problems of 'public interest' definition and policy implementation

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## ISSUES IN PUBLIC POLICY

- THE CONCEPT OF 'PUBLIC INTEREST'
- PROBLEMS IN CREATING CONSENSUS IN SOCIETIES
- SOURCES AND ORIGINS OF PUBLIC POLICY
- PROCESSES OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

### ISSUES IN PUBLIC POLICY

- THE CONCEPT OF 'PUBLIC INTEREST'
  - what do we mean by 'public interest'?
  - how do we define 'public interest'?
    - moral public interest?
    - ethical public interest?
    - social public interest?
    - economic public interest?

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- THE CONCEPT OF 'PUBLIC INTEREST'
  - Jean-Jacques Rousseau:
  - the public interests of the individual PLUS the 'common good'

## ISSUES IN PUBLIC POLICY

- PROBLEMS IN CREATING CONSENSUS IN SOCIETIES
  - the importance of government legitimacy
  - processes employed in creating consensus and legitimacy



## ISSUES IN PUBLIC POLICY

- PROBLEMS IN CREATING CONSENSUS IN SOCIETIES
  - formal (for instance, elections and referendums)
  - $-informal\ (for\ instance,\ campaigns\ and\ protests)$

- SOURCES AND ORIGINS OF PUBLIC POLICY
  - the 'production' of public policy (how does it emerge?)
  - the range of societal and institutional sources of public policy (the 'policy arenas' in a liberal democracy)

### ISSUES IN PUBLIC POLICY

- SOURCES AND ORIGINS OF PUBLIC POLICY
  - The Policy Arenas
- 1. The Public Arena
- 2. National Parliaments/Assemblies
- 3. The Political Parties
- 4. The Bureaucracy (Ministries/Civil Servants)
- 5. Pressure and Interest Groups
- 6. The European Union



### ISSUES IN PUBLIC POLICY

- PROCESSES OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION
  - $-\ the\ balancing\ of\ `public\ interests$
  - arbitration between social forces
  - the role of institutions
  - a policy implementation framework?



- PROCESSES OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION
  - private interest versus 'public interest'



## ISSUES IN PUBLIC POLICY

- PROCESSES OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION
  - Policy Networks
  - industrial sector
  - education sector
  - health and social security sectors
  - environmental sector



### ISSUES IN PUBLIC POLICY

# PROCESSES OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

#### **Problems**

- issues relating to conflicts of 'public interest'
  - issues of rigidity and flexibility

- PROCESSES OF POLICY IMPLEMENTATION
  - A Policy Implementation Framework?
  - 1. Method
  - 2. Strategy/Tactics
  - 3. Objectives and 'Milestones'
  - 4. Patience and the 'Long View'
  - 5. Teams and Functions
  - 6. Structures
  - 7. A Set of Rules

## **ISSUES IN PUBLIC POLICY:**

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