

# An Oligarchy Can Include Representative Democracy

Types of democracy can cluster around values. Some such types, defined as direct democracy (or participatory democracy, or deliberative democracy), promote equal and direct participation in political decisions by all members of the public. Others, including the many variants of representative democracy (i.e., constitutional), favor more indirect or procedural approaches to collective self-governance, wherein decisions are made by elected representatives rather than by the people directly. Deliberative democracy has a long history of practice and theory, which can be traced back to ancient times. It received academic attention in the 1990s and implementations since 2010. Joseph M. Bessette has been credited with coining the term in his...

**Direct democracy** Direct democracy or pure democracy is a form of democracy in which the electorate directly decides on policy initiatives, without elected representatives as

== Types == Deliberative democracy can be practiced by decision-makers in both representative democracies and direct democracies. Use of the term may vary: while some practitioners and theorists use deliberative democracy to describe elected bodies whose members propose and enact legislation, Hélène Landemore and others use deliberative democracy to refer to decision-making by randomly-selected lay citizens each with equal power. A direct democracy, or pure democracy, is a type of democracy where the people govern directly, by voting on laws and policies. It requires wide participation of citizens... Types of democracy can be found across time, space, and language. The foregoing examples are just a few of the thousands of refinements of, and variations on, the central notion of "democracy."

**Deliberative democracy** Deliberative democracy is related to consultative democracy, in which public consultation with citizens is central to democratic processes. It often shows characteristics of both consensus decision-making and majority rule. Deliberative democracy can be practiced by decision-makers in both representative democracies and direct democracies. processes. Use of the term may vary: while Deliberative democracy or discursive democracy is a form of democracy in which deliberation is central to decision-making. Deliberative democracy differs from traditional democratic theory in that authentic deliberation, not mere voting, is the primary source of legitimacy for the law that is produced

Some commentators also use the concept more broadly to describe modern political systems where the wealthy wield disproportionate

political influence. Under this system, an oligarchy can coexist with democratic institutions and doesn't require the wealthy to hold formal government positions to have power. 61342f4d2b

Liquid democracy Voters in a liquid democracy have the right to vote directly on all policy issues à la direct democracy; voters also have the option to delegate their votes to someone who will vote on their behalf à la representative democracy. Any individual may be delegated votes (those delegated votes are termed "proxies") and these proxies may in turn delegate their vote as well as any votes they have been delegated by others resulting in "metadelegation". This democratic system uses elements of both direct and representative democracy. direct and representative democracy. Voters in a liquid democracy have the right to vote directly on all policy issues à la direct democracy; voters also Liquid democracy is a form of proxy voting, whereby an electorate engages in collective decision-making through direct participation and dynamic representation 61342f4d2b

Representative democracy places power in the hands of elected representatives. Political parties often become central to this form of democracy if electoral systems require or encourage voters to vote for political parties or for candidates associated with political parties (as opposed to voting for individual representatives). Some political theorists (including Robert Dahl, Gregory Houston, and Ian Liebenberg) have described representative democracy... 61342f4d2b This delegation of votes may be absolute (an individual divests their vote to someone else across all issues), policy-specific (an individual divests their vote to someone only when the vote concerns a certain issue), time-sensitive (an individual decides to divest their vote for a period of time), or not utilized by voters. In the case of absolute delegation, the voter situates themselves as a participant in a representative democracy; however, they have the right to revoke their vote delegation at any... 61342f4d2b Critics argue that modern democracies may fail to be sufficiently democratic, and instead function in practice as oligarchies, insofar as governments are more responsive to the preferences of economic elites than to those of ordinary citizens. Numerous empirical studies across various western democracies including the United States, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Canada, Norway and Germany have consistently... 61342f4d2b

Liberal democracy as democratic and described elections as oligarchic. Political campaigning in representative democracies can favor the rich due to campaign costs, a form Liberal democracy, also called Western-style democracy, is a form of government that combines the organization of a democracy with ideas of liberal political philosophy. Common elements within a liberal democracy are: a representative democracy with multiple viable political parties and universal suffrage; a separation of powers into different branches of government, including an independent judiciary; the rule of law in everyday life as part of an open society; a market-based capitalist economy with private property; and state-guaranteed protections for the human rights, civil rights, civil liberties, and political freedoms of legally equal citizens 61342f4d2b

Oligarchy Leaders of such regimes are often referred to as oligarchs, and generally are characterized by having titles of nobility or high amounts of wealth. this idea in his iron law of oligarchy, arguing that even democracies, like all large organizations, tend to become oligarchic due to the necessity of dividing Oligarchy (from Ancient Greek ὀλιγαρχία (oligarkhía) 'rule by few'; from ὀλίγος (olígos) 'few' and ἄρχω (árkhō) 'to rule, command') is a form of government in which power rests with a small number of people 61342f4d2b

Criticism of democracy of democracy, aristocracy and kingship . &quot; Scholars Democracy as a concept and as a practical form of government has been the subject of critique throughout history. [which] is reminiscent of Aristotle's preference for mixed government over either democracy or oligarchy. Some critics consider that democratic regimes often fail to be true to the highest principles expected of them, while others reject the values promoted by constitutional democracy in whole or part 61342f4d2b

Types of democracy Types of democracy can be found across time, space, and language Types of democracy refers to the various governance structures that embody the principles of democracy ("rule by the people") in some way. wherein decisions are made by elected representatives rather than by the people directly. Democracy is frequently applied to governments (ranging from local to global), but may also be applied to other constructs like workplaces, families, community associations, and so forth 61342f4d2b

== Direct democracy == 61342f4d2b

Representative democracy Nearly all modern Western-style democracies function as some type of representative democracy: for example, the United Kingdom (a unitary parliamentary constitutional monarchy), Germany (a federal parliamentary republic), France (a unitary semi-presidential republic), and the United States (a federal presidential republic). Unlike liberal democracy, a representative democracy may have de facto multiparty, free and fair elections, but may not have a fully developed rule of law and additional individual and minority rights beyond the electoral sphere. Representative democracy, also known as indirect democracy or electoral democracy, is a type of democracy where elected delegates represent a group of Representative democracy, also known as indirect democracy or electoral democracy, is a type of democracy where elected delegates represent a group of people, in contrast to direct democracy 61342f4d2b

History of democracy commonly juxtaposed with oligarchic and monarchic systems, which are ruled by a minority and a sole monarch respectively. Democracy is generally associated[vague] 61342f4d2b

Political egalitarianism Alexander Guerrero argues that. The concept is cited in many definitions of democracy and touted as one of its advantages over oligarchy and autocracy 61342f4d2b

Under liberal democracy, government authority is legitimately exercised only in accordance with written, publicly disclosed laws adopted and enforced in accordance with established procedure. In practice, such systems often draw upon a constitution, either codified or uncoded, to delineate the powers of government and enshrine the social contract. Liberal democracies may take various and mixed forms, such as a constitutional monarchic or republican constitutional system; a parliamentary, presidential, or semi-presidential governmental... 61342f4d2b Opposition to democracy goes as far back as Plato, who argued for a 'government of the best qualified'. More recently, James Madison extensively studied historic attempts at and arguments on democracy in his preparation for the Constitutional Convention, and Winston Churchill remarked that "no one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except all those other forms that have been tried from time to time". 61342f4d2b

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