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Basic Analogies within Direct Democracy

ABSTRACT. The aim of the paper is to present an analogical case-study within contemporary direct democracy. In the first part, we present some standard definition of referendum, as well as its basic classification. In the second part contains analysis of the role of the main institution of direct democracy i.e. the role of referendum plays in the characteristics of basic democratic models.

KEY WORDS: analogy, direct democracy, referendum, theory of democracy

Introduction

As some previous papers in this issue of “Studia Metodologiczne” have stated, for example [Gan-Krzywoszyńska, Leśniewski, 2016 and Campos Benítez, 2016], we assume that analogy, and especially analogical analysis, enables us to provide detailed and nuanced characteristics of given concepts. Following Dussel [1985] and Beuchot [2009], we agree that analogy, as an optimal solution to the problem of polysemy – pervasive within the Humanities – makes possible also a rational dialogue and better understanding of the similarities and distinctions between cultures, nations, social groups and individuals. Dussel himself claims that the analogical analysis of such complex concepts and phenomena as we have in the Human and Social Sciences is very time consuming and that only after decades does he finally clearly understand the issues concerning the major category of “people” (Spanish *pueblo*). So this paper pretends only to sketch some preliminary analogical analysis of the concept and institution