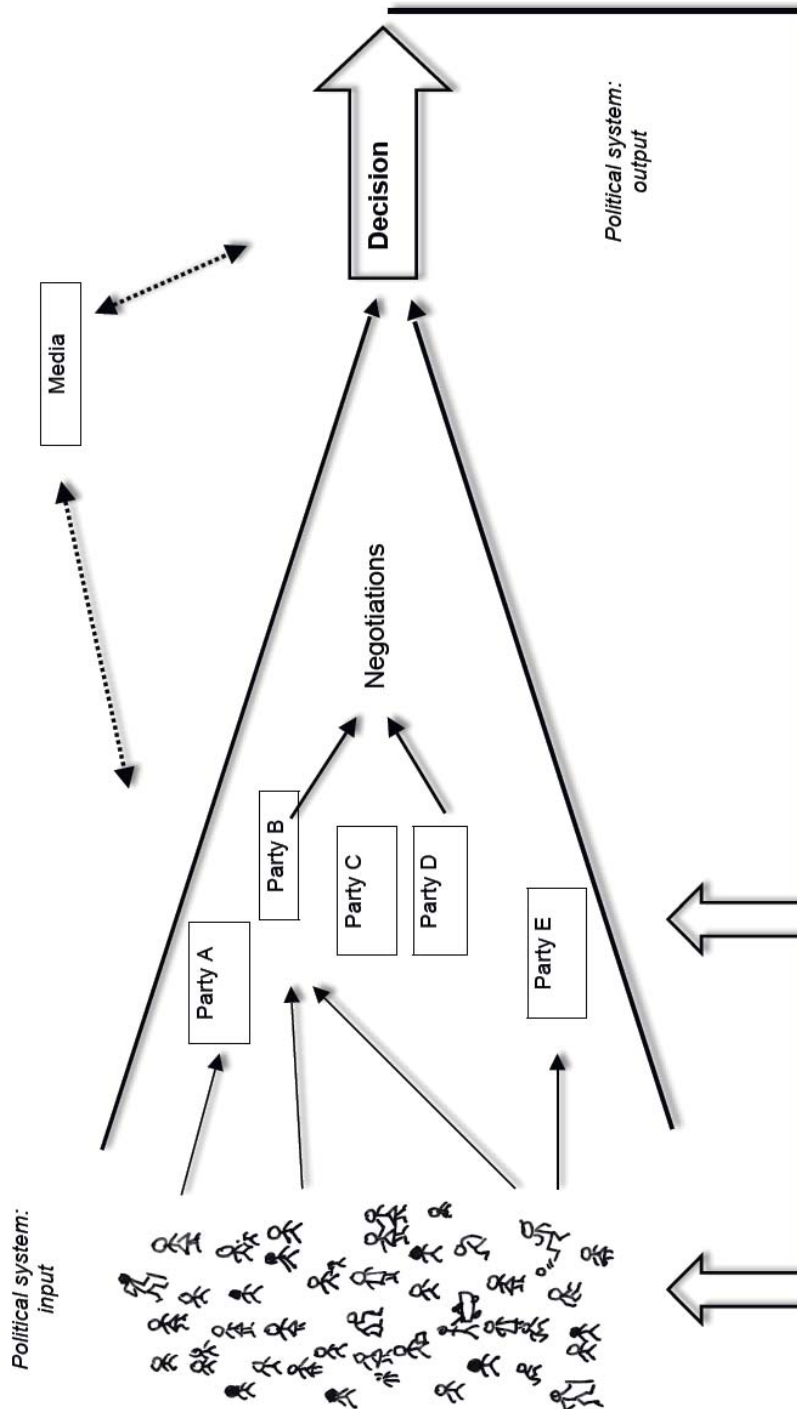


Student handout 3.4

How does a democratic political system handle diversity and pluralism?



All players agree on a framework of rules and principles:

- mutual respect of personal dignity;
- human rights;
- non-violence;
- competition of interests and goals;
- willingness to compromise;
- majority vote;
- the common good is negotiated for, not predefined by any player.

Lesson 1

Individuals articulate widely diverse goals and interests.

Lesson 2

Mediation of interests through representative rule (parties, lobbies or NGOs) or direct rule (referendum).

Lesson 3

The output is a political decision that affects the members of society. Their reaction leads to new inputs.