

02 — Who blocks, and how heavily?

Twelve groups together provide eighty per cent of all blockage against Nova Democratia. The Pareto analysis, applied to political inertia.

The classic Pareto analysis ranks causes by frequency. For a political transition, frequency is meaningless. What counts is drag-weight: the capacity of an inertia-link to halt the transition legally, electorally, or operationally. This is why we work with three weighting factors per inertia-link, multiplied to reach a score between one and one thousand.

Intensity — how fiercely the group resists. Existential loss scores ten, principled discomfort two. Power lever — can the group stop the step legally, electorally, or operationally. Veto power is ten, merely public criticism is two. Endurance — how long can the group block. Institutionally anchored is ten, a one-off campaign is two. These three factors combined yield the inertia score.

The Pareto

What the figures reveal

EU law — it appears to be the largest, but it is a variable

Brussels was assigned nine hundred points in the first calculation based on a power lever score of ten out of ten — veto power. But as episode zero demonstrated, that score only holds as long as the Netherlands accepts the EU frame as a given. Under position B — public order classification of EU regulations — the lever drops to six, and the score to five hundred and forty. Brussels shifts from rank one to rank four.

Unions — the true centre of gravity

Education unions eight hundred and ten, civil service unions eight hundred. Together with NPO-journalism, they form a syndicated block of two thousand two hundred and forty points. Yet most important is their character: three distinct blockages across phases one, two, and five, with high endurance. No clever trick can resolve that. It requires sequencing, collective bargaining timing, and compensation. Brussels is a wall, the unions are a swamp.

Parties — resistance in two places

Incumbent parties score in phase zero (six hundred and forty-eight on the right to exist) and phase three (eight hundred and ten on agenda monopoly) — together one thousand four hundred and fifty-eight points. It is the only inertia-link that scores highly in two places. The implication: without its own electoral vehicle for Nova Democratia, the transition is hopeless. No existing party has the incentive to carry this — party democracy is relativised by Nova Democratia into an instrument, no longer the foundation.

Twelve groups provide eighty per cent of the drag-weight. All strategic energy must be directed there.

What a weighted Pareto reveals

The method is deliberately engineering-like. Not to stifle criticism, but to enable the formulation of strategy. Whoever weighs all inertia equally plans poorly. Whoever measures only frequency forgets the power lever. Whoever measures only the power lever forgets endurance. Only the combination of all three provides a workable prioritisation.

The next episode shows what public order classification does to these figures. The answer is surprisingly powerful: the total drag-weight can be halved without a single substantive argument having been contested.

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