Evren Somer

Direct Democracy in the Baltic States
Institutions, Procedures and Practice in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania
Outline

Preface ........................................................................................................................15

I. Introduction ...........................................................................................................17

II. Definition and classification of direct democracy .............................................21
   A. Popular sovereignty through referendums ..............................................21
   B. Mechanisms of direct democracy and veto player ...............................22
   C. Constraints on mechanism of direct democracy .................................34

III. The legal framework and practice of direct democracy in Estonia ..............37
    A. Direct democratic instruments in Estonia ..........................................37
    B. Estonian direct democracy in practice ..............................................48
    C. Explanations for the Estonian practice .............................................54

IV. The legal framework and practice of direct democracy in Latvia ...............59
    A. Direct democratic instruments in Latvia ............................................59
    B. Latvian direct democracy in practice ...............................................86
    C. Explanations for the Latvian practice ..............................................103

V. The legal framework and practice of direct democracy in Lithuania ..........109
    A. Direct democratic instruments in Lithuania ......................................109
    B. Lithuanian direct democracy in practice ........................................132
    C. Explanations for the Lithuanian practice .........................................152

VI. The quality of direct democracy in the Baltic states .................................157
    A. A comparison of use and success of Baltic referendums ...................157
    B. Policy change through referendums ................................................160
    C. Quality of direct democracy ............................................................164
    D. More than instruments .................................................................175
VII. Conclusions............................................................................................................. 177
   A. Rich in instruments, moderate in use, poor in performance........ 177
   B. A better design for a better balance............................................................... 178

VIII. References........................................................................................................... 181