



1. Sustainable development and governance

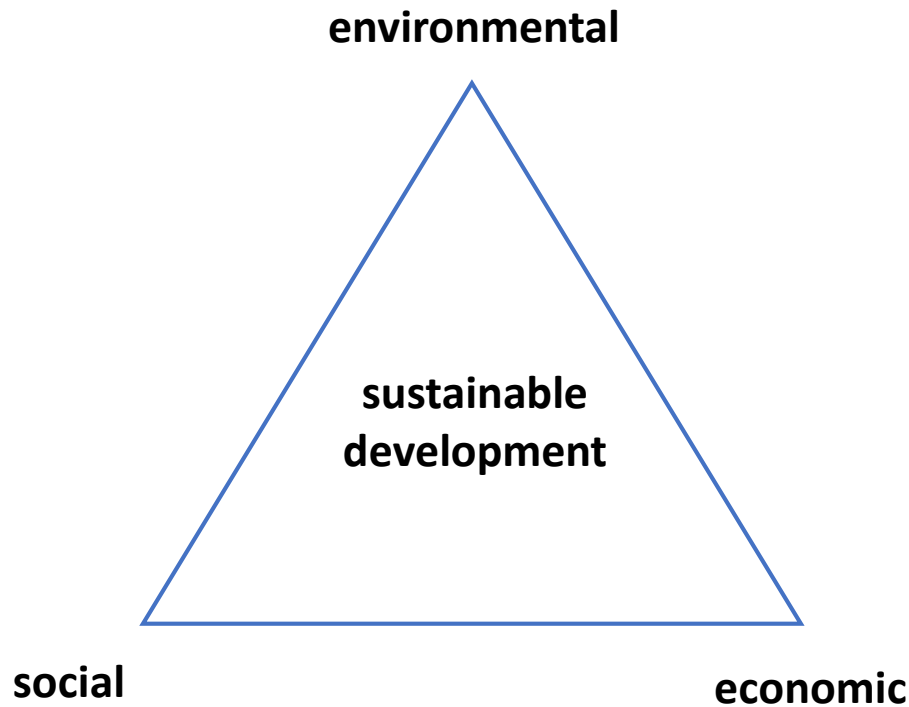
3. Democracy and sustainable development



2. Governance and democracy

1. Sustainable development and governance

Three dimensions of sustainable development & SDGs as meta-policy





Two governance goals, enabling implementation of the other goals

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 16

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 17

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development



Trends in sustainability governance

Key governance principle	Upward trends	Downward trends
Effectiveness	Contextuality, pluriformity & diversity, peer learning and twinning; “Common But Differentiated Governance” (CBDG)	Blueprint thinking, proliferation of ‘best practices’



Trends in sustainability governance

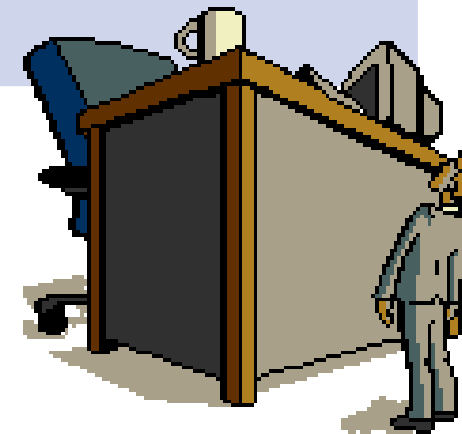
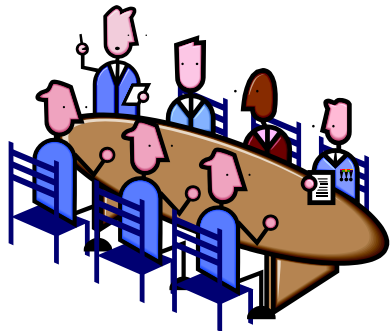
Key governance principle	Upward trends	Downward trends
Accountability	Sustainability indicators, citizens accounting, result indicators	Detailed performance indicators, output indicators





Trends in sustainability governance

Key governance principle	Upward trends	Downward trends
Inclusiveness	Collaboration, co-creation, empowerment, local government, 'Teaching silos to dance'	Patronizing, dependency, Silo-thinking



Principles of sustainability governance?

- 11 Principles of effective governance for sustainable development
- Proposed by the UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA)
- Endorsed by UN ECOSOC Council in July 2018

The 5 Inclusiveness principles are often the weakest part

Link to article '[Principles of effective governance](#)' (Bouckaert et al. 2018)



Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development

Effectiveness

- » Competence
- » Sound policymaking
- » Collaboration

Accountability

- » Integrity
- » Transparency
- » Independent oversight

Inclusiveness

- » Leaving no one behind
- » Non-discrimination
- » Participation
- » Subsidiarity
- » Intergenerational equity

Is the governance definition broad enough?

Governance is how public administration organisations and other stakeholders develop solutions and create opportunities for societal challenges (Meuleman 2014)

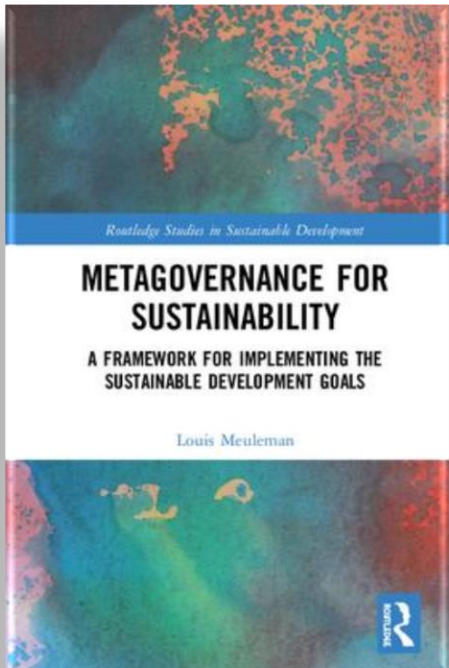


Hierarchical governance

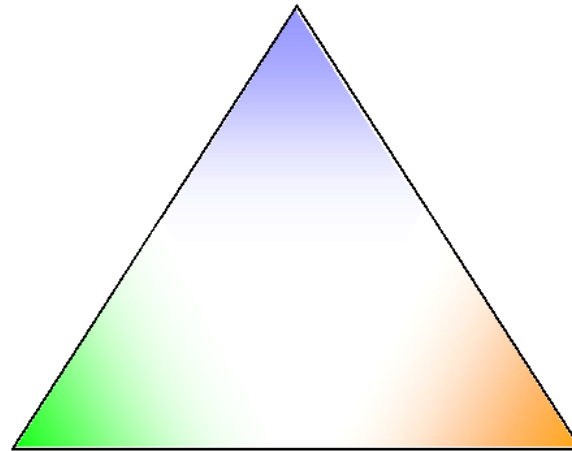
More than 3 is too complicated

“One chord is fine. Two chords are pushing it. Three chords and you’re into jazz”

Lou Reed, musician



Network governance



Market governance



Use the full governance toolbox: “Fifty shades of governance”



- Vision/strategy
- Institut./instrum.
- Processes/actors
- Problems/outcomes

1.Ways of life	11.Strategy styles	21.Control mechanism	31.Accountability style	41.Values civil servants
2.Relational values	12.Reply to resistance	22.Coordin. mechanism	32.Type of context	42.Key competences
3.Theor. background	13.Organiz. orientation	23.Transaction types	33.Process/project mgt	43.Mgt. developm. obj.
4.Key concepts	14.Actor perceptions	24.Degree of flexibility	34.Reform approach	44.Dealing with power
5.Mode of calculation	15.Selection of actors	25.Level of commitment	35.Innovation style	45.Conflict resolution
6.Primary virtues	16.Stocktaking of actors	26.Communic. styles	36.Relation types	46.Problem types
7.Common motive	17.Institutional logic	27.Roles of knowledge	37.Social interactions	47.Problem framing
8.Motive of actors	18.Dealing with silos	28.Science-pol. interface	38.Public manager roles	48.Governance failures
9.Roles of government	19.Policy instruments	29.Impact assessments	39.Leadership styles	49.Public procurement
10.Metaphors	20.Decisionmaking unit	30.Access to information	40.Empowerment	50.Output and outcome

The cultural dimension of governance

Framing of problems

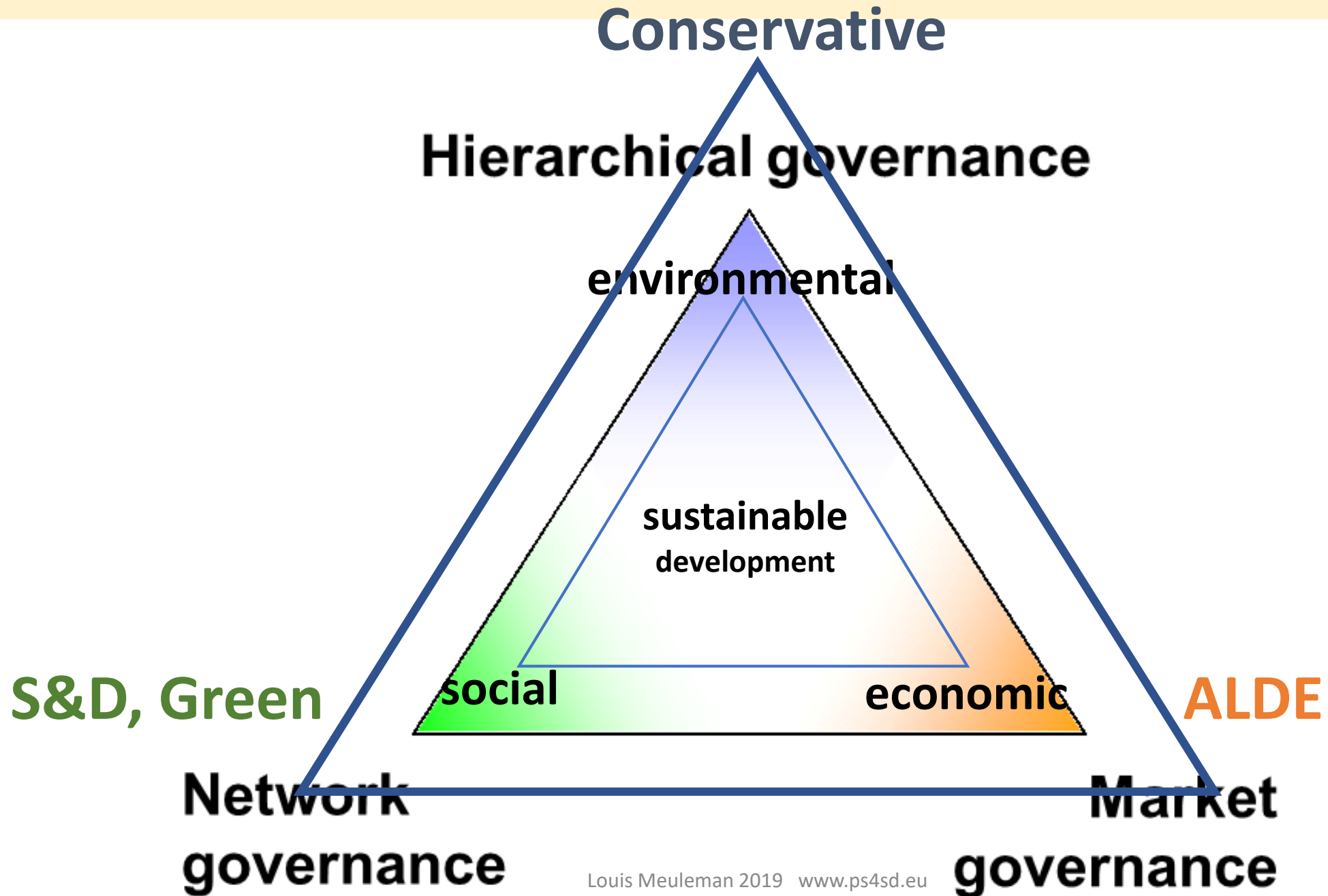
Feature	Hierarchical governance	Network governance	Market governance
47. Framing of problems	A relevant problem is framed as disorder	A relevant problem is framed as lack of consent	A relevant problem is framed as inefficiency



~~Chaos. German Style.~~

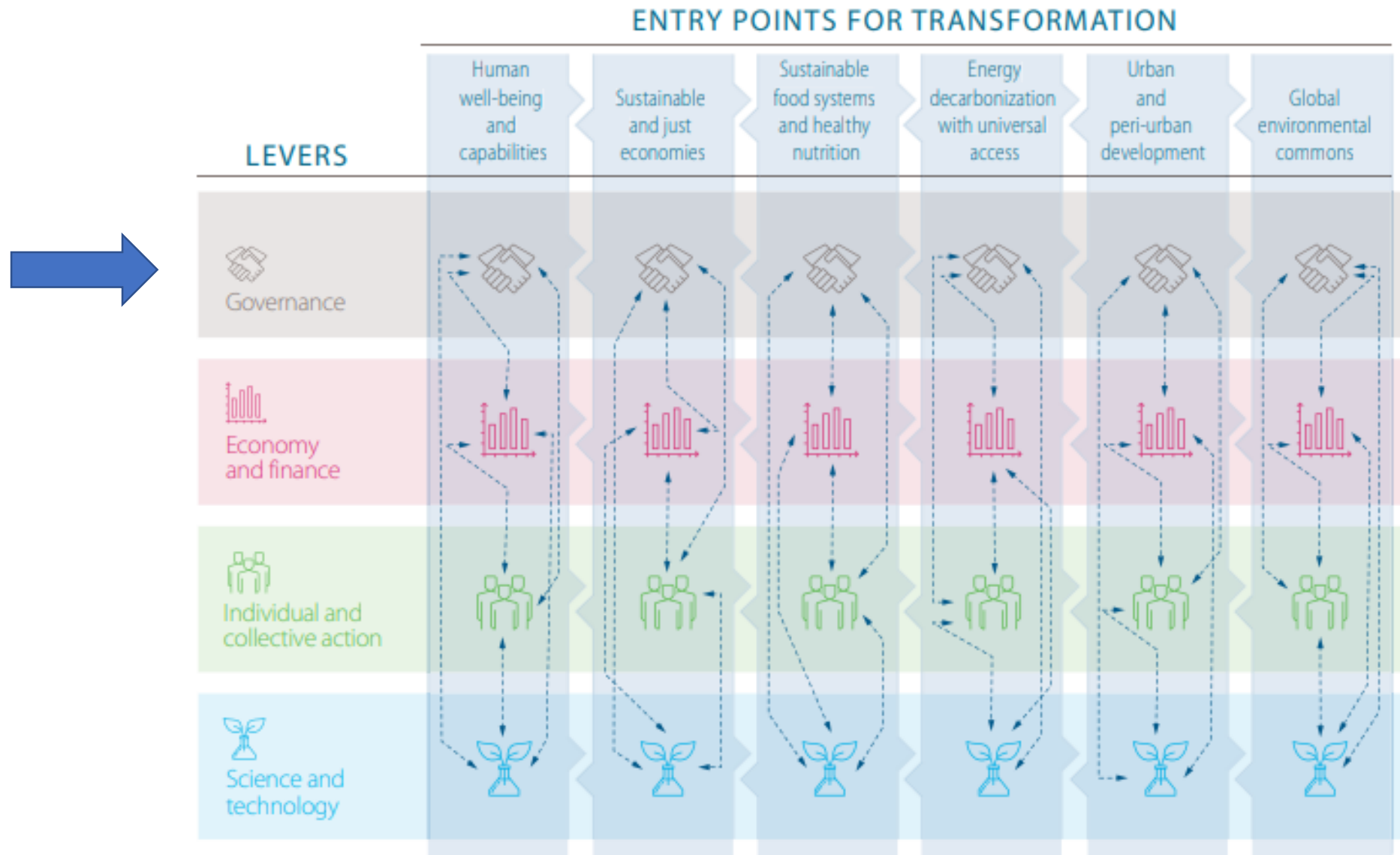
Disruption







How important is governance for sustainability?

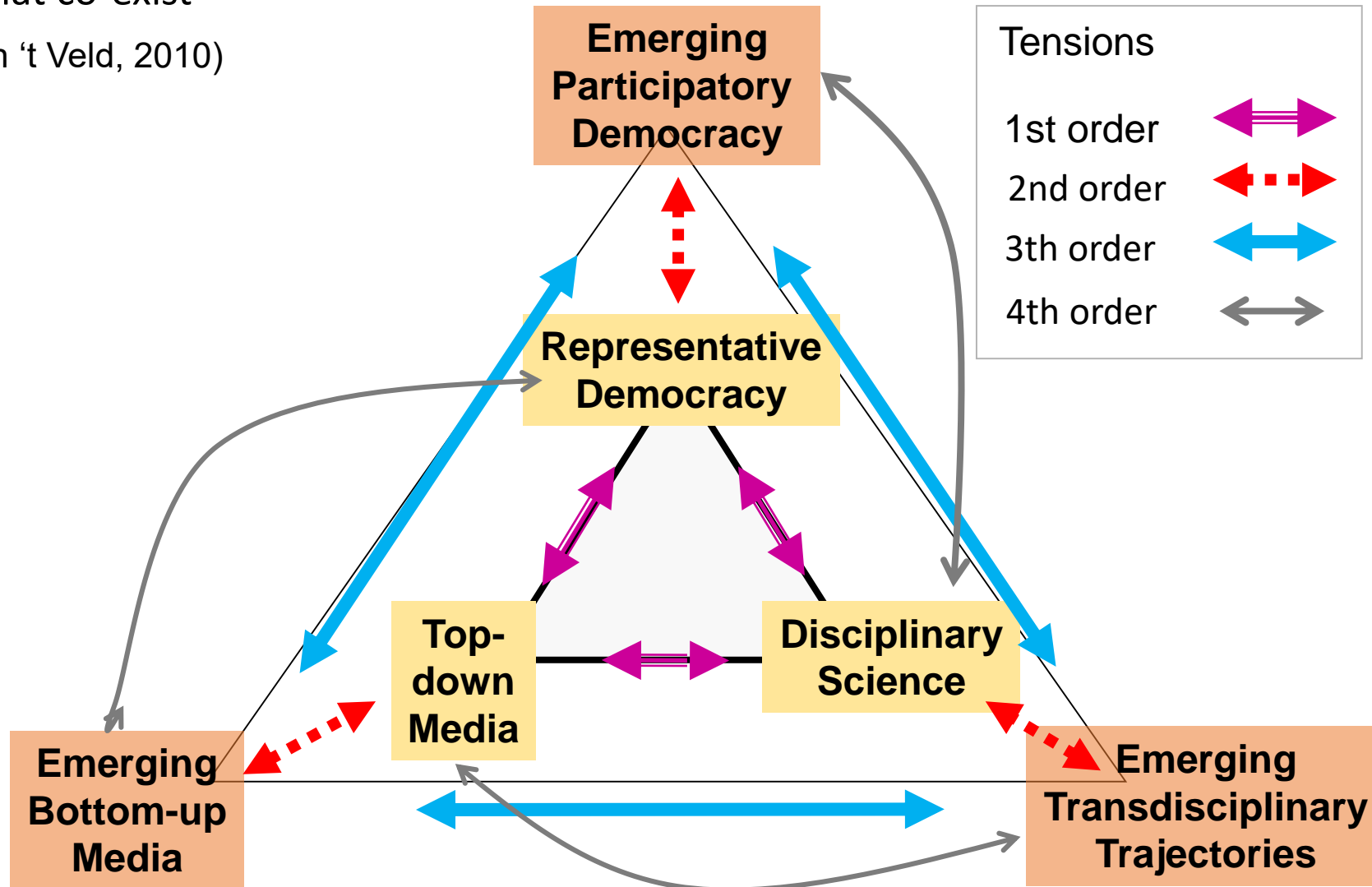


Source: GSDR report 2019

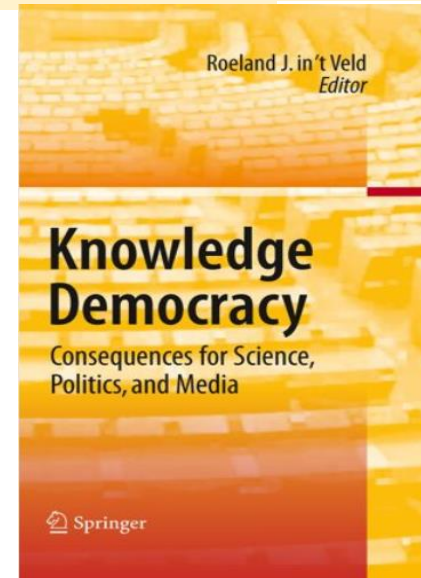
2. Governance and democracy

Tensions between old and new forms of politics, science and media, that co-exist

(In 't Veld, 2010)



Louis Meuleman 2019 www.ps4sd.eu



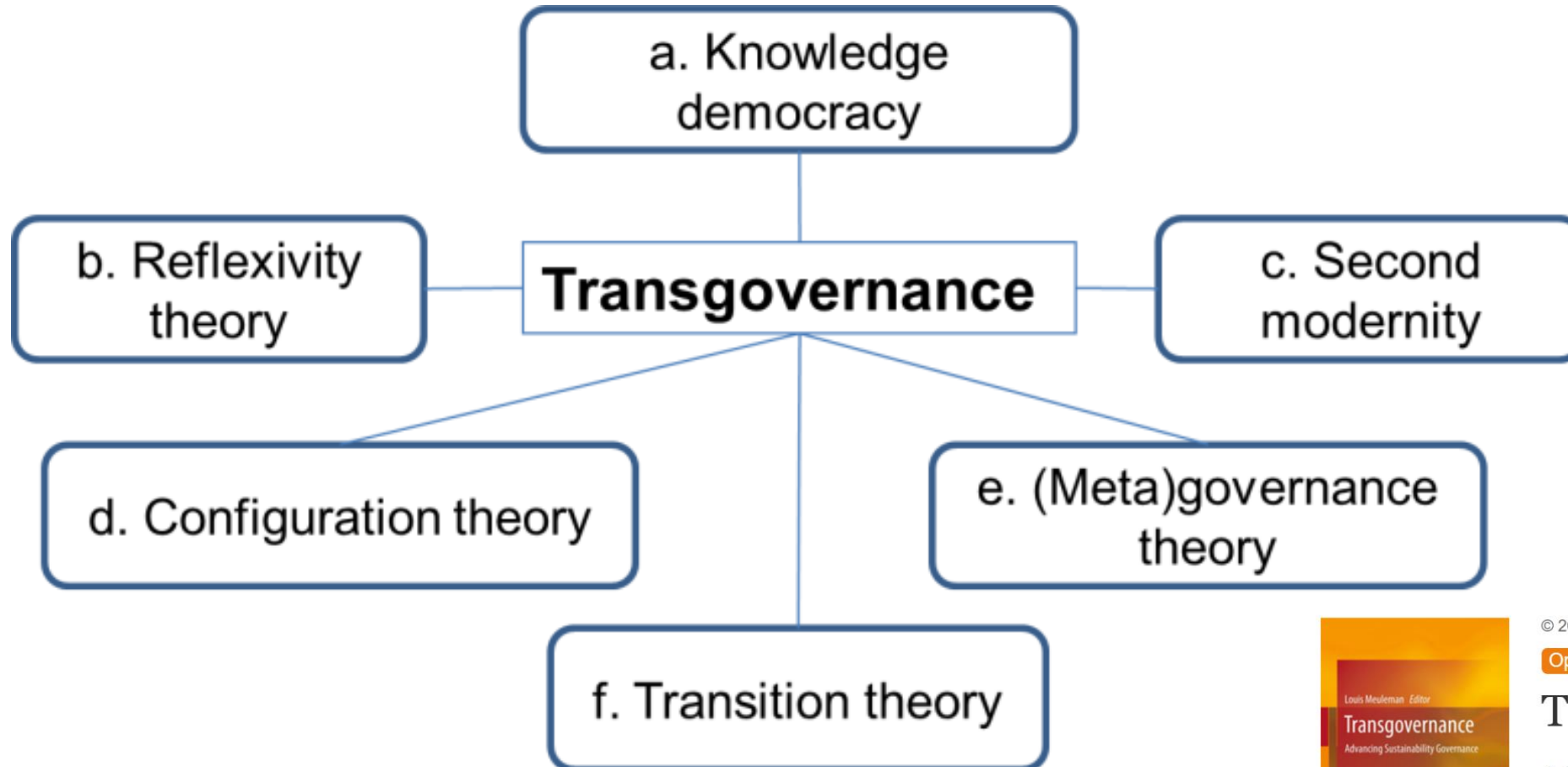
Why was Dem O'Cracy murdered?

A gruesome act: the killing of Dem O'Cracy



Three hundred years ago, on August 27th, 1709, a young Dutch student from Irish descent, was murdered in the University city of Leiden. He was stabbed in the back when he crossed the bridge over the Rapenburg Canal connecting the Academy Building and the University Library. It was a dark night and there were no witnesses. However, most people who knew him were not very surprised





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Transgovernance

Advancing Sustainability Governance

Editors: **Meuleman, Louis** (Ed.)



3. Democracy and sustainable development



VERY SUSTAINABLE		
16.9		Finland (178) ▲
18.0		Norway (177) ▲
18.7		Switzerland (176) ▲
19.5		Denmark (175) ▲
19.7		Australia (174) ▲
19.8		Iceland (173) ▲
20.0		Canada (172) ▲

SUSTAINABLE		
20.1		New Zealand (171) ▲
20.3		Sweden (170) ▲
20.4		Luxembourg (169) ▲
20.6		Ireland (168) ▲
24.7		Germany (167) ▲
24.8		Netherlands (166) ▲
25.0		Austria (165) ▲
25.3		Portugal (164) ▲
28.0		Slovenia (163) ▲
28.1		Singapore (162) ▲
28.6		Belgium (161) ▲

VERY STABLE		
32.0		France (160) ▲
33.7		South Korea (159) ▲
34.0		Uruguay (158) ▲
34.3		Japan (157) ▲
34.5		Malta (156) ▲
36.7		United Kingdom (155) ▼
37.6		Czechia (154) ▲
38.0		United States (153) ▼
38.1		Lithuania (152) ▲
38.9		Mauritius (=150) ▲
38.9		Chile (=150) ▲

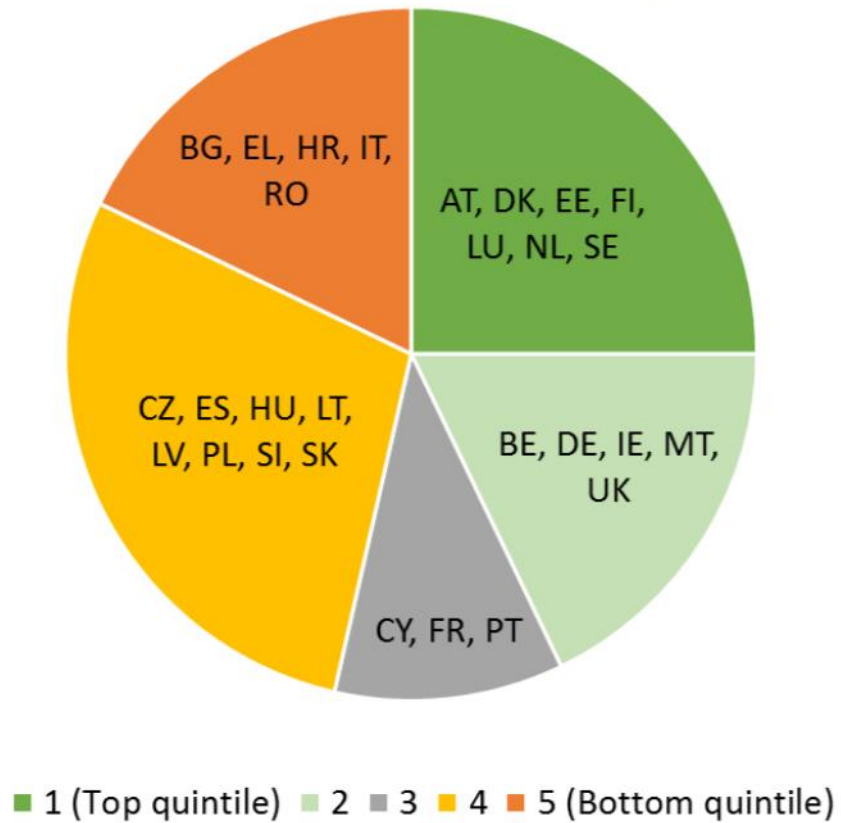
MORE STABLE		
40.1		United Arab Emirates (149) ▲
40.5		Slovak Republic (148) ▲
40.7		Spain (147) ▲
40.8		Estonia (146) ▲
42.0		Costa Rica (145) ▲
42.8		Poland (144) ▼
43.8		Italy (143) =
43.9		Latvia (142) ▲
45.4		Qatar (141) ▲
46.0		Argentina (140) =
47.0		Panama (139) ▲
47.5		Croatia (138) ▲
47.8		Romania (137) ▲
48.0		Barbados (136) ▲
48.8		Bahamas (135) ▲
49.6		Hungary (134) ▲
50.0		Oman (133) ▲

MORE STABLE		
50.6		Bulgaria (132) ▲
53.0		Trinidad & Tobago (131) ▲
53.2		Kuwait (130) ▲
53.9		Greece (129) ▲



Figure 14: Overview of performance categorisation on Access to justice

Graph 39: Overall assessment of government performance:





**TRUST ARRIVES ON
FOOT AND LEAVES ON
HORSEBACK**





Can de EU lead? What can parliaments do?

- There have been activities around Agenda 2030 in 22 national parliaments.
- The European Parliament was an early mover at the EU level regarding commitment to Agenda 2030. However, it has not yet succeeded to response to the reinvigorated challenges and opportunities of Agenda 2030 in a satisfactory way. Activities have remained in the DEVE realm for long.
- All parliaments will need to ‘teach their silos to dance’: setting up internal working mechanisms to better tackle overarching issues, including Agenda 2030.
- At EU level, relations between the Council and Parliament would benefit if the Parliament established an interlocutor on the SDGs, such as the Working Party for Agenda 2030 in the Council.
- There is great potential to improve and use the interparliamentary dialogue and collaboration of the EP and national parliaments for cross-fertilisation to advance SDG implementation.

Source: Niestroy et al. (2019), study for the EP: Europe's approach to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: good practices and the way forward



Can de EU lead? Promises are promising

President-elect Ursula von der Leyen:

- Each Commissioner will ensure the delivery of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals within their policy area. The College as a whole will be responsible for the overall implementation of the Goals.
- I will refocus the European Semester into an instrument that integrates the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
- I will ensure that every new [trade] agreement concluded will have a dedicated sustainable-development chapter
- I intend to put forward a strategy for green financing and a Sustainable Europe Investment Plan.
- I want citizens to have their say at a Conference on the Future of Europe, to start in 2020 and run for two years.



1. Shadow of New Public Management



2. Changing administrative culture



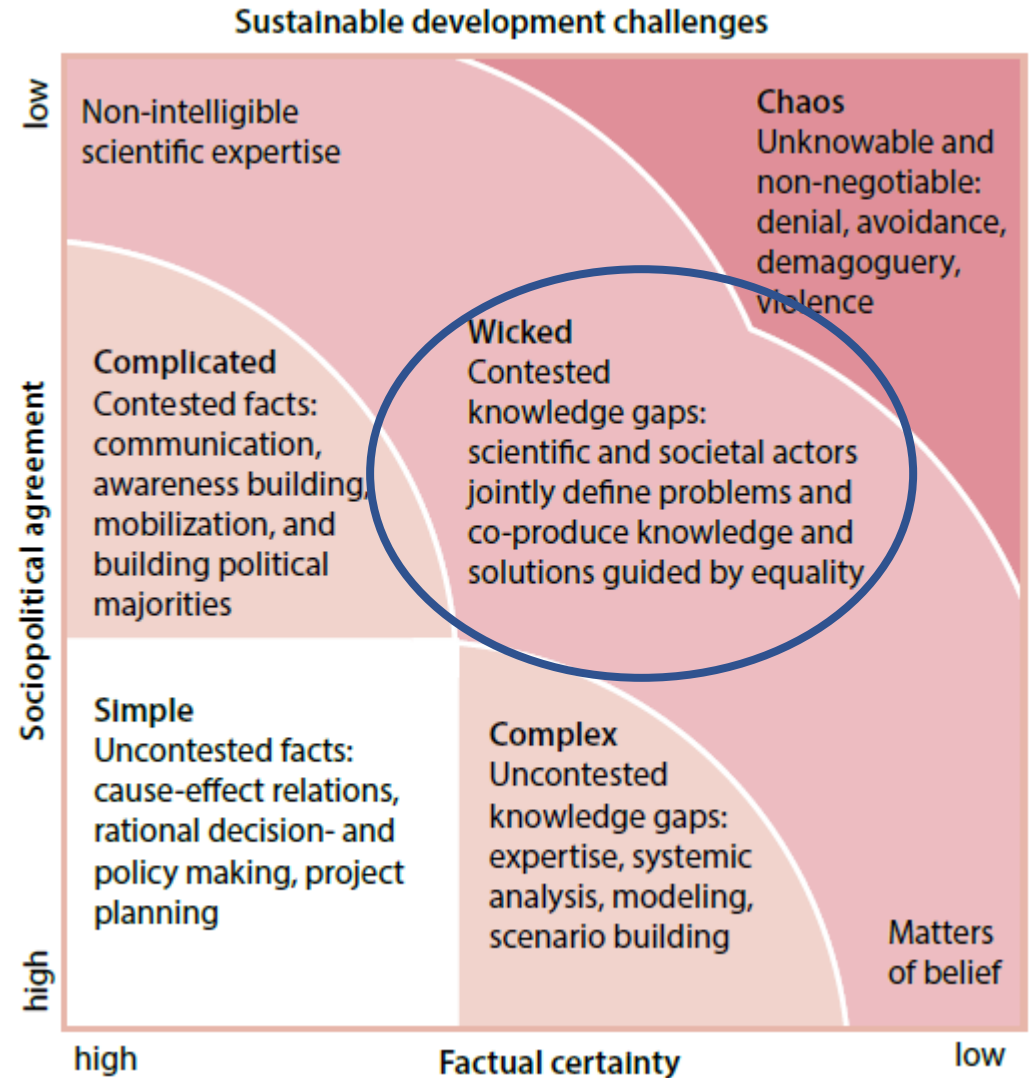
3. Capacity for systemic challenges



4. Address root causes of governance failure, incl.:

1. Ineffective coordination among local, regional and national authorities
2. Lack of administrative capacity, and insufficient financing
3. Lack of knowledge and data
4. Insufficient compliance assurance mechanisms
5. Lack of integration and policy coherence (horizontal/vertical)

Source: EIR 2017



Source: GSDR report 2019

How can SD policy and SD governance contribute?

How can SD policy and SD governance contribute specifically to a robust and transformative democracy?

- The set of SDGs is a powerful tool to stimulate organisational and policy change.
- But before the full potential can be reaped, we need in the first place training and information;
- secondly leadership from the top that allows policy officers to become change leaders themselves;
- and a strategic guidance document that would fuel strategic learning processes, would not be a bad idea.





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Sustainability Governance in Europe: Governance Principles and Democratic Achievements: a practitioner's view

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Thank you for your attention