

No Development without Freedom! Or vice versa?

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Nadia Molenaers

nadia.molenaers@ua.ac.be

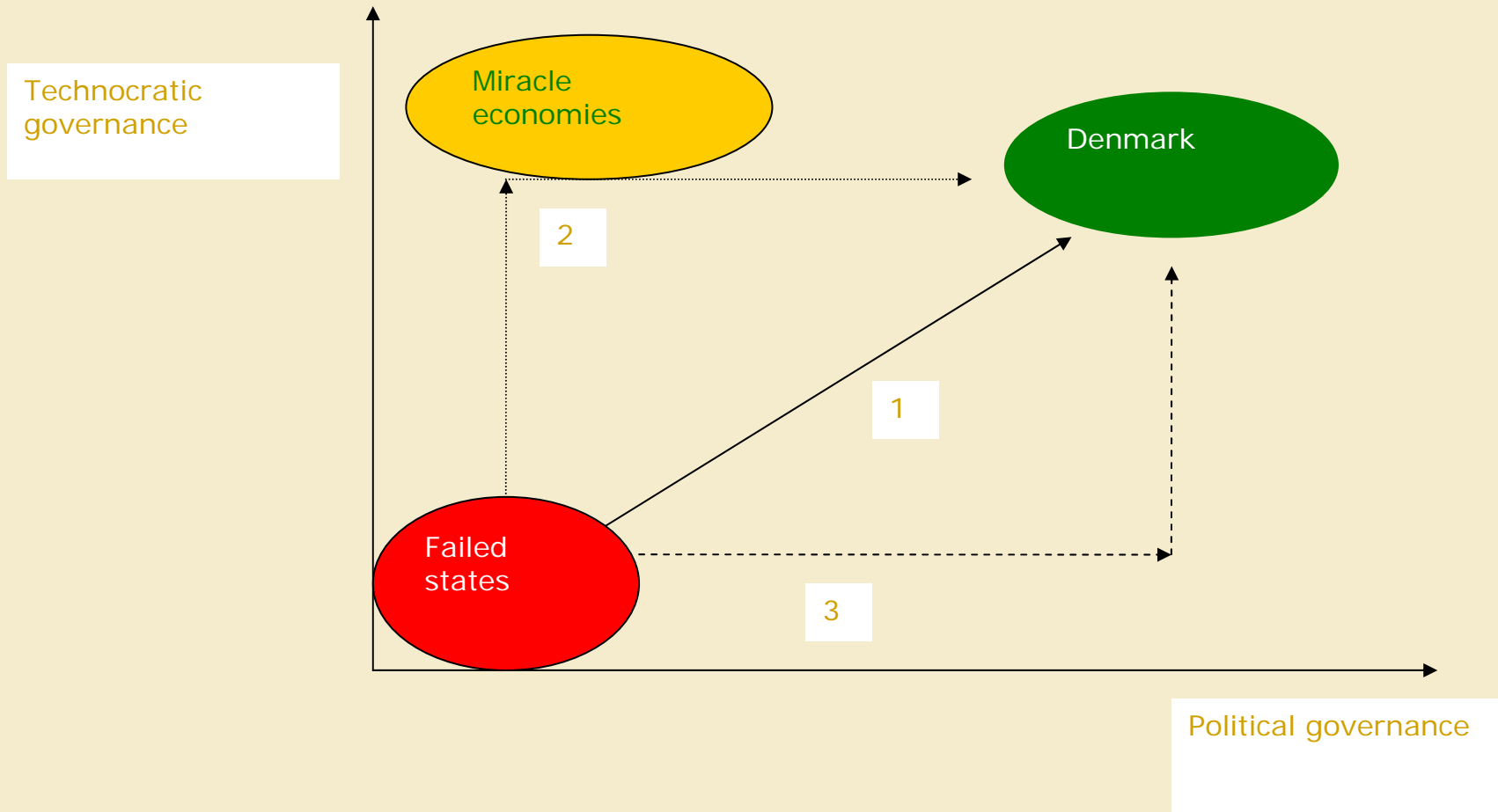
Points of (donor-)consensus

- Vicious circle of Poor governance and Poverty
- Africa should get to « Denmark »
 - Most people, if given a choice, would prefer « Denmark » over « Djibouti »
- Donors have a role to play
 - Pull (ex-post selectivity)
 - Push (ex-ante)
- Donor motivation to do this can vary
 - Altruism (solidarity, humanitarian concerns)
 - Self interest (security, migration concerns - geopolitical, economic interests)

Elements of disagreement: How to get to Denmark?

- « Denmark » is very far away for most African countries
- Mapping out a route to get there generates deep differences of opinion
 - Because science is of limited help here: no blueprints or recipes for politico-institutional engineering
 - Good technocratic governance → economic growth → freedom?
 - Good political governance → freedom → economic growth?
 - Hence discussions become very value loaded and normative

Several paths to Denmark, anecdotes abound



Pushing for freedom: does it always and everywhere make sense?

- There is more empirical evidence for Authoritarian Developmentalism (AD) than for Democratic Developmentalism (DD)
 - Freedom can co-exist with pseudo democracy (anocracies)
 - Freedom can co-exist with extreme poverty
- In certain contexts there can be trade-offs between democratic and developmental goals
- If given a choice people might prefer bread over beliefs
- To effectively use freedom economic resources are indispensable

Conclusion

- One size fits all = mostly XXL
- Long term goals do not set out clear guide lines for short-term strategic choices → short term decisions almost always entail trade-offs, hence decisions are always political
- Even if the strategies are profoundly political this does not imply that prioritizing and sequencing are not needed
- Context matters
- Think politically yet act technocratically

THANK YOU !

nadia.molenaers@ua.ac.be



Institute of Development Policy and Management (IOB)

University of Antwerp

Lange St.-Annastraat 7

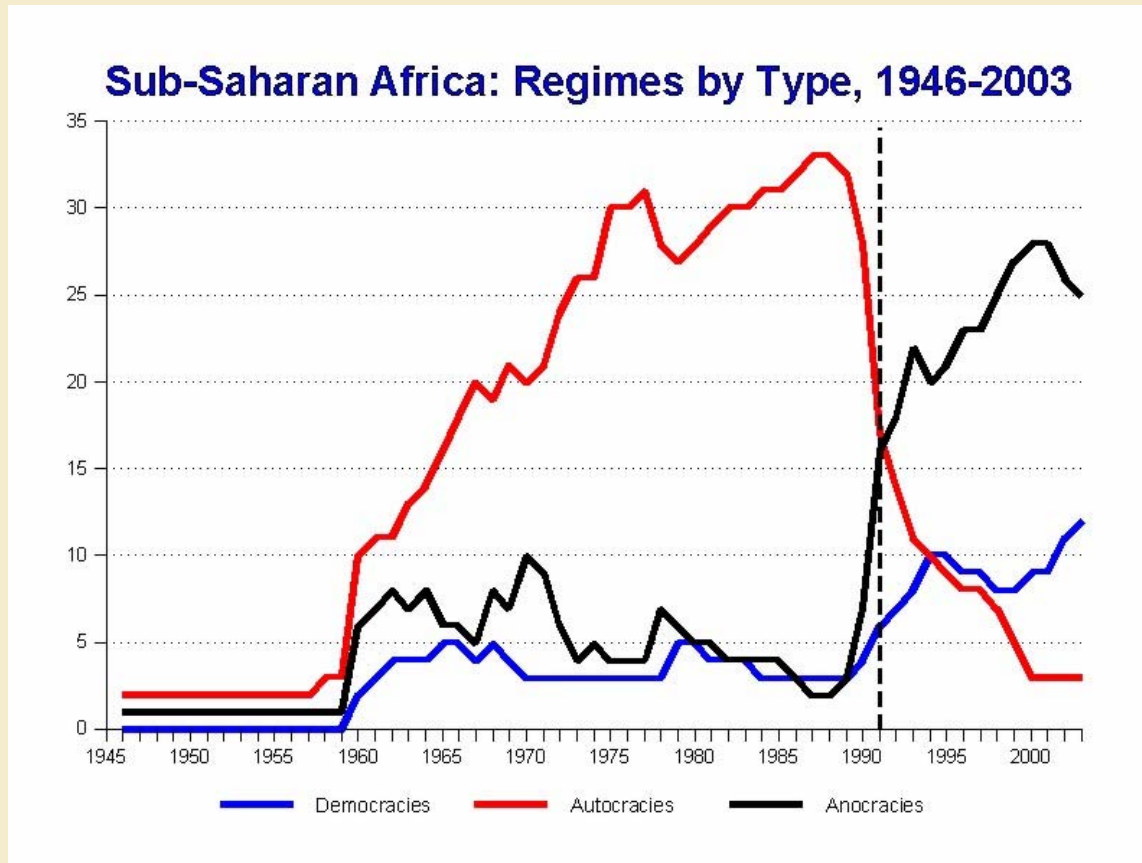
2000 Antwerp

www.ua.ac.be/dev

www.ua.ac.be/dev/prsp

www.ua.ac.be/dev/nadia.molenaers

Annexes



Anocracy: some characteristics

- Elections
 - not really open/fair
 - opposition rarely wins
 - fraude
 - Executive & bureaucracy
 - authoritarian governing styles
 - little or no accountability
 - high on corruption
 - lack of transparency, little audit/control,
 - inefficiency
 - Parliament
 - dysfunctional, a rubberstamping institution,
 - low on capacity
- + little or no results on economic progress, human development, poverty reduction

Freedom House 2007 (covering 2006)

