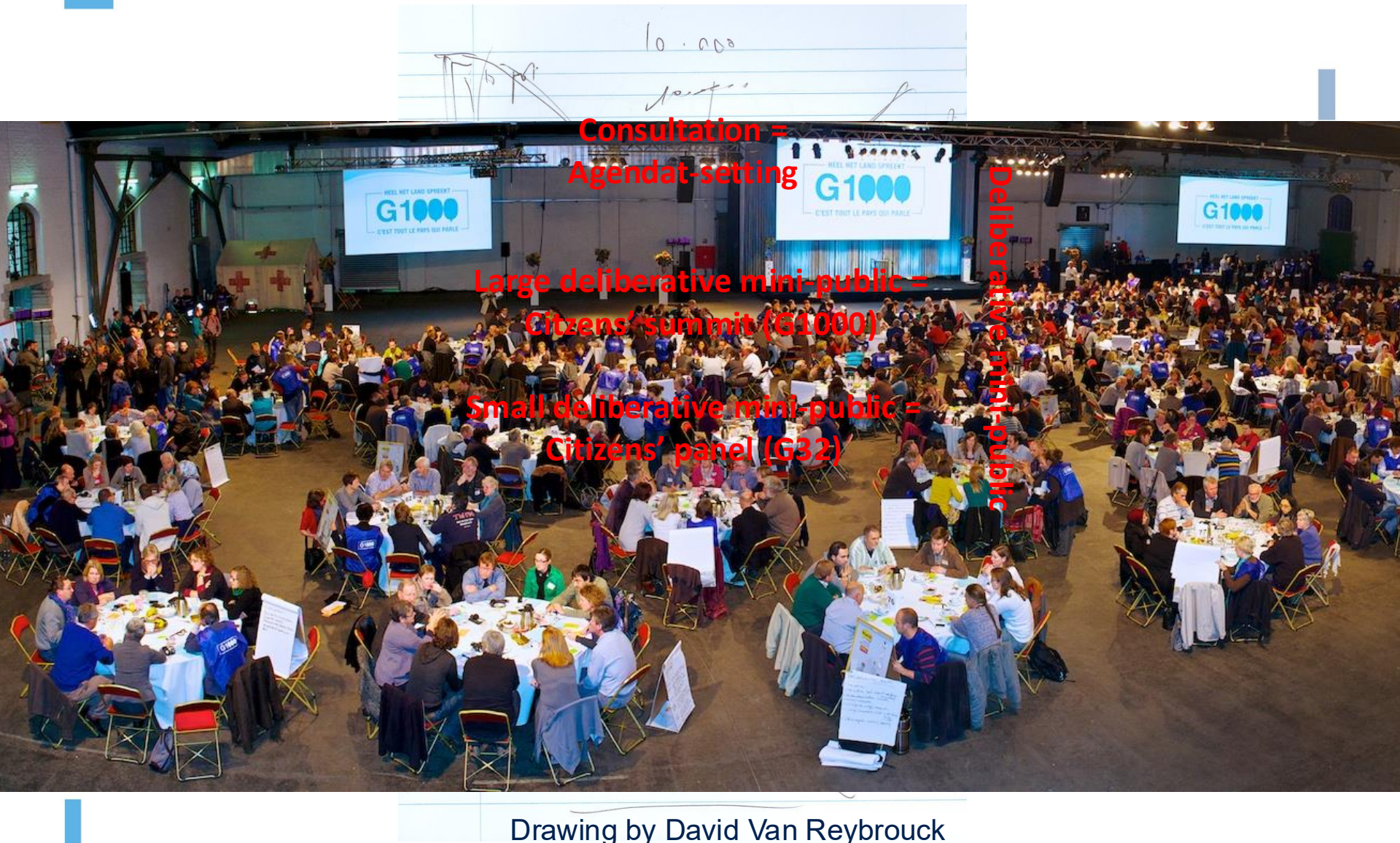


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Several modes of participation

- Right of petition
- Right of citizen initiative
- Referendum
- Popular consultation
- Participatory budget
- Deliberative mini-public (sortition = random selection)
- Mixed deliberative committees
- …

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Drawing by David Van Reybrouck

Caluwaerts, D., & Reuchamps, M. (2018). *The Legitimacy of Citizen-led Deliberative Democracy: The G1000 in Belgium*. Abingdon: Routledge.

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Ladder of participation (Arnstein 1969)

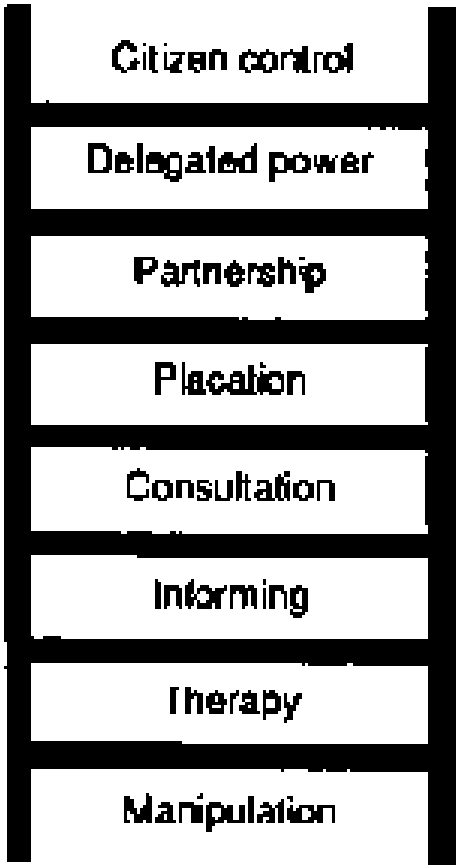
Referendum

Participatory budget

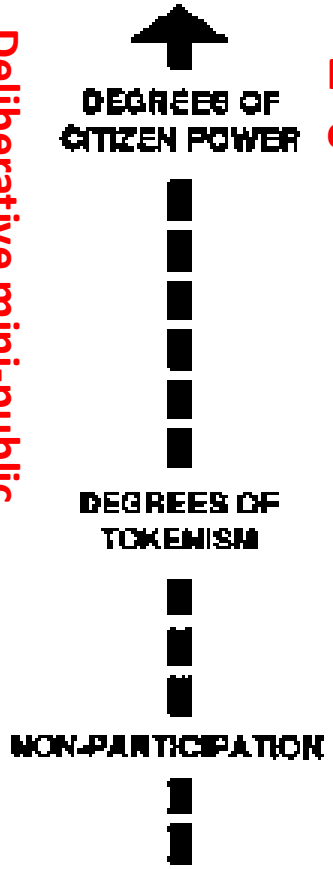
Popular consultation

Right of citizen initiative

Right of petition



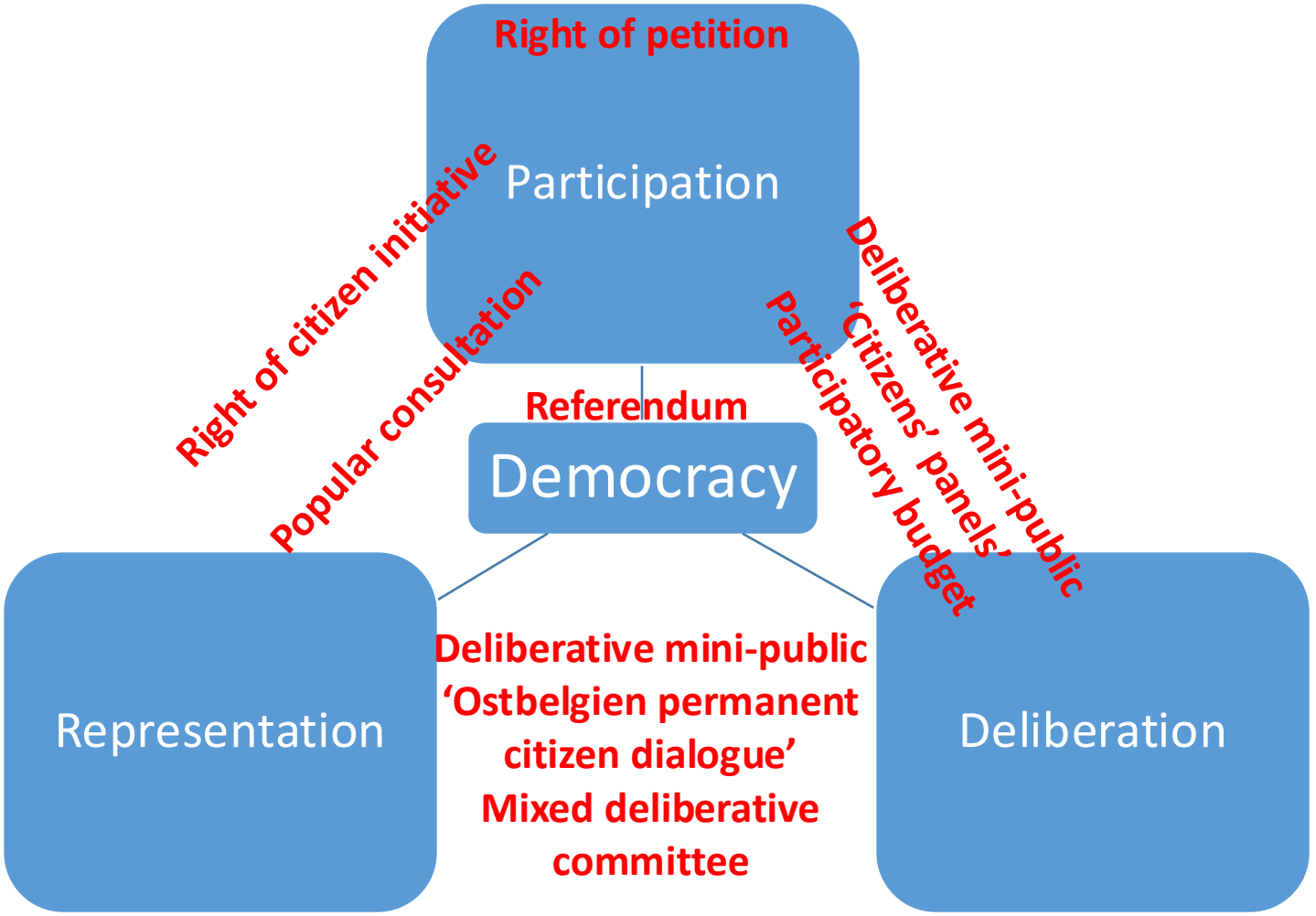
Deliberative mini-public



Mixed deliberative committee

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Triangle of democracy



Participatory democracy: Setting the stage