



WORLDWIDE DIRECT DEMOCRACY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1 (No. 4) November 1999

The Role of People's Representatives - a Key Issue

(by Jiri Polak)

Among our opponents, it is a common misunderstanding to believe that by Direct Democracy, we mean that every single issue has to be decided by a referendum. With one exception, I have never met any DD activist or theorist who maintains such a claim. There is a consensus concerning the necessity to have representative bodies even in future DD-based systems. Obviously, the enormous and all the time increasing complexity of modern societies will make it always necessary to delegate more than 90% of the issues to citizens' representatives. Only some vital and generally understandable issues are suitable for being decided directly by referenda. This is a principle even many adversaries are likely to accept. But there is still a dividing line here which, as far as I can see, has not yet been properly clarified. What I mean is the *role* to be played by *People's Representatives*, i.e. by Members of Parliament, Congress, County Councils and all institutions of this kind.

In Prof. Karl W. Deutsch's *Politics and Government*, since the seventies used worldwide as a textbook of political science, four possible interpretations of the role of the legislator are described. "First, he may be a true sample of his voters in his opinions, personality, and circumstances... Second, a representative may simply be a messenger or deputy carrying out the instructions of his constituents. Third, a representative may serve his constituents much as a doctor or lawyer serves his patients or clients. He may act as a trustee for their best interests, but use his own superior knowledge and experience to judge what their true interests are and how they should be served. Finally, if his

(continues on page 2)

PHILADELPHIA II - A PROGRAM FOR THE NEXT CENTURY

UNITED STATES INITIATIVE

AN ACT reaffirming the inherent political power of "We, the People"
(a few quotations)

Senator
Mike Gravel



(Philadelphia II addresses the citizens of the USA, but the general principles on which it is based have universal validity. Therefore, they can serve as inspiration and model for democratic movements of any country.)

We, the People possess all political power. This derives from our inalienable right and responsibility to govern ourselves as expressed in the Declaration of Independence and exercised in our ratification of the United States Constitution. Currently, we limit the exercise of our political power by delegating it to our representative agents. Such limitations on the direct exercise of our political power are unwarranted. ...

The United States Initiative, in which We the People propose and enact legislation through the initiative process, is hereby established as a procedure in every jurisdiction in the United States.

Our authority to enact the United States Initiative rests on **THE POLITICAL SOVEREIGNTY OF "WE, THE PEOPLE."** ...

We, the People of the United States are sovereign to the governments we establish. ...

This United States Initiative measure shall be presented directly to the American electorate for decision by an Enactment Ballot accompanied by the text of the proposed United States Initiative measure...

The Role of People's Representatives - a Key Issue

(continuing)

constituency includes a wide variety of groups and interests, the representative's role may be that of a broker.

But only one of these four views of the role of a representative - that of a trustee or professional counselor - is compatible with the idea of government by deliberation." (By the term "government by deliberation" Prof.Deutsch means the now existing party-based systems.)

Undoubtedly, owing to the massive brain-wash flooding daily every citizen's consciousness through hundreds of channels, the vast majority still consider it natural and desirable to delegate decision-making, during periods of several years, to trustees or professional counsellors selected for them chiefly by political parties. Quite apart from the fact that such procedure is *not* democracy, if by *democracy* we do mean *rule of the people*, it doesn't take a genius to understand that any assembly consisting of "trustees or professional counsellors" will rather act in their own interests as a ruling elite, and in the interests of various lobbyists, than for the benefit of the citizens at large. To leave such a system *as it is*, and only improve it by giving the citizens the right to initiative and referendum, is a step in the right direction, it may open a passage, but in itself, it is not sufficient. It is still not what we, "the radicals", mean by Direct Democracy. I venture to say that only the legislator's role as a *sample and messenger* is truly compatible with what we mean by future *DD-based systems*.

It is here we have the *dividing line*: If the legislator is considered a trustee or counsellor, his personality and professional merits are important. If you ask a traditional, average voter why he/she votes for this or that candidate, the answer will be, "*He/she is somebody I know and trust, somebody who represents the party I sympathize with*", and the like.

In a truly democratic system, on the other hand, the personality and merits of the candidate should not really matter. He/she should be somebody like ourselves, somebody who will make the same decisions we would do if we ourselves sat in Parliament or other similar body. When this becomes the role of our representatives - and such a role can easily be created by a structural change of the actual systems - then we can safely delegate most of the decision-making to them, without giving up our ultimate, sovereign power. In such a system, obviously, the most democratic selection method will be *sortition*, as several members of our movement have already pointed out.

For psychological and tactical reasons, however, at this stage, we should not press this standpoint when addressing the public. The leap would be too big. We should only insist on every qualified citizen being given the right and **opportunity** to present him/herself as a candidate in his/her constituency, *without needing to be backed by any political party*. (But he/she could, of course, be backed by a local DD group). As far as I know, such independent candidates have existed a long time in the USA and lately, they begin to emerge in Europe as well. Some of them might become *samples and messengers* in the above sense, breaking a path towards true democracy of the future.

On 29th October, Mr.*Heiko Dittmer*, Belgium, wrote:

As you all know, in Germany and in Belgium, there are active DD movements ("Mehr Demokratie" in Germany and "WIT" in Belgium). With our (WIT) active help, a new DD movement has been founded in the Netherlands, two months ago.

If you happen to know of any other European country in which an active or starting DD movement group exists (not 'only' individual interested people), please provide me with

DISCUSSION ABOUT BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DIRECT DEMOCRACY

Mr.*Aki Orr* ask us to check his web-site <http://www.autonarchy.org.il>

Probably in response to his concept of *Auto-Narchy*, Mr.Davison writes:

"Current representative government is not accountable.

A Direct Democracy government is accountable to the people.

Pure Democracy and Representative Direct Democracy are both Direct Democracy governments.

Pure Democracy is accountable because the people will be voting on everything, and this means 'Everything', and on every level of government. This can be a problem in the larger more active levels of government.

A Direct Democracy government in which the people have decided to have a representative body is a government in which the people have direct control over their representative body. The people have the means to correct their representatives by changing anything they may have done.

Under these conditions, most people would vote to have a representative body included in their larger levels of Direct Democracy governments.

Pure Democracy can work for small levels of government, but Direct Democracy with representation is best for most levels of government.

I raise this point because there are a few who advocate Pure Democracy for all levels of government."

Undoubtedly, the above analysis reflects the standpoint of the vast majority of the members of the DD movement.

all the information you can (e.g. name of the group, websites, contact persons: addresses, phone numbers, etc.).

WIT - Homepage in Dutch:

<http://www.ping.be/jvwit/withomepage.html>

In English:

<http://www.ping.be/jvwit/directdemocracynow.html>

THE MAJORITY HAS A LEGITIMATE RIGHT TO RULE IN A CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC

(by Mrs. Barbara Vincent)

James Madison warned against "tyranny of the majority", it is true. But, that concern was only one part of the Madisonian Dilemma. In a system of majoritarian rule, such as ours, how can the minority be protected from "tyranny of the majority?" Madison pondered. On the other hand, if the will of the majority is suppressed, how can the total people be protected from "tyranny of the minority?" he wondered.

Adding a Bill of Rights to the new constitution would eliminate the first uncertainty, Madison reasoned, since the stringent protection of individual rights would make it unlikely that "tyranny of the majority" would ensue. It was the best of both worlds, the Framers agreed. A bill of rights would leave intact the authority of the citizenry to rule itself, while placing the rights of the individual outside of majoritarian rule.

Having resolved the first part of this dilemma, Madison pushed to quell his remaining concern, that "tyranny of the minority" would develop. He found the solution to this second quandary in ancient law. If the people were able to redress their grievances against government through citizen petition, the many would be protected from oppression by the few in office. Ours would remain a republican form of government in which all power flowed from the people and not an oligarchy in which a small number forced their will on the whole.

The ability to hold rein on government via petition is essential to freedom. In fact, citizen petition developed alongside government for this very purpose. The right of redress was a fact of life in the republican states of Greece and Rome; it was the centerpiece of the Magna Carta and Petition of Right, forerunners of our modern constitutions and bills of rights. And, contained in the Declaration of Independence was a formal indictment charging the king with ignoring the colonists' petitions.

Once independence was gained, petition clauses were naturally included in the First Amendment, as they were in virtually all the state constitutions. (In fact, Madison argued at the first meeting of Congress that the right of redress should be declared in a separate amendment to emphasize its importance to self-rule).

(to be continued)

Mr. Curtis Parham, co-founder of the National Referendum Movement



INFORMATION FROM MR.DANE WATERS, I&R INSTITUTE, WASHINGTON:

• On 14th September, Mr.Waters wrote:

"Our website was just chosen as the "Political Site of the Day" by *AboutPolitics.com*. (<http://www.aboutpolitics.com>) The website is a tremendous source of information on the initiative and referendum process, but more is coming. Over the next several weeks it will be updated with more in-depth information on the local initiative process, polls on the initiative process, more in-depth studies from leading scholars from around the world and through our sister site <http://www.ballotwatch.org> you will get up to date information on what is being considered for 1999 and 2000 statewide ballots.

I encourage each of you to visit the site. It is a work in progress and we would love to have any feedback as to what you believe will make it better."

• On 13th October, Mr.Waters:

drew our attention to the *Alabama Lottery Vote* which was also commented on by Associated Press. For details see the above mentioned website.

• On 15th October, Mr.Waters wrote:

"There has been a growing interest in the role the courts play in reviewing questions being placed on the ballot - both initiatives and legislative referendum. Several scholars are actively researching this area and the Institute has already placed two studies on this subject on our website (at the end of this email you will find the links to these studies)."

Further, Mr.Waters mentioned a *Sacramento Bee Editorial* (Judicial censors? Court ruling puts judges in the legislative process) criticizing a recently (?) observable tendency displayed by the courts interfering with the political process. "...the courts seem to have invented a reason to intervene where there is none in the law."

In conclusion, "As stated earlier in this email, the Institute currently has two studies about the courts and their role in ballot questions on our website. One was written by Kenneth Miller of UC Berkeley and is entitled "The Role of Courts in the Initiative Process: A Search for Standards" which can be accessed at

<http://www.iandrinstitute.org/indepth/document11/intro.htm>.

The other was written by Craig Holman and Bob Stern of the Center for Governmental Studies and is entitled "Judicial Review of Ballot Initiatives: The Changing Role of State and Federal Courts." It can be accessed at

<http://www.iandrinstitute.org/indepth/document8/intro.htm>.

I thought each of you would find this information of interest especially in light of the continuing and growing debate on what role the courts should play in the initiative and referendum process."

• On 22 October, Mr.Waters sent round

an overview of the elections that would be held on statewide ballot measures between October 22, 1999 and November 20, 1999. "The voters will have their say on 62 statewide measures in 11 states. Only 5 of the 62 ballot measures (8%) are initiatives (laws and/or constitutional amendments placed

on the ballot by citizens collecting signatures on petitions) - two in Maine, one in Mississippi and two in Washington State. The rest (92%) are legislative referendum (laws or constitutional amendments placed on the ballot by the state legislature or other governing body)."

• **On 29 October, Mr. Waters wrote:**

"I encourage you to visit the "Hot Issues" section of our BallotWatch website (<http://www.ballotwatch.org/hotissues.htm>) to get an in-depth non-partisan overview of the major upcoming statewide ballot questions that will be voted on next Tuesday. You will also be able to find information on statewide ballot questions being considered for future ballots by clicking on the BallotWatch at the top of any page."

• **On the 3rd November, Mr. Waters sent us:**

an overview of the unofficial election results on statewide ballot measures that appeared on the November 2, 1999 ballot.

General Analysis

The voters had their say on 46 statewide measures in 9 states (Louisiana will vote on 6 statewide legislative referendum on November 20, 1999. Only 5 of the 46 ballot measures (11%) were initiatives (laws and/or constitutional amendments placed on the ballot by citizens collecting signatures on petitions) - two in Maine, one in Mississippi and two in Washington State. Only 2 of the 5 initiatives were passed by the voters (40%). This approval rate is consistent with the 100 year average of 41%.

The rest - 41 ballot measures (89%) were legislative referendum (laws or constitutional amendments placed on the ballot by the state legislature or other governing body). 33 of the 41 legislative referendum were approved (80%). This is consistent with the 1998 general election results for legislative referendum where 80% were approved.

Taken together, 35 of the 46 statewide ballot measures were adopted (76%)."

For details, please look at the I&R Institute's websites.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION

Mr. Don Kemner of Philadelphia II comments on the discussion presented in the September issue of this Newsletter. He agrees with Mr. Langer's *Twenty Theses concerning New Political Citizen Movements*, but has something to say about one of Mr. Davison's *Details of Direct Democracy*:

"I take fundamental issue with the use of a "Conclusive Majority". This semantically is a contradiction in terms; politically it is antithetical to democracy. In support, I invoke Framers James Wilson, the first constitutional law scholar of our nation: "In society, when the sentiments of the members are not unanimous, the voice of the majority must be deemed the will of the whole. That the majority (i.e., 50% plus one. Ed) should bind not only themselves, but those also who dissent from the vote, seems, at first, to be inconsistent with the well known rules - - that all men (sic) are naturally equal; and that all men are naturally free. From these rules, it may be alleged, that no one can be bound by the act of another, without

his own consent. But it is to be remembered, that society is constituted for a certain purpose; and that each member of it consents that this purpose shall be carried on; and, consequently, that every thing necessary for carrying it on shall be done. Now a number of persons can jointly do business only in three ways - by decision of the whole, by the decision of the majority, or by the decision of the minority. The first case is not here supposed, nor is there occasion to make question concerning it. The only remaining question, then, which can be proposed is, which is most reasonable and equitable - that the minority should bind the majority - or that the majority should bind the minority? The latter, certainly." ...

"I understand the concern of Davison: that there be due deliberation especially in changes of fundamental law. In Philadelphia II's Direct Democracy Initiative, we achieve this objective by calling for a double election by simple majority. Thus: "Initiatives that modify constitutions or charters shall require affirmation by a simple majority in two elections separated by at least six months." (Section 3. G) Arguably, this is the authentically democratic way of doing "majority rule". What Davison proposes is, effectively, minority rule."

On Recent DD Initiatives



Mr. Donald Davison has sent us an interesting update from *New Democracy*. It is certainly worth looking at (<http://www.mich.com/~donald>)



Mr. Andrzej Kaczmarczyk,

Poland (akamar@imm.org.pl) wrote to Dr. Macpherson:

"After your summary of discussion in May, I haven't received any further message about your excellent idea of 'PEOPLE'S PROPOSAL TO RENEW DEMOCRACY'. I think that one shouldn't leave such hopeful concept...."

Surely not! And the same applies to the initiative presented by Mr. Giuseppe Strano and all other ideas put forward in the course of our discussions. But we must understand that so far, we are only a few individuals lacking material resources and lacking access to the mass media. It may take considerable time before these ideas begin to bear fruit. This, however, does not mean that they should be abandoned if there is no immediate response. I want to point out that one of the reasons why we have started publishing this Newsletter is to make it possible to preserve for future use valuable contributions which otherwise risk to be lost in the rich but rather volatile surge of web-sites and e-mail messages. The committee which, hopefully, will be elected during our coming second Conference will be able, at any moment, to search the Newsletter for proposals to be successively followed up and realised. It is to be expected that gradually, our resources, and thereby our opportunities for action, will increase. So don't give up! Your ideas will not be lost!

(JP)



Information from Dr. *M. Macpherson*:

IR+R NEWS - news about democratic reform, citizens' initiative, referendum, recall of elected officials. Compiled by Michael Macpherson M.R.C.P. (U.K.). Contact details below.

ITEMS

- Website about direct democracy and "electronic direct democracy"
- On-line paper about science, democracy and gene-manipulated food.

An excellent and informative website about direct democracy and "electronic direct democracy" has been composed by John Harvey

<http://www.homeusers.prestel.co.uk/rodmell/>

QUOTE

Direct Democracy Campaign (DDC)

'Let the people decide...' - 20th century democracy meant a vote once every few years for MPs and councillors who then took all the decisions for us. In the 21st century we can do better than that.

The aim of the Direct Democracy Campaign is to improve the democratic process in the United Kingdom through the introduction of a system of binding referendums, whereby either citizens or their elected representatives may launch public votes to bring in new laws and policies, or to alter, or remove existing ones.

CONTENTS

Direct Democracy proposals

What is Direct Democracy? - 12 Questions & Answers.

The case for Direct Democracy in the UK - a fuller 3000 word article covering all of the main points for and against Direct Democracy, and summarising the case for electronic voting.

DDC Monthly Bulletin: February 1999.

DDC Action Page.

Other sites.

The Direct Democracy Campaign was set up in 1999 by John Harvey to help promote the cause of direct democracy, primarily in the UK, but also via 'the net' wherever else it may take root.

UNQUOTE

ESRC Global Environmental Change Programme The politics of GM food: Risk, science & public trust

<http://www.gecko.ac.uk/gm-briefing.html>

A research-based analysis that reveals why controversies such as BSE and genetically modified food seem to throw British Governments and business off balance how to get out of the GM impasse and how to avoid these problems in future.

- Dr. Michael Macpherson, PSAMBRA/Integral Studies

<http://www.snafu.de/~mjm/index.html>

NEW: Democr@cy Forum

- PSYCHO-SOCIAL AND MEDICAL RESEARCH PSAMBRA

<http://www.snafu.de/~mjm/psambra.html>



Information from Prof. *Michael Reber*, Japan:

Dear Members, I have set up an e-mail listserve link at our website (<http://www2.kanazawa-it.ac.jp/englishd/reber/clcl.htm>). For those of you who would like to get on and discuss the essays or the concept of the CLC, please feel free to use this listserve.



There is a new participant in our discussions on the web: *Mr. Ian Green: Direct Democracy Forum* (<http://ao.com.au/ddf/>)



Mr. Mikael Nordfors, Sweden, together with his collaborators, has developed an IT-based system aimed at facilitating contacts between the citizens and decision-makers. The system is called Interactive Representative Direct-democracy and can be found at <http://www.ird.nu>. Mr. Nordfors has offered this system to all Swedish communes. About one half have shown interest. The most important among them is Gotheburg, the second largest city of Sweden.

The alternative interest-free membership-bank JAK, counting 20,000 members, has decided to use IRD as their governing system. Even the Conservative Party (second biggest in Sweden) and the Green Party are considering using IRD for internal contacts.

Mr. Nordfors also writes that he has shown IRD to some representatives of the Bologna Commune (Italy), responsible for the world-known electronic democracy system *Iperbole*. The response has been positive and the Italians will start using it as an advisory system for their politicians. - *Congratulations!*



Mr. Miroslav Kolar, has informed us that he has finished the first stage of the improvement of the official web-site of PDDA - a Canadian DD Association. It can be found at

<http://www.pangea.ca/~sage2509/direct-democracy>

He has also placed online Mr. George Sagi's book *A Theory of Direct Democracy*.



At Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic, a groupe of students will present a set of www pages about Direct Democracy. These pages are the result of a long term discussion at Bohuslav Binka's seminar about democracy and contains more then 20 different opinions on DD.



In the August 1994 issue of the *Zeitschrift für Direkte Demokratie*, there was a presentation of Mr. *Jaroslav Langer*'s proposal for the adoption of *An Election Law for Citizen Democracy*. There are continuing efforts to make this draft enacted in German Federal Republic. It will surely be interesting to compare the procedures proposed in this law to those put forward in *Philadelphia II*, and also with the *Davison Plans* and their developments of which we have been informed by Mr. Davison. On the next page we bring a translation of the bulk of the article in question.



AN ELECTION LAW FOR CITIZEN DEMOCRACY

(by Jaroslav Langer)

Franchise is an important right attained by the citizens of modern democracies. However, where political activities and the real distribution of power are concerned, its concrete formulation is crucial. The fact that, nowadays, we have general, free and equal ballot does not prevent the parties from wielding a "Monopoly on Power". Jaroslav Langer, an expert on citizen rights, has focused on this problem and puts now forward an election law promising a much better distribution of power.

I. The Election Law

The election model presented below corresponds basically to the bill submitted to the Federal Parliament of Czechoslovak Republic by Václav Havel, at that time President of Czechoslovakia and now President of Czech Republic. The bill had been drafted by Prof. Vladimír Klokocka, a Czech expert in constitutional law, living in Munich and teaching at that town's Technical University.

The bill was rejected by the Czechoslovak Parliament. The parties, who were involved in the process of cementing their internal power hierarchies and promoting the building of oligarchies inside the political structures of the state, admitted that such a law would successfully counter that trend.

In the following presentation, I have only slightly completed the draft, or made it more compatible with the Election Law of German Federal Republic, by leaving unchanged certain rules of "improved" Federal Law of proportional representation, e.g. the compulsory number of 200 voter signatures to be submitted in support of any constituency candidate representing an independent voter community.

Technology of Freedom

The law can be considered a substantial component of the new Technology of Freedom, indispensable for the realization of a functioning parliamentary-representative citizen democracy. It is an effective way to pull down anti-democratic attitudes and instruments by which, in the course of a long surreptitious process, the parties have built in their power in the election law, but especially in the election praxis of the party state. Even if there is no doubt that the new law is completely functional even in a party-based democracy, its positive effect upon the stability and efficiency of the parliamentary system can only be developed in citizen democracy where general socio-political consensus, emerging spontaneously from a horizontal network of citizen base groups, will be successfully substituted for confrontational politics practised by the parties. This will namely result in a shift from permanent political power struggle towards the development and realization of a system focused on the solution of concrete issues and assessment of concepts. All this, in turn, will stimulate and promote a creative citizen cooperation in the process of political decision-making.

The Parties elevate elections to a Fetish of Democracy

The right to general, direct, free and equal ballot, enjoyed by all citizens, is not sufficient as a basis of parliamentary democracy, in spite of the fact that this is suggested by what I call "The Ideology of Democratism", i.e. the traditional ideology of the Party State. The ruling oligopoly (originally meaning a dominant group, composed of a few big corporations who control the market; here used in a political sense) consisting of party leaderships, nowadays called "the political class", have successively elevated elections to a fetish of democracy, a process fully understandable if seen from the viewpoint of this established ruling group. By means of suitable party and election laws adopted during the approximately 120 years long development of the modern Party State, this class have namely, to a great extent, succeeded in transforming elections into mere rites practised to confirm their illegitimate power complacency. They have achieved this in a both simple and effective way, by leaving, on the one hand, free citizen suffrage intact, but on the other hand, by successively limiting the process of the selection of candidates to such an extent that, as a matter of fact, the voters can nowadays only marginally influence, by their votes, the distribution of power inside the established ruling oligarchy; or else, they simply have to give up voting altogether.

This is true concerning all election models, majority vote, as well as proportional representation, and the various seeming improvements the purpose of which is to foster the illusion that even non-partisan voters have the possibility to put forward their own election candidates. In this respect, the ingenious system of appearances, typical of party-based democracy, is able to become so opaque, complicated, and especially so frustrating that those who lack party affiliation (in the case of the Federal Republic, about 96% of qualified voters) have long ago given up such attempts in state and federal elections. Only in local elections, the parties have not succeeded in completely suppressing the participation of independent election communities. The fact that, in the process of pushing through and defending their illegitimate monopoly on political power, the parties do not even shun arrant breeches of constitutional law, has been sometimes also shown by verdicts passed by the Constitutional Court.

What then is the new Election Law proposed here?

The election area (state, country) is divided into single mandate constituencies. Consequently, the number of constituencies corresponds to the number of parliamentary seats, and for each of these, one MP is elected. As to the number of qualified voters, the constituencies are roughly of equal size.

To the greatest possible extent, the selection and proclamation of candidates should be reserved for the citizens. Therefore, the right to propose candidates, provided by the German Federal Election Law for independent election communities, should be not only preserved, but also reinforced, so as to eliminate all types of disadvantage vis-a-vis the parties. There are no election lists on the regional level. They are superfluous for the proportional representation scrutiny provided by this law (scrutiny - counting and evaluation of the election result).

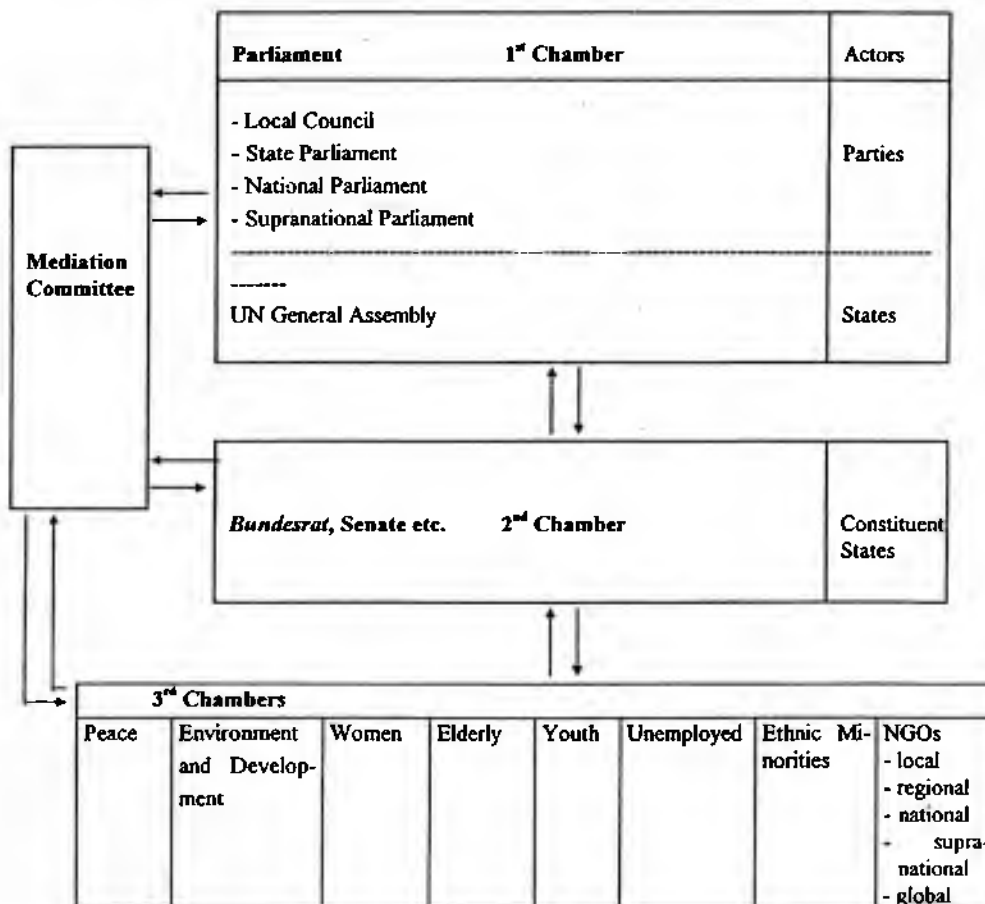
Parliamentary election candidates can be proposed by parties, citizen movements and other democratic organizations, as well as their election alliances, each of whom can only nominate one candidate per constituency. The uniform condition of the acceptance of candidacy is a submission of 200 verifiable signatures of qualified voters residing in the respective constituency.

(to be continued)

MODELS OF FUTURE DEMOCRACY

Several members of our movement/network have put forward models of future political systems, based on the principle of more active citizen participation in decision-making processes. To a greater or smaller extent, these models include elements of Direct Democracy. We plan to successively present these models in this Newsletter. We begin with the **Third Chambers Model of Prof. Mohssen Massarrat**, summing up his ideas expressed in the paper published in the September issue.

Perspectives of Reform in Civil Society Through Third Chambers



2nd International Conference/Congress on Direct Democracy

Athens and Delphi, 22 - 25 June 2000

Program:

- Wednesday 21st June, 21:00: **A Ceremonial Welcome**
- Thursday 22nd June, 10:00 a.m.: **Beginning of the Proceedings (probably in the Offices and Conference Center of an Institution dedicated to Greek history and Traditions)**
- Saturday 24th June, morning: **Arrival at Delphi for the Conclusions and Votings on the issues treated during the Congress**

Registration:

Will take place on Thursday morning, and also through the internet, maybe TAN+N or CICDD mail-list.

Participation fee:

\$ 150, to be sent to the Bank account 22/03031 - 01250/60 at ERGOBANK Ltd., Evripidou branch, Athens. The account belongs to Dr.Georgios Kokkas. His name must be mentioned when making the transfer. Dr.Kokkas asks the participants to confirm the transfer by fax (00301-3610882). The participation fee should reach the Greek bank by the end of February 2000.

Accommodation:

Hotel reservations can be made through the Travel Agency *Happy Time*, tel.00301-3249039, fax 00301-3228038. Prices: \$ 40 - 70 per night

For more information please contact Dr.G.Kokkas, geoko@eexi.gr



The Proceedings will be led by **Dr.Ted Becker**, Professor of Political Science, USA. If you want to deliver a report, please contact him beforehand so that he can put you on the agenda.
(becketl@mail.auburn.edu)

Please, send us your contributions for the next issue of this Newsletter by 10th March.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND WELCOME TO THE THIRD MILLENIUM AT THE BEGINNING OF WHICH DIRECT DEMOCRACY IS BOUND TO PREVAIL IN ALL CIVILIZED COUNTRIES!



WORLDWIDE DIRECT DEMOCRACY

NEWSLETTER

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MDD - MOVEMENT FOR DIRECT DEMOCRACY

JIRI POLAK
ASSARHUSAVÄGEN 64
S-24736
S. SANDBY, SWEDEN
PHONE: 046/58891
E-MAIL:
JIRI.POLAK@SWIPNET.SE

BOHUSLAV BINKA
BELLOVA 15
BRNO 623 00
PHONE: 05/47 22 18 93
E-MAIL:
BINKA@PHIL.MUNI.CZ
BRE@YAHOO.COM

