

The battle for new leadership: Rhetorical Skills versus Character and Values?

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Based on: *'Civil Leadership as the Future of Leadership. Harnessing the disruptive power of citizens'* (De Waal, 2018, Amazon)

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Frame of Analysis

- The revolution in ICT and Media technologies caused disruption in markets (rise of platforms)
- They also give 'disruptive' power to citizens: power of data, knowledge, private and public communication and fast bottom-up public organization: 'Digital Civil Revolution'
- A 'third media channel of and by citizens themselves' and 'permanent public grandstand' have changed public and political arenas in the battle for public authority and, so, public leadership
- This new public arena challenges rhetorical skills of persons
- In my analysis it will ultimately provoke civil leadership, because of the preference coming with power of citizens:
 - passion for 'purpose' and 'public value'
 - an attitude of 'one-of-us'-citizens
 - real entrepreneurship

The Big, Fundamental Question is: What kind of public leadership will emerge after this ‘disruption’?

We now see many many persons ‘win’ because of only their rhetorical skills, like Trump (1st election), Johnson (UK), Baudet (NL)

Is this only a temporary effect of the technological disruption, as we already saw in markets?

Voters must get used to their new power including their responsibilities and incumbent politicians must learn rhetorical skills and develop their public personality

In the long term this will lead to more ‘right’ persons with the right character and the right orientation and values who will win in public authority, like already Jacinda Ardern (NZ), Greta Thunberg and Zelenski (Ukraine)