

« *Démocratie directe en tant qu'instrument de la démocratie moderne* »

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The most important questions and hypothesis of my presentation:

1. DD and Federalism in it's German notion have a common idea which is realised in a different way: The sharing of power.
2. Modern DD has nothing in common with „pre-modern Assembly-Democracy“: It's not directed against Representation, includes representative democracy, makes representation more representative, but does not reduce democracy to representative democracy.

3. Today we face a double crises in all our Democracies: They are too national and too representative – we need to constitute them on the transnational level and to enlarge them with direct-democratic elements.(Actual expl: Spanish Movement of the 15 th of May)
4. The latter is the condition of the first: When citizens are already disappointed about the quality of their local, regional and national Democracy , they don't find the courage and self-confidence to think about a European Democracy.
5. The design of Direct Democracy determines it's quality !

6. The most important checks of the design: How many signatures you need to trigger a initiative or a referendum ? The time notion of the process. Inclusivity. The interface DD/ID. The interface of Human Rights/DD. The “infrastructure” of DD

7. The last two points are the big weakness of the Swiss way of DD.

8. A modern Democracy has to included the transnational level and direct-democratic components. The first can not be constituted without the second !