

## Abstract

We study how institutions should protect themselves against the external influence from lobbies. We analyze internal decision mechanisms that are widespread in practice: unanimity or simple majority rule, a hierarchy and an advisory system. Institutions face a trade-off between the quality of information aggregation and the effectiveness of barriers against external influence. We provide a ranking of the different schemes. In high stake decisions, institutions should sacrifice on the quality of information aggregation in order to better protect the decision making process from outside influence.