



Human rights in presence of pandemic, a "gate" to authoritarian regime?

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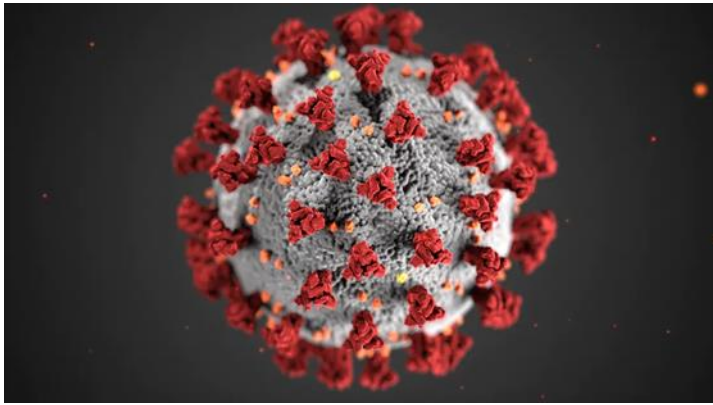
What Are Human Rights?


Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination.

Basic -Norm of any Liberal Democracy

Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein.

UN DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS 10.12.1948



National crisis 
changing the rules of the game?



Public goods

no rivalry no exclusion

If they are available to anyone, they are available to everyone

National security

Personal safety, Law & order

Public roads, Fire brigade, Public medical care

Education system

Public health

Collective action yields Public Goods



Collective action – furthering the common interest

“the core of the justification for the state” (Elinor Ostrom, 1998).

Social Dilemma:

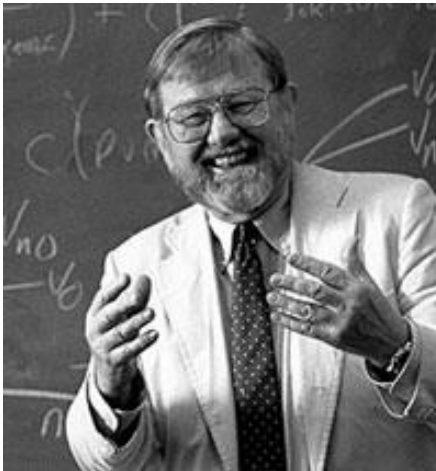
situations in which short-term self-interest is at odds with longer-terms
collective interests

Mancur Olson 1932 - 1998

The Logic of Collective Action (1965)

In a large enough group, and where effective coercion or incentives are absent

A rational self-interested individual will not work to achieve their common or group interests.



“Free Rider”

Some general remarks:

- government **legitimately elicit resources** from its citizens in order to provide public goods.
- **rational** individual expected to ‘**free-ride**’
- Despite the existence of such rational free-ride solutions, many citizens willingly consent to governmental demands, well beyond the extent explicable by effective coercion.
- The compliance to government’s demand is a **personal decision** of participation in collective action



Legitimate governmental resources for the provision of public goods:

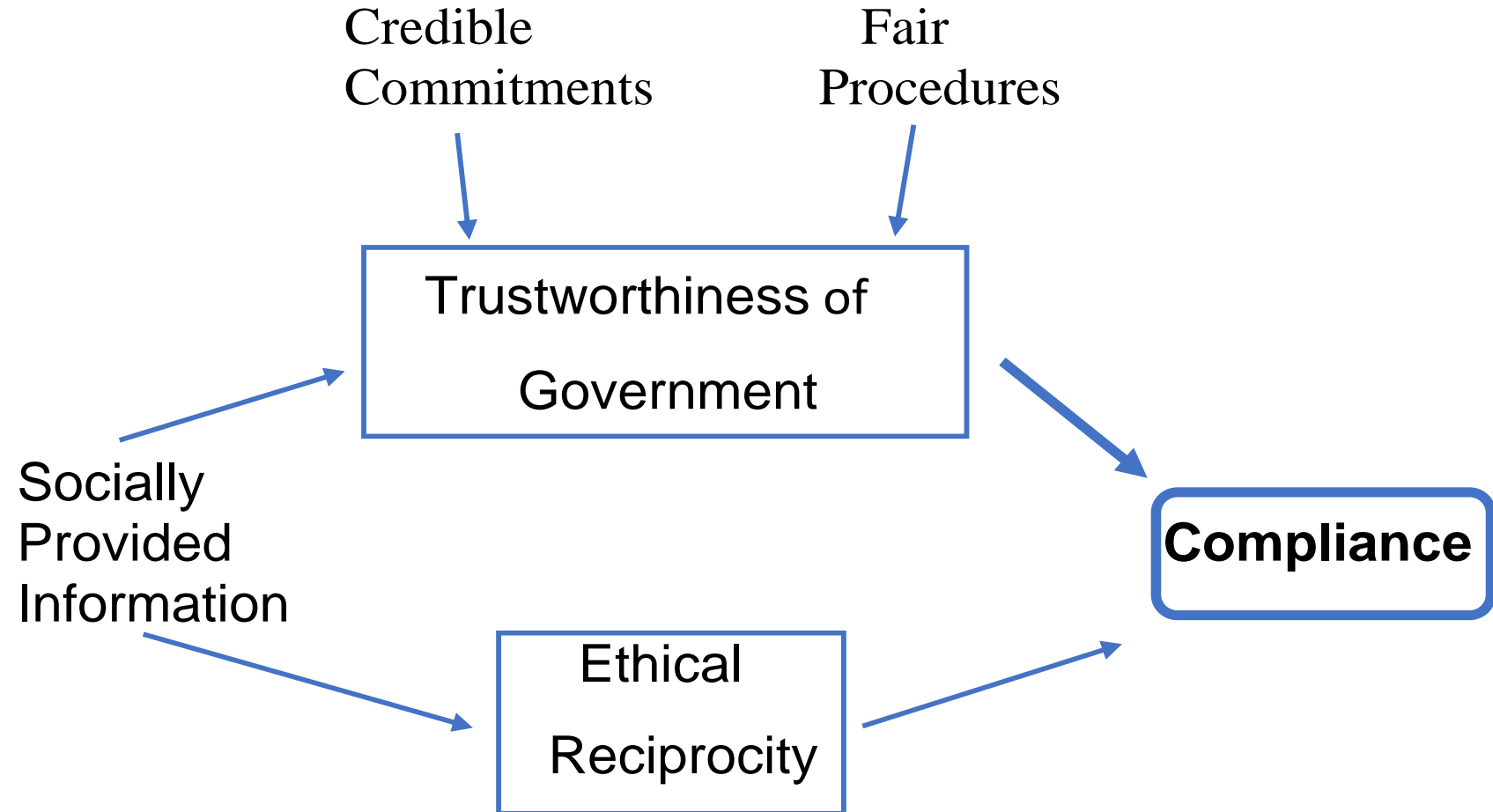
- Tax
- Recruitment of people

Major factor: **citizen's consent to comply**

Why do people contribute to PG?

- ▮ **Effective Coercion** (Olson, 1965)
- ▮ **Incentives** (Olson, 1965; Andreoni, 1990; Chong, 2001)
- ▮ **Social norms (group related)** (Bernhard, Fehr & Fischbacher, 2006; Habyarimana et-al,2007)
- ▮ **Social capital** (Coleman, 1998; Putnam, 2000; Leonard et-al, 2010)
- ▮ **Government trustworthiness** (Levi, 1997)
- ▮ **Ethical reciprocity** (Levi, 1997)
- ▮ **Dispositions** (Berelson et-al, 1954; Chong, 2000)

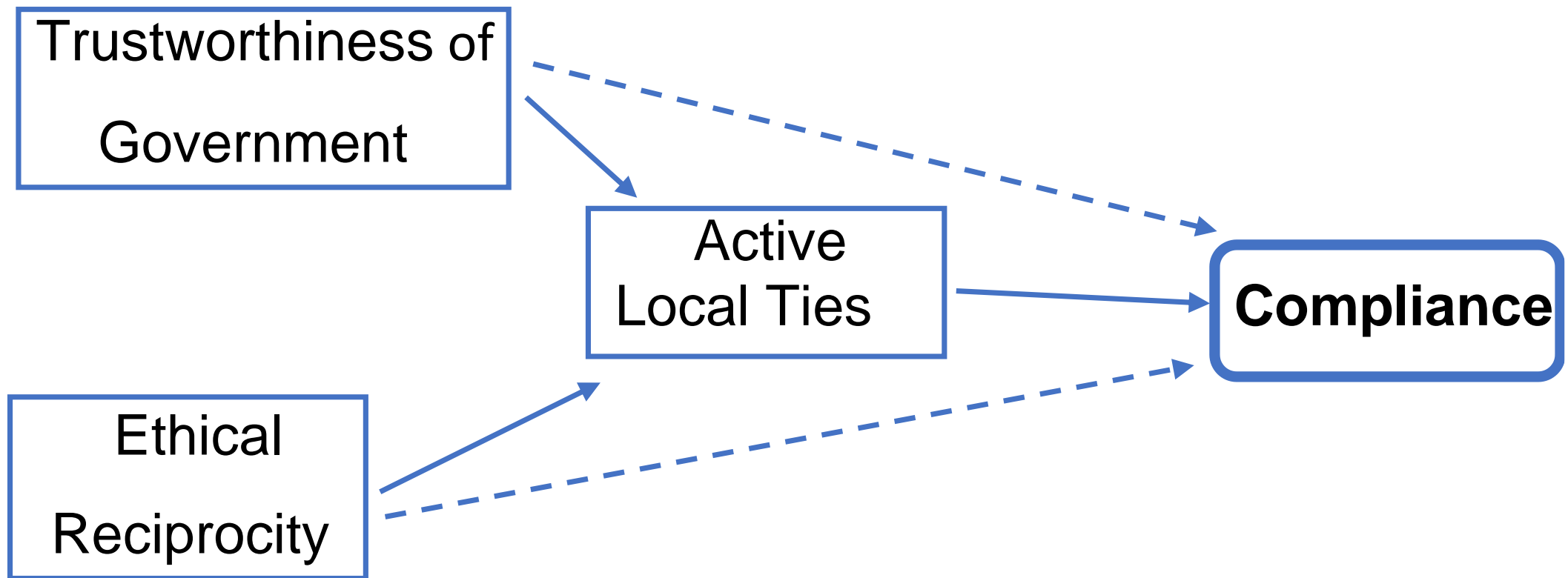
Contingent Consent (Margaret Levi, 1997)



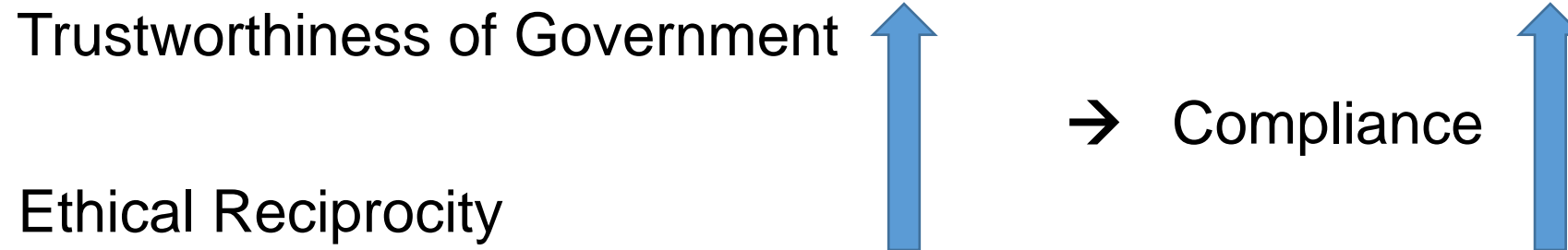
Active Local Ties (Adres et-al, 2016)

Manifestation of a deeper **national identity and loyalty**, reflecting commitment to national values and pride in being a citizen of the country, as well as pride in the country's history and in different facets of its inward and outward conduct.

Mediated Contingent Consent



Quantitative Findings (above & beyond country effect) when personal risk is at stake



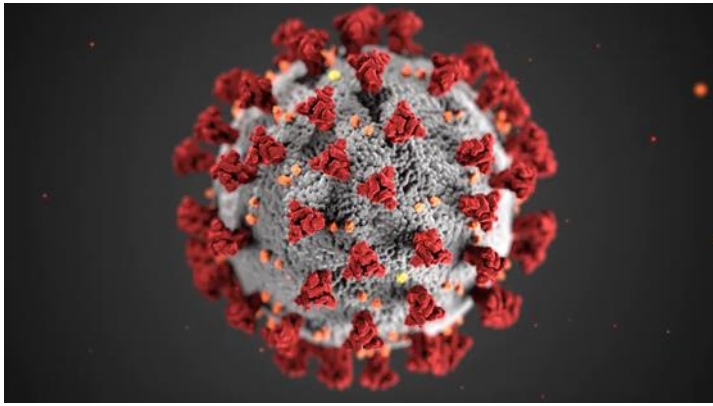
Active Local Ties (ALT) positively Mediates these relationships




National Resilience

The ability of a society or population to withstand adversities and crises in diverse realms by implementing changes and adaptations without harming the society's core values and institutions (Canetti et-al, 2014)

one indicator = capability to provide public goods



National crisis 
changing the rules of the game?



small group discussion:

Pandemic and human rights

- What do you think about lockdown?
(for unvaccinated?, for all?)
- What do you think about compulsory vaccination?
- In view of the pandemic, what is the future of democracy?



small group discussion:

▮ If you are a 'would be' autocrat

What are the "tools" you need for executing
a self – coup (creating 'real' autocracy)



Machiavelli

The aims of prince – such as **glory** and **survival** – can justify the use of immoral means to achieve those ends

Would-be autocrats are using covid-19 as an excuse to grab more power

The Economist 25.4.2020

- ▮ Covid-19 is creating opportunities for autocrats and would-be autocrats to tighten their grip.
- ▮ No fewer than 84 countries have declared a state of emergency since the pandemic began, says the Centre for Civil and Political Rights, a watchdog in Geneva
- ▮ One of the most salient phenomena related to the populist wave is the ‘globalization backlash’



Enabling conditions for gradual self- coup

- Control public communication and social networks.
- Control the economy. Mutual beneficial relationships with 'big capital'.
- Allegiant and restrained armed forces.
- Control the Parliament, challenge the Judicial Authority.
- Eliminate gate-keepers.
- **Legitimacy**



Omicron....
What next?

Thank you