

Proposals RMNO conference Towards Knowledge Democracy

Dirk J. Wolfson, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Since this is an open call for papers, I'm offering three options, for you to choose from. I attach some earlier work with references to literature, as background information.

3. Theme: Defining Knowledge Democracy (The quality of scientific advice)

Proposal: The mismatch between knowledge and democracy

Summary

A number of things are fundamentally wrong in the knowledge infrastructure of democracy. Useable knowledge and public service motivations of professional civil servants and citizens is crowded out in bureaucratic control, independent research is under pressure as consultants take over, vital information is withheld from parliament, and politics is driven by teletext, instead of the other way around. The paper proposes a new architecture for the use of knowledge from within government and the transfer of ideas from outside.

Key words: internal vs external advice; research and transfer; peer review; stakeholder participation

Earlier work: a. Staatscourant (Keer de dreiging...2007); a. visitatie in de advocatuur (2009)