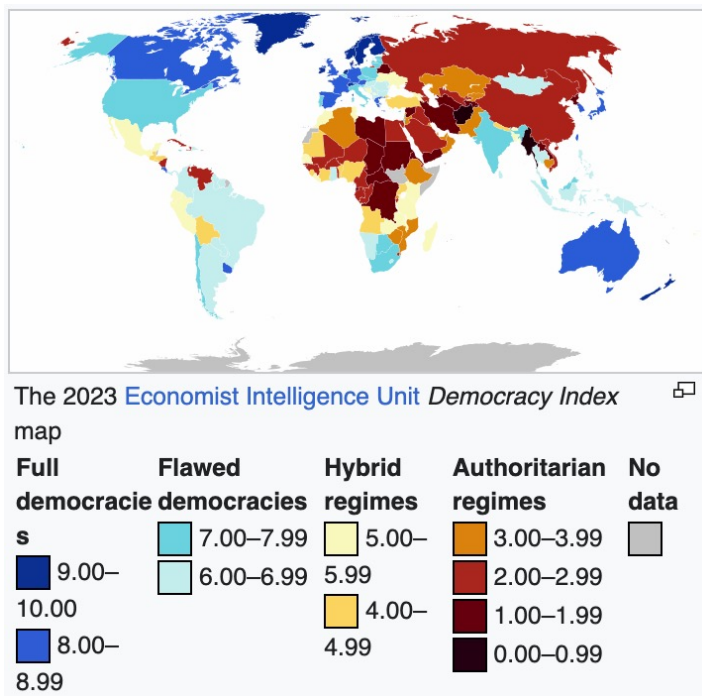


Democracy

Democracy Now

2023 Democracy Index



Population by Political Regime Type

Type of regime ↕	Score ↕	Countries		Proportion of World population (%) ↕
		Number ↕	(%) ↕	
Full democracies ^[a]	9.00–10.00 8.00–8.99	24	14.4%	7.8%
Flawed democracies ^[b]	7.00–7.99 6.00–6.99	50	29.9%	37.6%
Hybrid regimes ^[c]	5.00–5.99 4.00–4.99	34	20.4%	15.2%
Authoritarian regimes ^[d]	3.00–3.99 2.00–2.99 1.00–1.99 0.00–0.99	59	35.3%	39.4%

Democracy Now

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dbtljNk1BjM>



Democracy Now

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E0L598q-U88>



US vs. Brazil

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T351HLKLeqc>

What is Democracy?

- The **Democratic** People's Republic of Korea (or North Korea)
- The German **Democratic** Republic (or East Germany)
- The **Democratic** Republic of Vietnam (or North Vietnam)
- The **Democratic** Republic of Afghanistan
- The Somali **Democratic** Republic

What is Democracy?

- Democracy is a regime with political power widely spread and, in some way, rested with the people. Jack Lively (1975, p. 30) suggests seven possible interpretations:

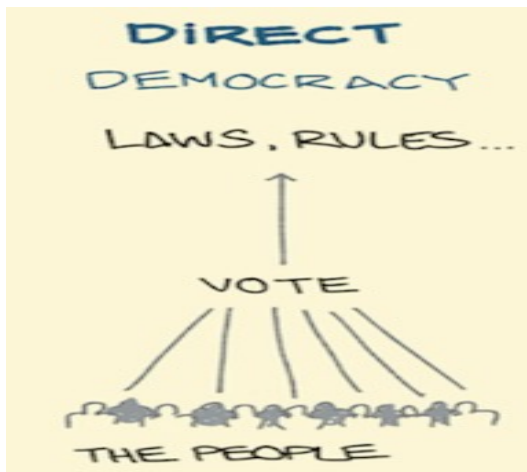
1	That <u>all should govern</u> , in the sense that all should be involved in legislating, in deciding on general policy, in applying laws and in governmental administration.	Direct decision-making by the people
2	That <u>all should be personally involved in crucial decision-making</u> , that is to say in deciding general laws and matters of general policy.	
3	That <u>rulers should be accountable to the ruled</u> ; they should, in other words, be obliged to justify their actions to the ruled and be removable by the ruled.	Accountability to the people
4	That <u>rulers should be accountable to the representatives of the ruled</u> .	
5	That <u>rulers should be chosen by the ruled</u> .	
6	That <u>rulers should be chosen by the representatives of the ruled</u> .	
7	That <u>rulers should act in the interests of the ruled</u> .	

What is Democracy?

- # 7: Rulers act in the interests of the ruled
- Even if it is possible that the interests of the people are taken care of in a (benevolent) dictatorship, dictators remain free to act against people's interests anytime in the future.
 - Why? Under dictatorship,
 - Rulers are not chosen by the people; dictators are generally not held accountable

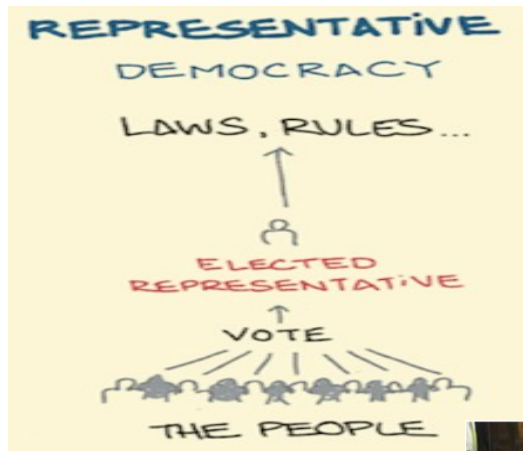


2 Types of Democracy (1): Direct Democracy



- Issues with Direct Democracy:
Joseph Schumpeter's *Capitalism, Socialism, and Democracy* (1942)
 - **Unrealistic**: most people in modern democratic societies are happy to leave politics to political elites.
 - **Undesirable**: most people tend to be irrational and are easily seduced by authoritarian values and charismatic/dictatorial leaders.

2 Types of Democracy (2): Representative Democracy



- According to Schumpeter, democracy is the institutional arrangement for political decision-making, where the power of such decision-making is acquired by means of a competitive struggle for people's vote.

Democracy and Political Obligation

- Under direct and representative democracies
 - Decision-making by the people: People or representatives have political power
- Why should obey laws?
 - If we choose the laws, they are more likely to be consistent with **our** interests.
 - “Our” = “the general” = “majority of”
 - ➔ Democracy as a source of political obligation

Democracy and Political Obligation

UK Brexit Referendum Ballot Paper • Ballot results

Referendum on the United Kingdom's membership of the European Union	
Vote only once by putting a cross <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in the box next to your choice	
Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the European Union or leave the European Union?	
Remain a member of the European Union	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leave the European Union	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 51.89%: voted in favour of leaving the EU
- 48.11%: voted to remain a member

Majority Rule



- A key problem with democracy
 - Unanimous decisions are very rare, and hence we follow the view of the **majority**.
 - What is majority rule?
 - Decision-making power belongs to the group that has more than 50%

Problems of Majority Rule: Strict Majority Rule

Abigail	Ben	Cheng
Chinese	Korean	Sandwich

- When there are more options
 - E.g., 3 options for lunch (Chinese, Sandwich, Korean)
 - Relying upon a strict majority rule leaves friends in a deadlock

Problems of Majority Rule: Condorcet

Abigail	Ben	Cheng
Chinese	Korean	Sandwich
Sandwich	Chinese	Korean
Korean	Sandwich	Chinese

- Condorcet method
 - A. Requires every pair of options to be voted on separately
 - B. Whichever option wins all of its pairwise votes is the winner
- A-1 focus on the pair of Chinese and Korean
 - Chinese vs. Korean

Problems of Majority Rule: Condorcet

Abigail	Ben	Cheng
Chinese	Korean	Sandwich
Sandwich	Chinese	Korean
Korean	Sandwich	Chinese

- Condorcet method
 - A. Requires every pair of options to be voted on separately
 - B. Whichever option wins all of its pairwise votes is the winner
- A-1 focus on the pair of Chinese and Korean
 - Chinese vs. Korean: 1 vs. 2

Problems of Majority Rule: Condorcet

Abigail	Ben	Cheng
Chinese	Korean	Sandwich
Sandwich	Chinese	Korean
Korean	Sandwich	Chinese

- Condorcet method
 - A. Requires every pair of options to be voted on separately
 - B. Whichever option wins all of its pairwise votes is the winner
- A-2 focus on the pair of Chinese and Sandwich
 - Chinese vs. Sandwich

Problems of Majority Rule: Condorcet

Abigail	Ben	Cheng
Chinese	Korean	Sandwich
Sandwich	Chinese	Korean
Korean	Sandwich	Chinese

- Condorcet method
 - A. Requires every pair of options to be voted on separately
 - B. Whichever option wins all of its pairwise votes is the winner
- A-2 focus on the pair of Chinese and Sandwich
 - Chinese vs. Sandwich: 2 vs. 1

Problems of Majority Rule: Condorcet

Abigail	Ben	Cheng
Chinese	Korean	Sandwich
Sandwich	Chinese	Korean
Korean	Sandwich	Chinese

- Condorcet method
 - A. Requires every pair of options to be voted on separately
 - B. Whichever option wins all of its pairwise votes is the winner
- A-3 focus on the pair of Korean and Sandwich
 - Korean vs. Sandwich

Problems of Majority Rule: Condorcet

Abigail	Ben	Cheng
Chinese	Korean	Sandwich
Sandwich	Chinese	Korean
Korean	Sandwich	Chinese

- Condorcet method
 - A. Requires every pair of options to be voted on separately
 - B. Whichever option wins all of its pairwise votes is the winner
- A-3 focus on the pair of Korean and Sandwich
 - Korean vs. Sandwich: 1 vs. 2

Problems of Majority Rule: Condorcet

Abigail	Ben	Cheng
Chinese	Korean	Sandwich
Sandwich	Chinese	Korean
Korean	Sandwich	Chinese

- Condorcet method
 - A. Requires every pair of options to be voted on separately
 - B. Whichever option wins all of its pairwise votes is the winner
- Still difficult to reach a majority decision
 - Majority voting between pairs leading to a cycle
 - Chinese vs. Korean : 1 vs. 2
 - Chinese vs. Sandwich : 2 vs. 1
 - Korean vs. Sandwich: 1 vs. 2

Problems of Majority Rule

- An even more difficult issue is the minority – should they obey the law even though they did not agree with it?
 - Possible answer by Rousseau: “Provided that the laws carried are in accord with the general will, everyone unanimously will want to accept them because it is the right or moral thing to do”
- Is democracy still better than the alternatives?
 - Under democracy, minority changes depending on the issue
 - More people than not are on the winning side, by definition.