

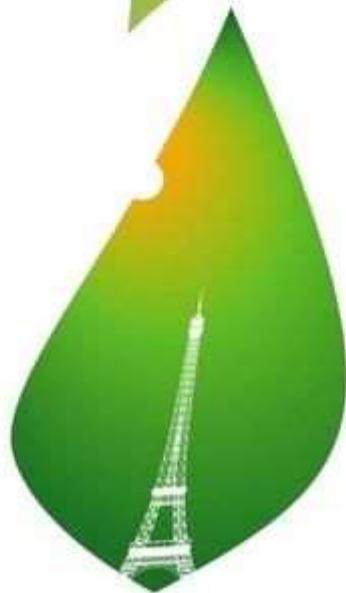
Paris and then? Holding States to account

Presentation for the Global Climate Policy Conference

30 April 2015 Sylvia Karlsson-Vinkhuyzen



Paris and then? Accountability in the morning(s) after



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?

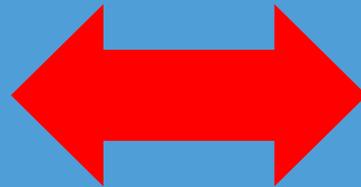
With what effects?

Why look through accountability glasses?

Accountability



Effectiveness



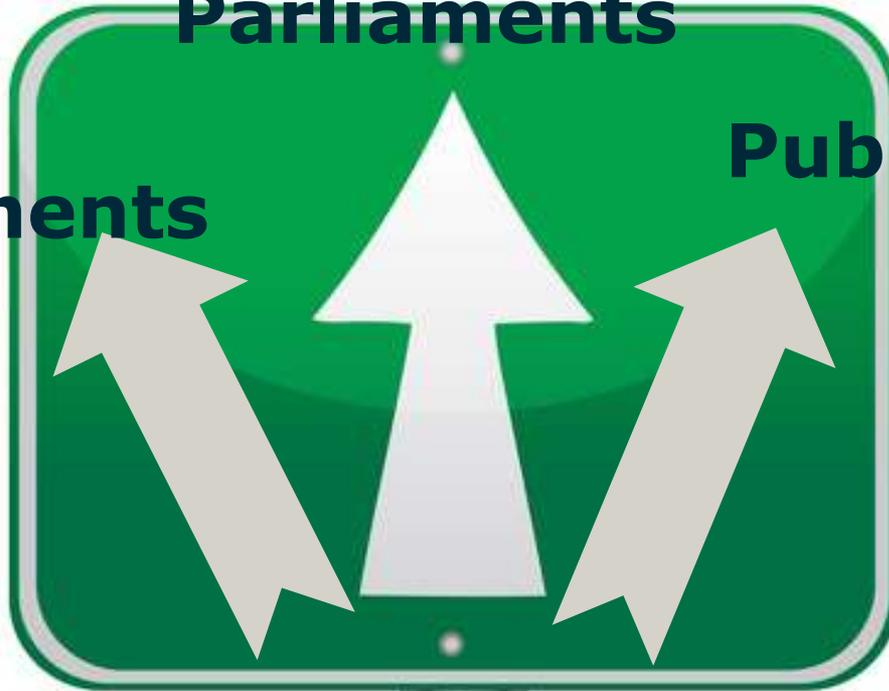
Legitimacy



Parliaments

**Other
governments**

Publics



ACCOUNTABILITY

Other governments

+ Reporting accepted
ensuring certain degree of
transparency

+ IAR and ICA can form a
basis if it is used for that
purpose

- Unwillingness to accept
an accountability
relationship

- Uncertain if and how it
influences ambition and
implementation



Parliaments

- + Accepted accountability relationship in many countries in principle
- + Formal procedures may be in place for following up domestic climate laws
- + Strengthens democratic or public accountability of national and global climate governance
- Often weak accountability relationship in practice around foreign policy and global governance
- Uncertain status of NDCs in domestic contexts (laws or not) influencing procedures
- Parliamentarians not sufficiently knowledgeable or interested in global climate commitments

Publics

- + Strengthening the democratic accountability of global climate governance
- + Enacting a transnational accountability relationship bypassing national sovereignty
- + Can use other data and information (including from academia) strengthening transparency
- + Potentially powerful pressure if sufficient support from domestic publics
- Informal and often unsystematic
- Weaker in implementation phase
- Some governments relatively immune (do not accept the accountability relationship)
- Partly dependent on interest from traditional media



So - who can or should we count on?

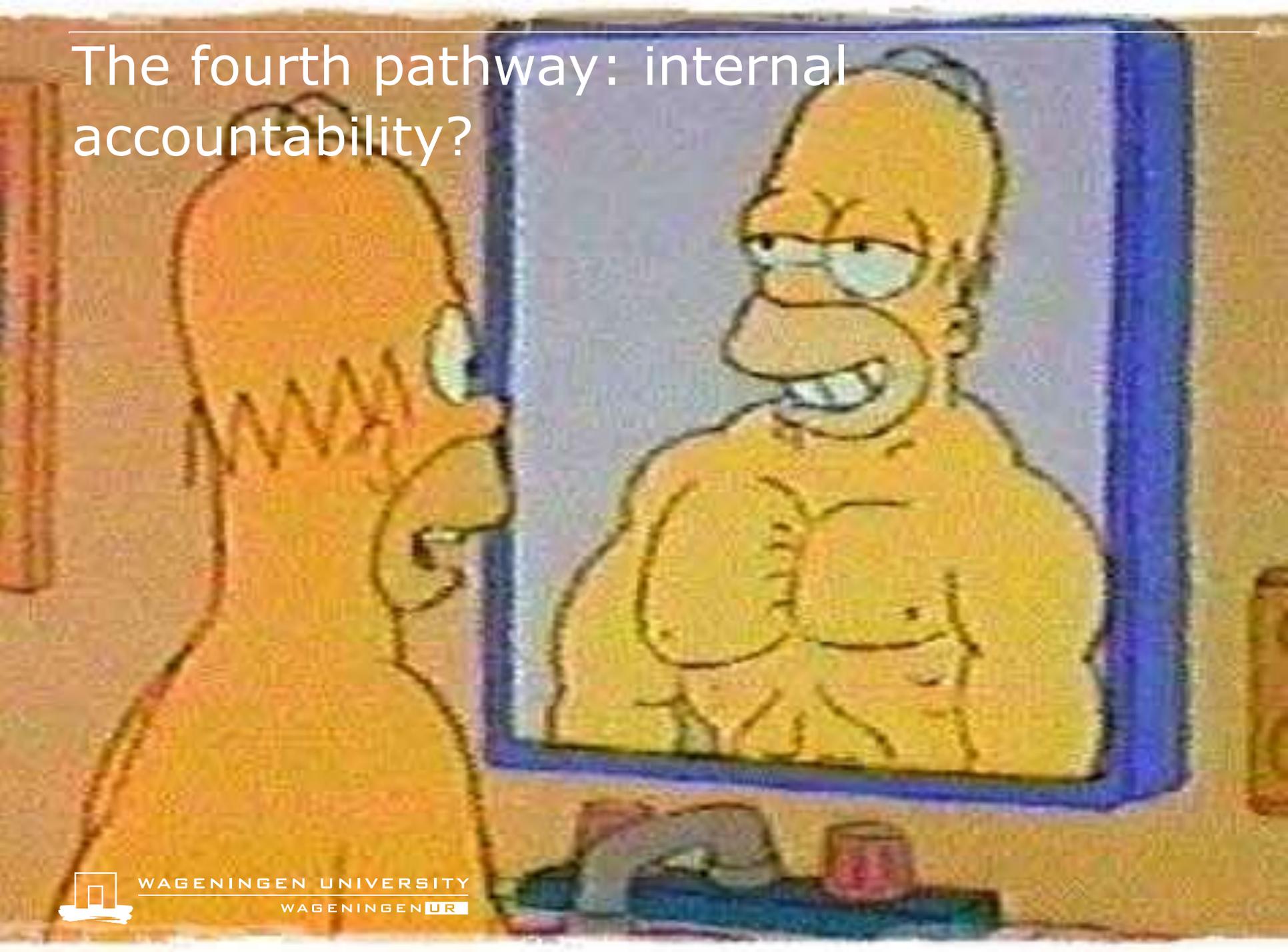
All pathways depend on:

- transparency (data on government actions)
- accountholders being interested and knowledgeable and committed to their responsibility to hold governments to account over a long time span
- governments being sensitive to (social) sanctions and to some extent accepting the accountability relationship

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



The fourth pathway: internal accountability?



Questions for discussion

Question for discussion:

- How can either of these pathways be strengthened?
- Can we find synergies among these pathways?
- In which pathway/s can (academic) researchers play a role?

