

ABSTRACT OF THE DISSERTATION

**DEMOCRATIC COMPETENCES OF MEMBERS IN VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS—
AN EMPIRICAL STUDY OF CITIZEN-TYPES**

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Three main questions were answered: 1. Which competences should citizens of Democracies have? 2. To what extent do members of voluntary organizations have those competences? 3. Which competences do the members of sportclubs have compared to members in other organisations?

The first question was answered based on the theory of democracy as well as on didactical and sociological thoughts. The second and third questions were answered on the basis of empirical data.

The data derived from a questioning of organizational members and the data was analyzed with cluster-analytical methods. Within the organisational members five citizen-types can be found: The *Actives* who are engaged in political and social life in and outside the organisation (A). The *Political Actives* who are interested in and are involved in political affairs but are not very active inside the organization (B). The *Organizational Actives* focus their activities only on the organization (C). The *Distrusting* who are politically disappointed and inactive (D) and the *Uninterested* who are neither interested in political nor social affairs in and outside the organization (E).

To answer the third question members of sport clubs were contrasted with members of other organisations. Data analyses showed that the types C, D and E are over-represented in sport clubs. The analysis allowed conclusions about the kind of people which can be found in voluntary organisations and which democratic competences they have.