

# **Engaging Parliamentarians towards a better Enabling Environment for Evaluation (EEE)**

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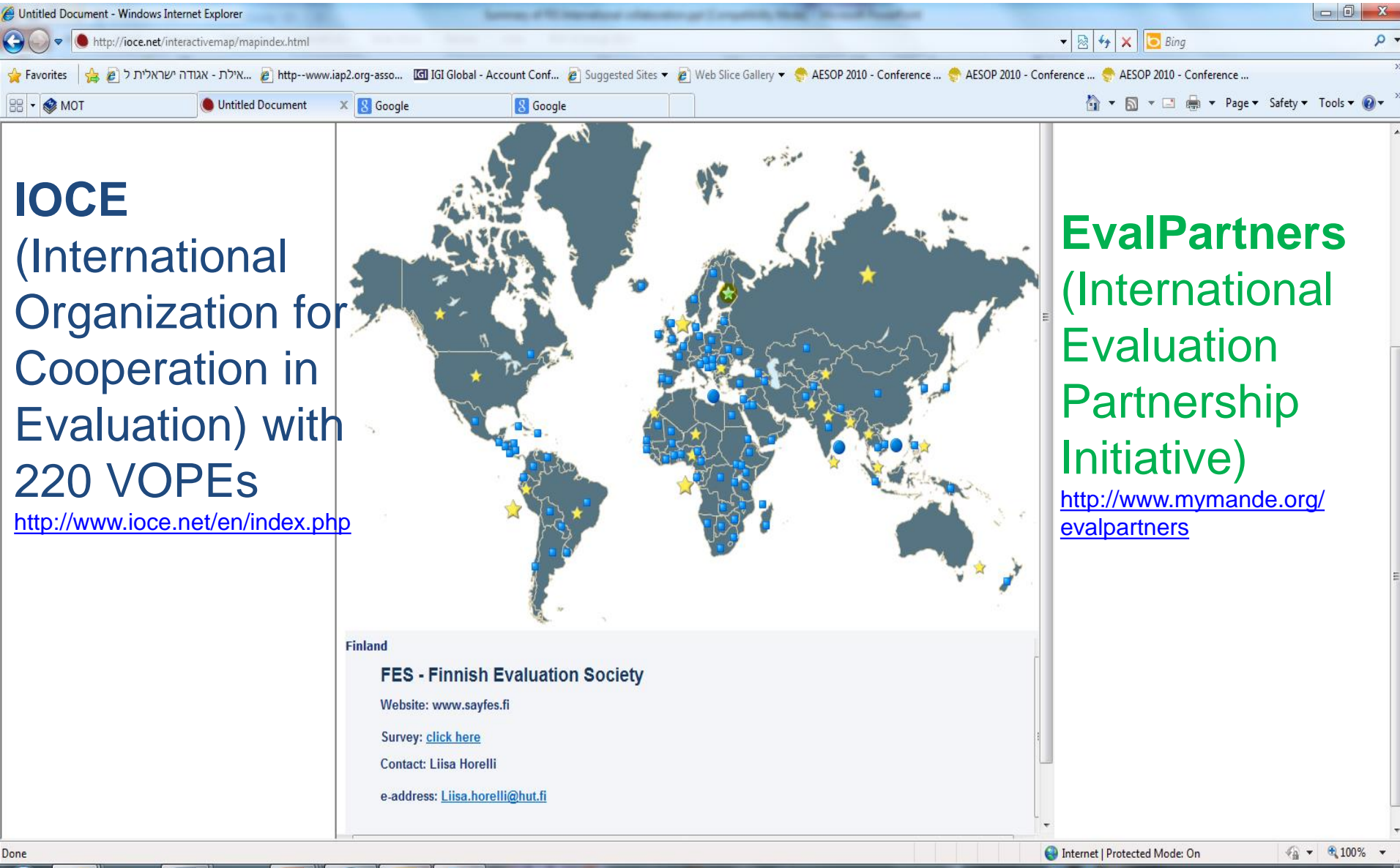
Adjunct professor, Aalto University

CES-conference, Prag 9.6.2015

# Structure of the presentation

- Aim and background of the presentation
- Research questions and methods
- Results
- Conclusions

# International EvalYear 2015



**IOCE**  
(International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation) with 220 VOPEs  
<http://www.ioce.net/en/index.php>

**EvalPartners**  
(International Evaluation Partnership Initiative)  
<http://www.mymande.org/evalpartners>

**Finland**  
**FES - Finnish Evaluation Society**  
Website: [www.sayfes.fi](http://www.sayfes.fi)  
Survey: [click here](#)  
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# Purpose: to enhance the supply and demand side of evaluation through

- Consultations for a Global Evaluation Agenda 2016 – 2020

[http://mymande.org/evalyear/shaping\\_the\\_2016\\_2020\\_global\\_evaluation\\_agenda](http://mymande.org/evalyear/shaping_the_2016_2020_global_evaluation_agenda)

- P2P support programme
- Capacity building, for ex. Vope Toolkit
- Innovation Challenge Competition projects

**“Engaging Parliamentarians for an Evaluation Culture”**

[http://www.mymande.org/evalpartners/evalpartners\\_announces\\_the\\_winners\\_of\\_the\\_innovation\\_challenge](http://www.mymande.org/evalpartners/evalpartners_announces_the_winners_of_the_innovation_challenge)

Horelli (2015) Connections June:

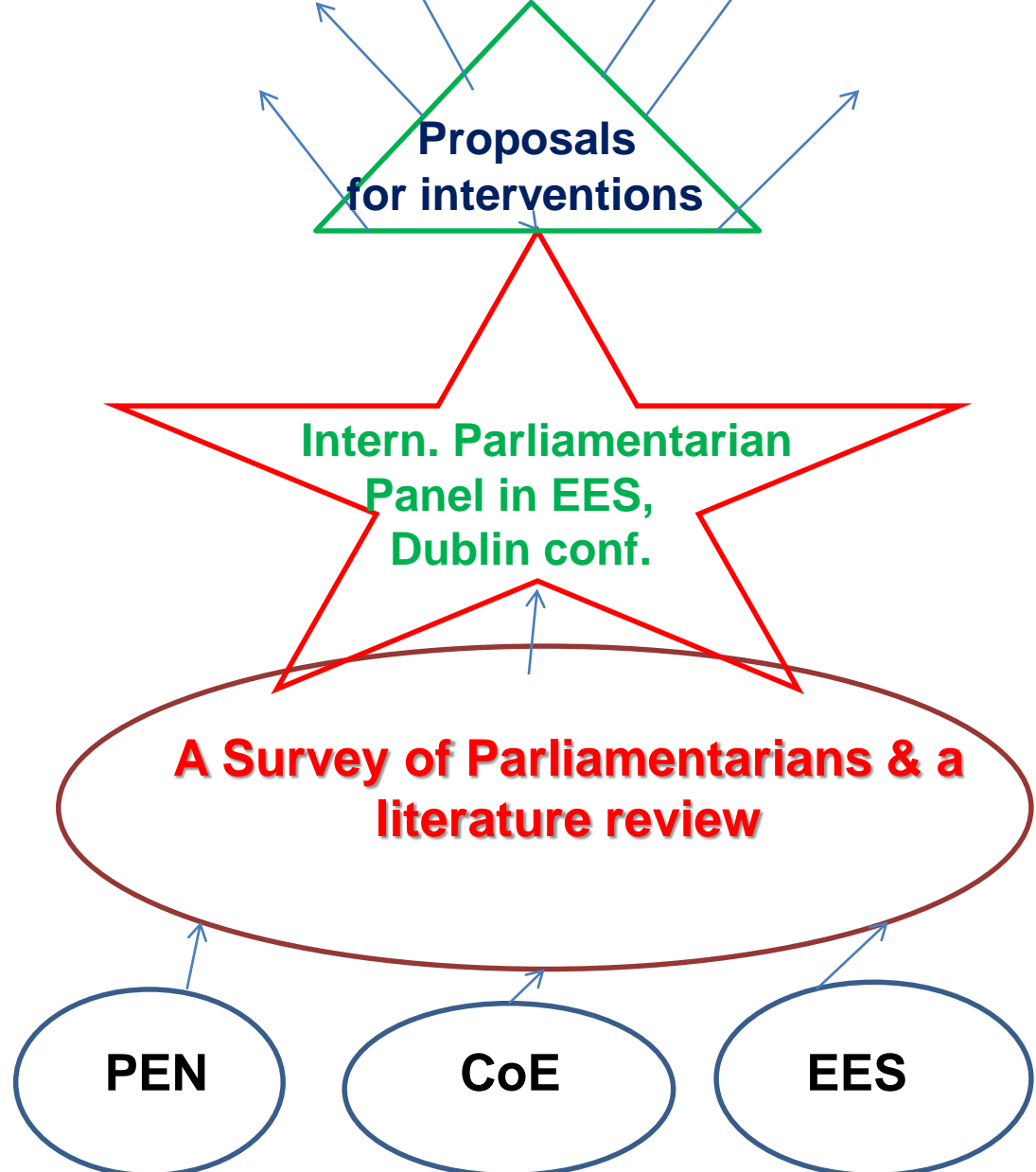
[http://www.europeanevaluation.org/sites/default/files/ees\\_newsletter/ees-](http://www.europeanevaluation.org/sites/default/files/ees_newsletter/ees-newsletter-2015-06-june-r09-)  
[newsletter-2015-06-june-r09-](http://www.europeanevaluation.org/sites/default/files/ees_newsletter/ees-newsletter-2015-06-june-r09-)

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[ees-newsletter-2015-06-june-r09-web\\_0.pdf](http://www.europeanevaluation.org/sites/default/files/ees_newsletter/ees-newsletter-2015-06-june-r09-web_0.pdf)

Engaging the Parliamentarians' strategy:

2015  
2014  
Nov.  
Oct.  
July  
2013  
Nov.

**International EvalYear 2015 Events & Manifestations**



# Research questions

- How to define the basic concepts, for ex. the enabling environment for evaluation (EEE)?
- Why should parliamentarians get involved and what is the role of the Parliament in the creation of the EEE?
- How can the citizen voice be amplified through the EEE?

## Results 1:

### Is the Enabling Environment for Evaluation the same as:

- the National Evaluation culture? (Furubo et al.2002; Jacob et al., 2012)
- the National Evaluation Policy? (Rosenstein, 2013; 2015)
- the National Evaluation System? (Raynolds & Williams, 2013)

# International Atlas on Evaluation Cultures (Furubo et al. 2002; Jacob et al. forthcoming) defined by

## 9 Indicators:

- E. in many domains
- E. in diff. Disciplines
- E. discussions
- National eval. society
- E. by gov. institutions
- E. by Parliament inst
- Pluralism in policies
- E in Supreme Audit institutions
- Impact not juts output

OBS: No citizen voice



## The Lay of the Land in 2012

Table 1: Evaluation culture in 2012

	I. Domains	II. Disciplines	III. Discourse	IV. Profession	V. Inst. - Government	VI. Inst - Parliament	VII. Pluralism	VIII. SAI	IX. Impact	SUM
Australia	1,3	1,7	1,7	2,0	0,7	1,0	1,7	2,0	1,7	13,7
Canada	2,0	2,0	2,0	2,0	1,8	0,8	2,0	1,8	1,8	16,0
Denmark	1,8	1,8	1,8	2,0	1,3	1,0	2,0	1,5	1,3	14,3
Finland	2,0	2,0	1,8	2,0	1,8	1,2	2,0	2,0	1,8	16,6
France	1,6	1,4	1,8	2,0	1,4	1,2	1,2	1,0	1,4	13,0
Germany	1,3	2,0	1,3	1,8	1,0	1,0	2,0	1,3	1,5	13,3
Ireland	1,0	1,3	1,5	1,0	1,0	0,3	1,3	1,0	0,8	9,0
Israel	1,3	1,8	1,0	1,8	1,3	1,0	1,8	1,3	1,3	12,3
Italy	1,7	1,7	1,3	2,0	1,3	0,7	1,0	0,3	0,7	10,7
Japan	2,0	1,8	1,5	1,3	2,0	0,3	1,5	1,3	1,3	12,9
Netherlands	2,0	1,9	1,5	1,8	1,8	1,5	1,8	1,8	1,4	15,3
New Zealand	1,4	1,0	1,4	2,0	1,2	0,6	1,4	1,4	1,2	11,6
Norway	1,9	1,5	1,1	1,8	1,4	0,9	1,8	1,8	1,3	13,5
South Korea	2,0	2,0	1,7	1,7	2,0	1,7	1,7	1,3	1,3	15,3
Spain	1,3	1,8	1,5	2,0	1,3	0,5	1,3	0,3	1,5	11,3
Sweden	1,8	1,6	1,6	1,8	1,8	1,4	1,6	1,7	1,6	14,8
Switzerland	1,8	2,0	1,6	2,0	1,3	2,0	1,8	2,0	2,0	16,4
United Kingdom	2,0	2,0	1,5	2,0	1,5	1,3	2,0	1,8	1,3	15,3
<b>United States</b>	<b>1,6</b>	<b>2,0</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>2,0</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>1,4</b>	<b>1,6</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>15,8</b>
Mean	1,7	1,8	1,5	1,8	1,5	1,0	1,7	1,4	1,4	13,7
Top 3	1,9	2,0	1,8	2,0	1,6	1,3	1,9	1,9	1,9	16,3
Bottom 3	1,3	1,6	1,4	1,7	1,2	0,5	1,2	0,5	1,0	10,3



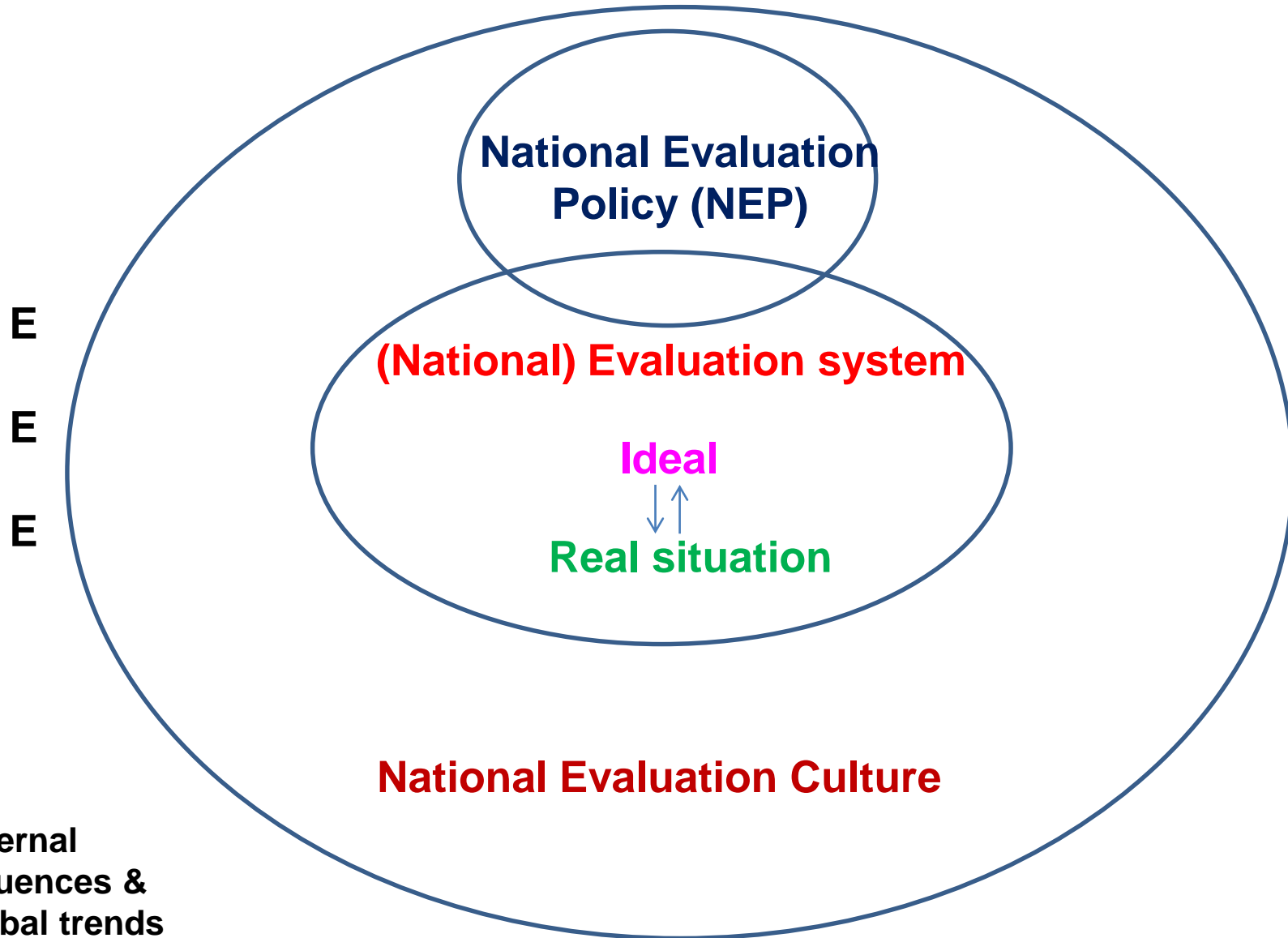
# Mapping the Status of National Evaluation

## Policies (Rosenstein, 2013; 2015)

<http://gendereval.ning.com/forum/topics/parliamentarians-forum-for-development-evaluation-publishes>

- Out of 109 countries 59 have a National evaluation policy or an evaluation practice:
- 17 has a well-established; 12 evolving and 30 a developing one
- NEP is a legislated policy or regulative framework that serves as a basis for evaluation across government agencies?
- Is a NEP necessary for every context or is evaluation readiness/culture more important?

**Enabling Environment for Evaluation is a complex setting for the demand, supply and use of evaluations, conditioned by the NEP & NES, embedded in the national evaluation culture**



## An enabling environment can be characterized by features that are:

- *structural* (NEP, a legal framework, a well-functioning evaluation system, e-units in the parliament)
- *functional* (demand and use of evaluations as a routine in legislation, in debates over policy issues and in oversight)
- *temporal* (more time for debates, slower decision-making)
- *methodological* (more ex-post eval., new methods, simple language).

Results 2:

## **Reasons for parliamentarians to get engaged in an EEE:**

- evidence-based policy
- accountability for the public good
- mechanism for transparency,
- the oversight role of Parliament
- lack of NEP

## Results 2:

# The role of Parliament reflects the maturity of the evaluation culture

- Developing countries stress the oversight function of Parliament through NEP
- Mature evaluation countries mostly opt for a managerial model of evaluation
- Just a few strive for a democratic, deliberative model of evaluation

## Results 3:

# Strengthening the citizen voice through transparency and access

- **Evaluation in Democracy** (transparent, accessible and flexible structures)
- **Democracy in Evaluation** (flexible epistemologies and mixed, empowering methods) (Picciotto,2015)

# Conclusions



- Wicked problems and glocalisation require new roles for all: citizen activism, commissioning innovative agendas, parliamentarians as evaluation infrastructure builders, courageous independent evaluators
- Visions for the Global Parliamentarian Forum to be founded in the Nepal Parliament in November 2015