

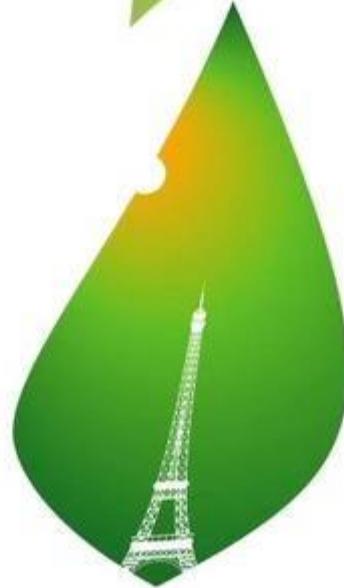
Four pathways for accountability – challenges and opportunities

Side-event in the Netherlands Climate Pavilion at COP21
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Accountability after Paris?



PARIS2015
UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE
COP21·CMP11

Stay on
course

Walk
the
walk

grow

ACCOUNTABILITY

Keep
your
commitments

Be REAL -
not fake

Consequences

"This dog
has
teeth!"

Stand and deliver



Who?



About what?

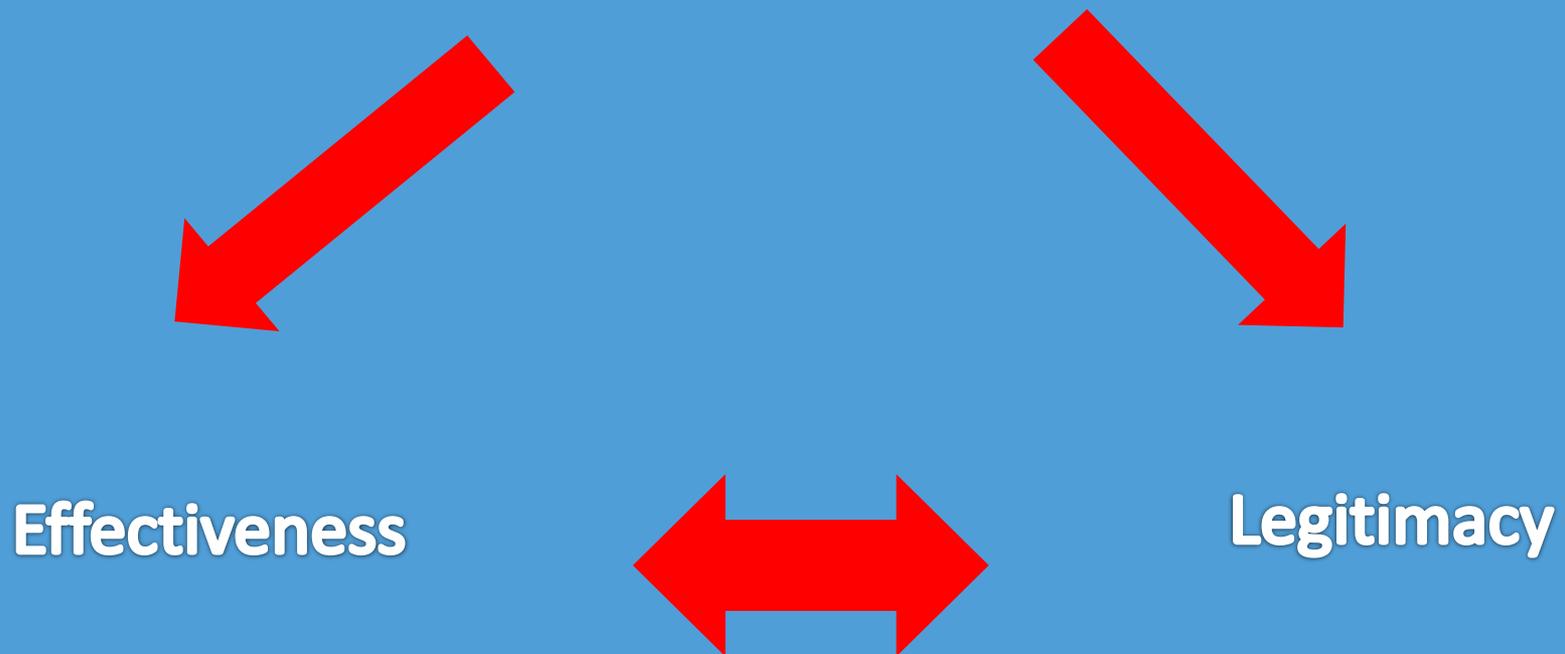
How?

By what standards?

With what effects?

Why look through accountability glasses?

Accountability of States signing the Paris Agreement



**Other
governments**



National institutions

Publics

States

ACCOUNTABILITY

Other governments – formal mechanisms in the international regime

- + Verified reporting increasingly accepted ensuring certain degree of transparency
- + Current processes (e.g. multilateral assessment) can form a basis
- + Not necessarily linked to legal form
- Unwillingness to accept individual accountability relationship for:
 - ambition in NDCs (ex-ante)
 - Implementation (ex-post)
- Uncertain if and how it has influence on state behaviour





National institutions

+ Accepted accountability relationships in theory towards the parliament, audit offices and courts in many countries

+ Formal procedures may be in place – but will vary with legal form and with political-legal system

- Often weak accountability relationship in practice on international commitments and global governance broadly
- Parliamentarians and public officials not always sufficiently knowledgeable or interested in global climate commitments



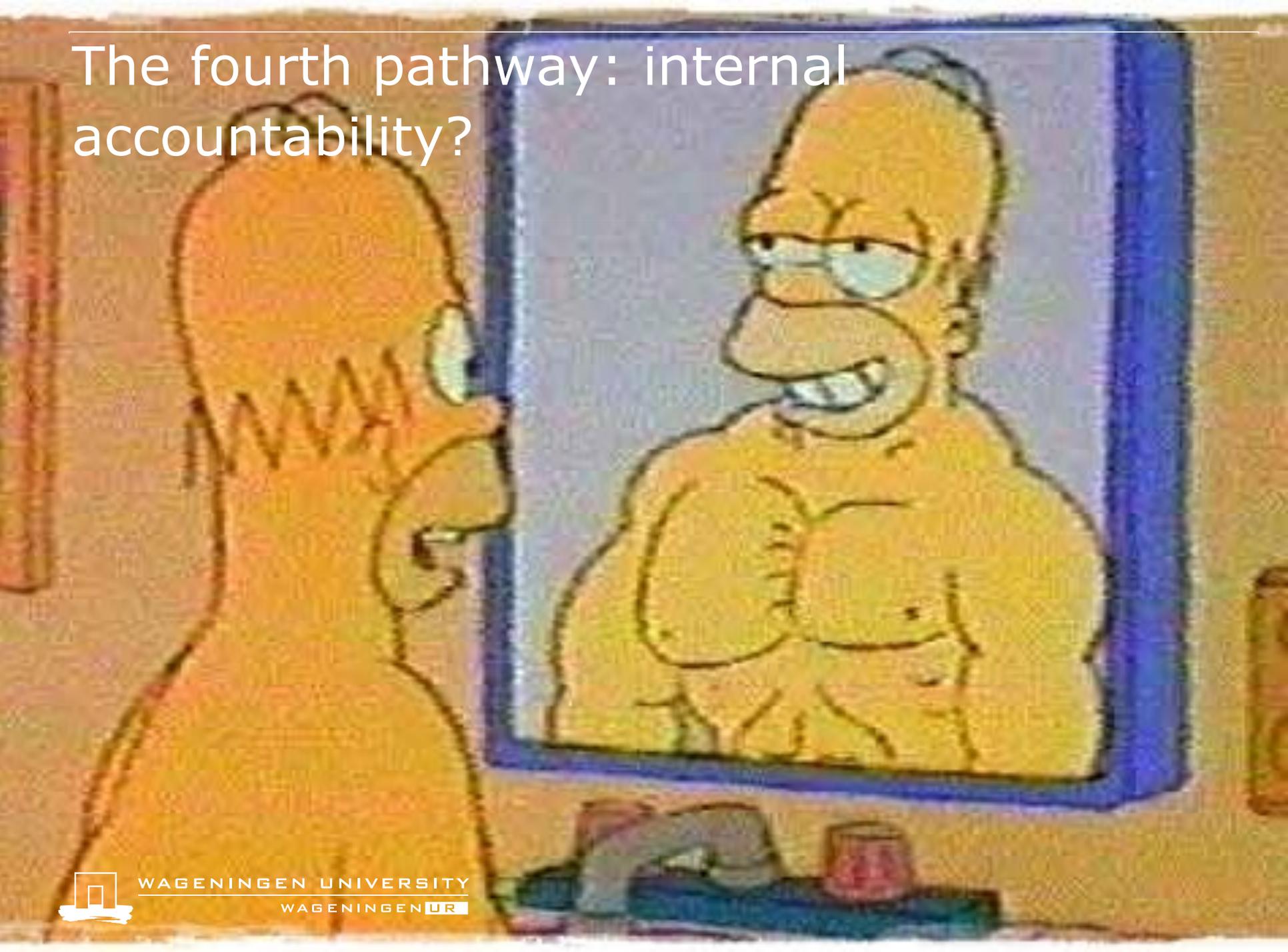


Publics

- + Strengthens the democratic accountability of climate governance
- + Potential for trans-national accountability relationship bypassing national sovereignty
- + Can use more data and information strengthening transparency
- + Potentially powerful pressure
- Informal and often unsystematic
- Weaker in implementation phase
- Some governments relatively immune (do not accept the accountability relationship)
- Partly dependent on traditional media



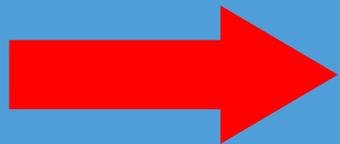
The fourth pathway: internal accountability?



So - who can or should we count on to be accountholders?

All pathways depend on:

- Transparency – access to data on government action
- actors that feel responsible and have enough knowledge and commitment to hold governments to account - over a long time span
- governments being sensitive to public/institutional sanctions and accepting the accountability relationship
- A supportive public opinion



No pathway alone is ensuring an effective and legitimate Paris Agreement over time



Who will...?

Who **will** hold governments to account for the promises they make in Paris? Let's discuss!

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