

The essence of democracy and the political representation

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Abstract

The following work is a detailed analysis of the notions “democracy” and “Political representation” in the point of view of some of the wellknown authors. Our theoretical-philosophical observation includes the period of antiquity in the Early Greece, the origin in time and space, where and when the first foundations of a democratic state were laid. Later on this work studies these two main concepts in the continuing era and their transformation up to this day. The researcher of this writing, despite of his ambition and diligence, is aware of the fact that neither old or new studies on this topic or all of them together despite their depth and care is whole and let alone final, when they try to shed light on the etimological roots of human democracy, on the gaps that it needs to overcome nowadays as well as on the future.

Keywords: people, democracy, concept, power, philosophy, principle, freedom, rights, representation.

Introduction

A considerable number of questions are waiting for an answer in the philosophical area. Why humanity abandoned the natural state of freedom, when it was led only by the instinct and the law of the strongest? What were the factors imposed on it and that called the need for democracy in history?

Human society is seen on the point of view of the representation of majority and their role in democracy. There are a number of theories today that try to explain the cause of birth to democratic regimes and the power of the civil society inside determined social structures. From the beginning is reviled the notion itself of the concept of democracy. “Its golden key” is the internal and the meaning of the word “democracy”. Therefore, the origin of the word “democracy” comes from Greek and is made of the word “*demos*” people and the word “*kratos*” power. Since democracy was first born in Greece, in the city-state of Athens, this word gained the right of use as it was used by its first founders. The main institution in Athens was the Assembly made up of 500 members all male. It is selfunderstood that, in addition to women, also slaves and foreigners were not allowed there either. The Assembly had the right to take decisions without any lawful restrictions for any internal problem, simply by following the majority of the vote. It makes impression that member of the Assembly were not elected but were appointed by lot. The main leaders were chosen in a year mandate, without constitutional restrictions. Therefore, Athens became an inspiration for later generations of human society and for the extention of democracy in all other countries.

On one side, democracy embodies a special philosophical and political meaning, a social state and dominion that touches the whole pyramid of the society from the

foundation to the top and on the other side, its implementation in practice includes a series of forms and tools that have made possible and have stimulated a number of abusive attempts in its name. At the top of the risks remains the misuse by totalitarian regimes and military dictatorships, similar to those which through democratic etiquets, theories and enticing words, try to gain the support of the people. In essence and in reality, are exactly them that violate most flagrantly the principles on which democracy is founded.

On the other side, even when they are not used only for propaganda intentions, the words "democracy" and "democrat" are used to decorate and cover up regimes and individuals that have no connections to dominion in the name of majority. While the low cultural level of support of laboring masses and the use of a powerful propagandistic arsenal to protect the totalitarian and dictatorial regimes reminds us of the role of the iron ax, which could not bring down even a single wood without the support of the wood handel.

Today's concepts on democracy seek to represent it as a series of democratic values, not without controversy, simply as a political system, whose essence is connected with the wide participation of people in exsecution of public works and with the installations of public policies in order to create a general wellbeing. Democracy is a governing system whose source is the people, functions with the people and for the people. The authors of these theories have accepted the fact that the modern regime is called democratic when the majority of people have the right to vote in choosing their leader.

The power of the democratic ideas, the will and the human mind have pushed and inspired a deep meaning in history: from Pericles in the early Athens until Vaclav Havely in Cekoslovakia, from the Declaration of Independence from Thomas Jefferson in 1776 until the speeches of Andrew Saharov in 1989. According to Abraham Lincoln, "*Democracy is direct self-government, over all the people, for all the people.*" (Baça. Pg., 2016: 42). While in the philosophical dictionaries democracy is defined as, "*Governing by the people where the highest authority belongs to the people and is applied straight forward by it or by its elected representatives, according to a free electoral system*". (Pellumbi S 2011: 75)

Methodology

In this article we have used the reasoning method and that of the interpretation of the existing information on democracy and political representantion, taken by different sources and also the method of analysis of these concepts as the only tendency for the development of human society.

The goal of this writing is to show the characteristics that stand on the foundation of a true democracy, with the political representantions as its priority.

Democracy and the political representantion, the tendency of the development of the society

Thousands of years of human history has shown that the desire of the people to leave as free and equal beings, in front of the law and society, has not known a better system then the one named "democracy". Although facing demands for rights even

bigger in life and for active participation and decision-making organs of the system legislation, governmental, and that of justice, the human society of every country calls for their continuous improvement. From this we understand that despite the democratic level there has never been and will never be a true democracy. Better than any other philosopher this fact is emphasized by Jean-Jacques Rousseau when emphasized, "If there were a nation of Gods, it would govern itself democratically. A government so perfect is not suited to men" (Jean-Jacques Rousseau, 2007: 92).

This is the reason why the democratic system needs continual change in accordance with the contemporary needs. Democracy means a particular form of leadership or government that is achieved in the name and for the interests of the majority. Although its origin is from antiquity, its most mature form is applied in nations where a pluralistic society is developed and where legislative, law enforcement and judicial structures are separate and independent in their activities, so that none of the heads of state may not possess unlimited power that gets out of control. If Abraham Lincoln has defined democracy as such, "A self-government, over all the people, for all the people," different philosophers, thinkers and leaders have given definitions which try to enrich and to destroy the meaning of the term "democracy" and its application in daily life.

People as source of democracy

Although the practice and the content of the term "democracy" in essence has to do with values, virtues and the practice of its application, according to etymology democracy means the people and the power, government. Thus, governing of the people. Democracy as "the power of the people" is a high ideal and with a long history. Meanwhile, the principles and values that constitute the foundations of modern institutions that associate it, like political freedom, general election, political pluralism and the representative assembly have no longer than one or two centuries that have been created. Not only from Lincoln's definition of democracy as "self-government, over all the people, for all the people," or by its valuable inheritance over thousands of years, but also from concepts of contemporary thinkers, we notice key elements, by which democracy is constituted, not only as a concept or a definition with philosophical, political, judicial content, but even as a real functional system. For a fuller understanding of it, let us focus particularly at the notion of people and later on at the ways and elements of its governing.

One of the main principles of democracy is the political equality, which means the petition over the political power which should be distributed widely to the people and as equally as possible. What should we understand with the term "people"? Referring to the early Greek philosophers, it is noticed in particular that the notion of the word "people" was referred to the majority of disadvantaged people who lived in similar conditions. Truly, in their notion it is noticed even a negative connotation to the notion "people" for example Plato and Aristotle while understanding democracy as the governing of the masses of people, as a ruling of the majority, which according to them was damaging the wisdom and property. This is also the source of their thought the country and people would be better if they were governed by philosophers, the most bright people in the world.

Strangely, even though democracy has undergone essential changes, it still maintains the values that it represents the need of the people to be governed. Since the people do not have the abilities to govern, it chooses the representatives of the parties and political groups in the legislative leading organizations.

Giving a quick look to the early concepts of democracy and the applicable regimes in the cities-state of the early ancient Greece, you easily notice the essential changes that has undergone in the form and content the concept of democracy. Today democracy has been enriched and refined in accordance with the petitions of time and of the people. Today the term "democracy" is used not only to characterize the political relations in a particular society, but also to judge and to determine the form of government, the characteristics and its political system, etc. Therefore, the notion of democracy is founded on the principle that people in their totality make the foundation on which the whole political life of society is founded. They are the only source of power, while their interests and their wellbeing constitute the final goal of governing.

In democracy the political power becomes legal only when its source is the people. The power could be a result of free will of the people as one, where every individual is free to choose politically according to his or her interest. Therefore, freedom is a necessary condition of the concept of democracy. From this point of view, democracy could be defined as a system of ideas, practices and ways of acting that lead towards institutionalization of freedom.

For Spinoza, freedom was perfect rationalism, for Leibniz it was the intelligence spontaneity, for Kant it was autonomy, for Hegel it was acceptance of the necessary, for Croce it was eternal life extension, for Hobbes freedom means absence of outside obstacles to move, while for Russo in France freedom has the same fate as laws; it rules or falls down together with those. The famous economist and political scientist Fridrih Fon Hajek, used the term "the constitution of freedom" instead of "social democracy". With this he means a variety of elements, which make possible the coexistence of the individual with the society.

Democracy has an organic connection with our freedom and rights. But each freedom has its life span organized in the horizontal and vertical direction. "Freedom" are different, although in essence they remain "constitutional rights" for each person. John Locke deserves a special place for the way he treated the concept of freedom. For him, freedom is divided in freedom that decided acting under the will of self and in the freedom that is subject to the unstable will of the unknown and arbitrary uncertainty.

Democracy includes the governing of the majority and the respect of minority because they are part of the people and for this reason must not be treated unequal. From this point of view, democracy is seen as the form of political entity that ensures the governing of majority and the respect of minority, creating also the space for free competition of the political alternatives. Also, democracy is the form of political entity that provides political competition for different alternatives of the economical development that ensures the free initiative and the private property.

But a lot of circles concepts of a rule dictatorial use the concept of democracy to mask their intentions evil, hitting or reduce basic human rights, to distort the essence of democracy by implementing only some elements here to misrepresent the interests of

a part as interest of the whole society. Democracy is a state constitution small states and large, where power is derived directly or indirectly by citizens on the basis of freedom and political equality, as well as broader political rights for participation of all adult nationals. Basically democracy is a rule, which is the symbol of a secular order, is the history of his people, the only authorized. Ownership and exercise of power should flow from the citizens.

Pericles emphasized that democracy was associated with tolerance, he was not concerned about the rule of the majority. Plato and Aritoteli were both against democracy. Plato noted that democracy control of government implement those who could govern, then to demagogues populist, and Aristotle stated that government by the people actually meant rule by the poor, of whom feared that can shpronësonin rich. Loke mean Hobbes and political equality of citizens, but no conclusions expressly issued in favor of democracy. Lincoln's definition, more original embryo expresses the ideal of democracy than its real existence. Democracy can not be forced upon a society. It is neither a gift that can be held forever someone. For it must fight to defend every day.

Incorporating a number of meanings related note that the term "democracy" includes the meanings dealing with people and the magic that he owns in the economic, political and cultural, as producers and consumers of goods, builder and implementer of all powers a civilized society. At first glance, the notion of "democracy" is a harmonious line with the notion of "people" and his rule. But as the concept (democracy) is not included in the ancient Greek society, women and slaves, today applies to minors and the mentally ill. But the term and the meaning of democracy, namely the rule of the majority, must pass the "trails" difficult when it comes to the notion of absolute majority which enjoys the right decision. But, on the other hand, no right of any majority can not be absolute. Plenty of subsequent philosophers, one of whom is John Loke, noted the risk that the minority comes from the "dictatorship of the majority". Accepting the absolute right of the majority to the minority impunuar her will mean to set a rule that over time turn against the principles of democracy itself. Democracy can be: direct democracy and representative democracy. In a direct democracy every citizen can participate in the issuance of state decisions without the mediation of officials elected or appointed. It is obvious that such a system is very convenient, as the number of individuals participating in is relatively small, as, for example, in an organization, a community, a tribal council or a local branch of a trade union where members can gather in one room to discuss issues and take decisions by consensus or majority vote. In terms of a modern society features democracy embodies different from what took place in the company of Athens, while maintaining the characteristics of a representative democracy, pluralistic and based on the concept of citizenship. The fundamental difference with direct democracy is that political decisions taken by their representative bodies and only in certain cases by the people, as is the case of referendums. But, despite the need for change and improvement of democracy, we can not but note that its basic foundation remains demand for representation and protection of interests of the people even under the chosen exercise power in his name. Democracy is a system that provides and coordinates the duties and rights of the individual with those of society. Rights constitute the most basic elements and the building of a democratic government.

In the implementation of representative democracy citizens who vote, do not make decisions for the organization of their life, but these rights delegate their representatives. Despite the great advantages of representative democracy represents, it has not escaped the remarks of Rousseau, who noted with dismay: "Whatever be, from that moment when a people delivered representatives, is not free." (Jean Jacques Rousseau, 2008: 313).

Democracy and political representation

In terms of a confidence to give democracy values, principles and norms of her confidence it was still great for this type where people self-government regime. It must come the late XVIII when the American philosopher and scholar Alexander Hamilton proposed the phrase "representative democracy" as a new form of governance that combine itself with the principle of popular sovereignty political representation. Political representation and delegation means the manner of his legitimacy. Chosen speaks and acts on behalf of voters. It provides the interaction between people, which represents the foundation of democracy and mandated representatives. This connection is called "representativeness".

A representative government is when citizens participate in the development of a state of legislation by several representatives, MPs, which they choose freely. A government be held accountable and democratic when all members of the executive, ministers must obtain the support of a majority of representatives to govern and should respect deputies and parties that are in opposition.

Conclusions

Given the versatile values of democracy, it can affirm that it is the greatest wealth of systems politico - social history of peoples. Incorporating a wealth inherited from the past, democracy is not a gateway cemented in defense of this heritage only valuable, but also a space without end towards its improvement and perfection. It built and protected against every day, not only by elected politicians and political parties, but by all citizens of a country who enjoy its benefits equally enjoy the warmth of the sun as all beings.

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