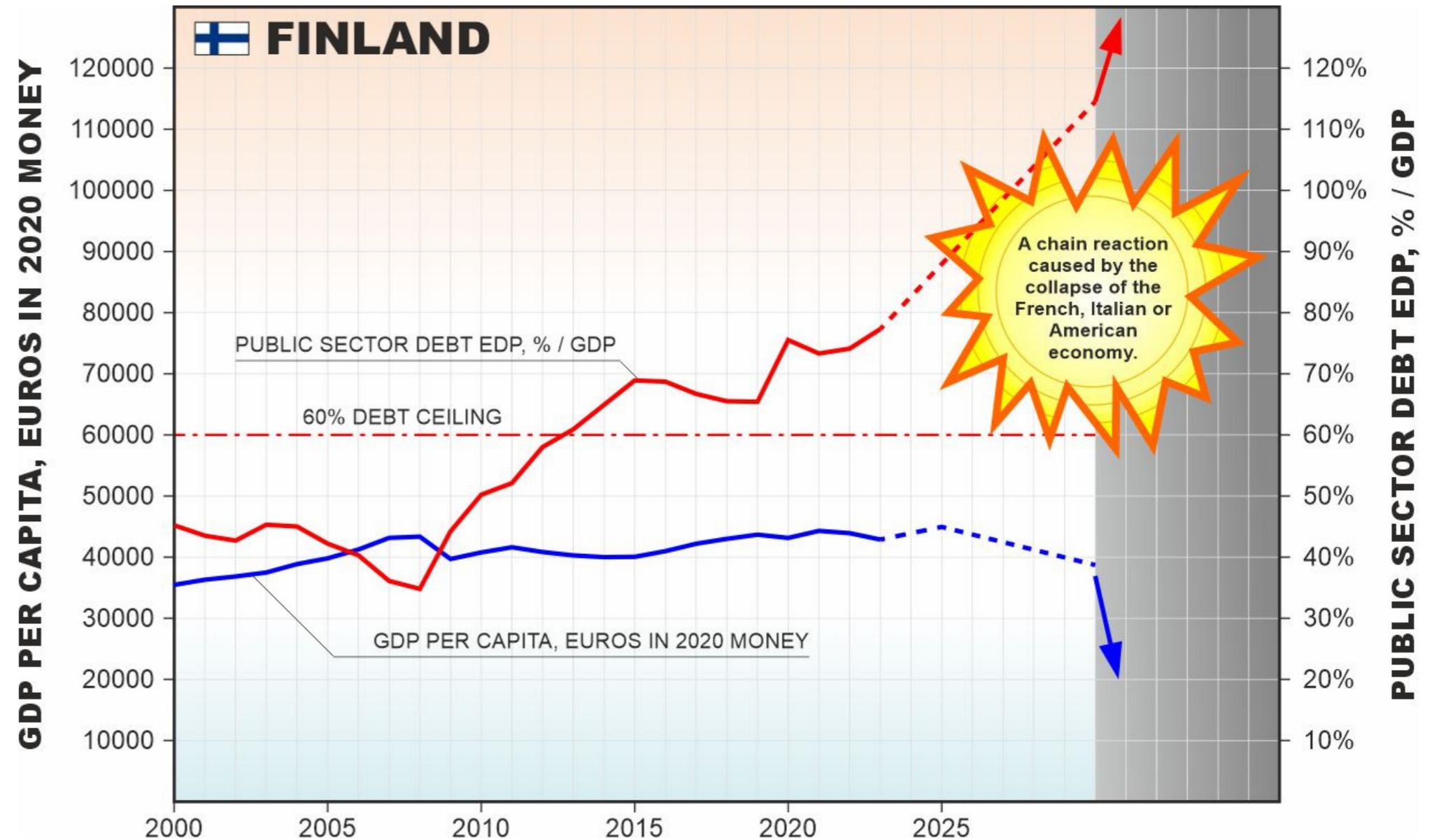


Core of the rot – Why Finland and the eurozone are sinking

- Finland and other eurozone countries boast of being “justice societies” with sustainable development
- Yet their economies and competitiveness are degrading
- The standard of living has so far been maintained with debt now spiralling out of control.

What is the problem ?



The new reality

Finland and Europe have cultivated land, industrialized, built infrastructure and waged wars without serious environmental problems apart from climate change. Now the bureaucracy sees problems everywhere.

- There is an explosion of environmental regulations and their interpretations.
- Attempts of new developments, even trivial, have to go through ever more extensive environmental impact assessments.
- Permitting processes have become lengthy and unpredictable.
- Expensive conditions are attached to investment projects.

As a consequence, there is an investment drought in Finland and the eurozone. Projects that do go through often need political support and subsidies.



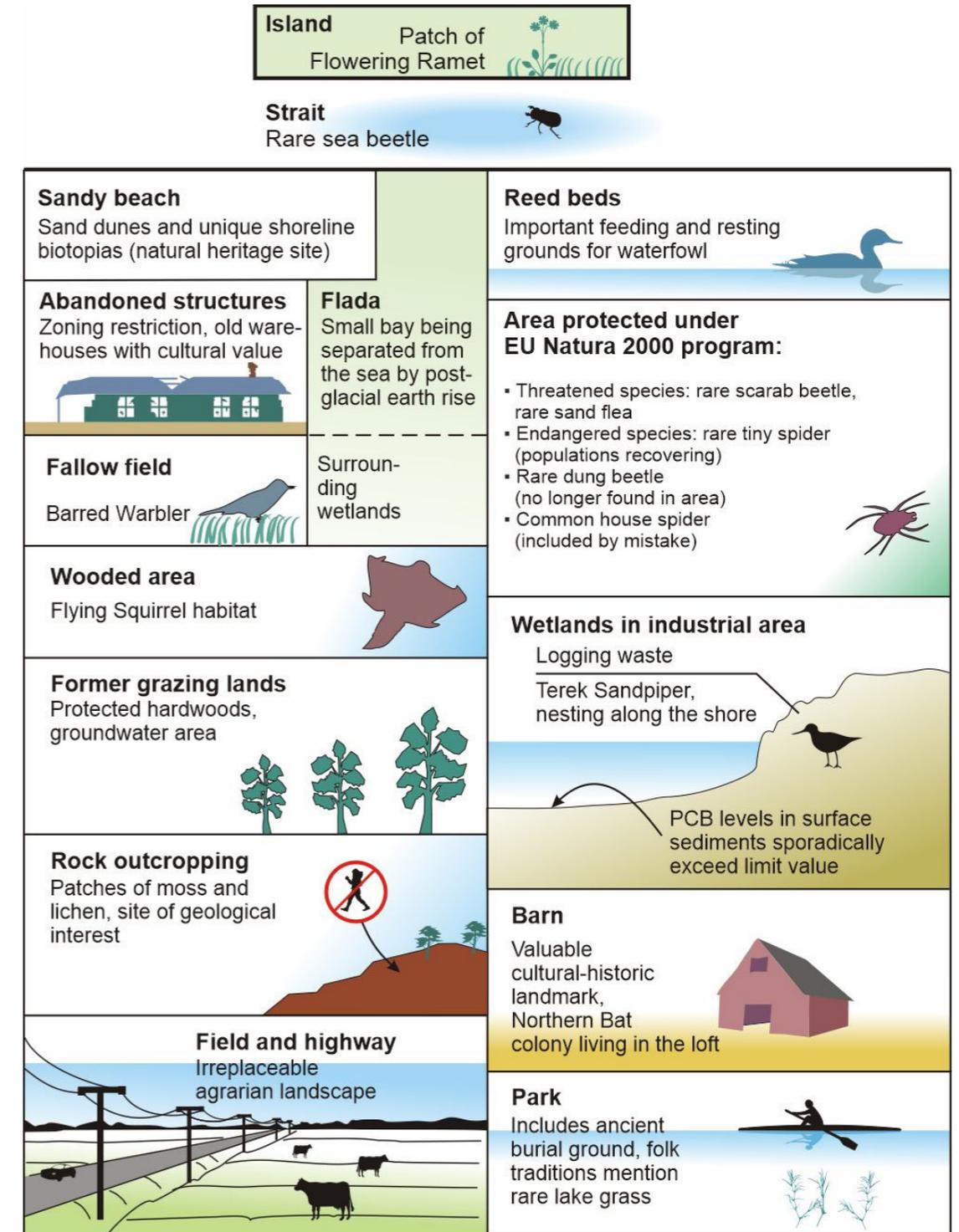
Details hampering investment projects

Actual examples of natural details used to block or slow down investments. Coping with this kind of problems, even if successful, may take years and cost millions, or even billions of euros.

But environment is a huge dynamic and robust system. Fluctuations of natural conditions, availability of nutrition, diseases and climate change dominate.

These kinds of countless details are everywhere but have no significance in the big picture.

Question: Where is rationality and justice?
Answer: This is not about rationality and justice. This is about power.



Power theory

Weber:

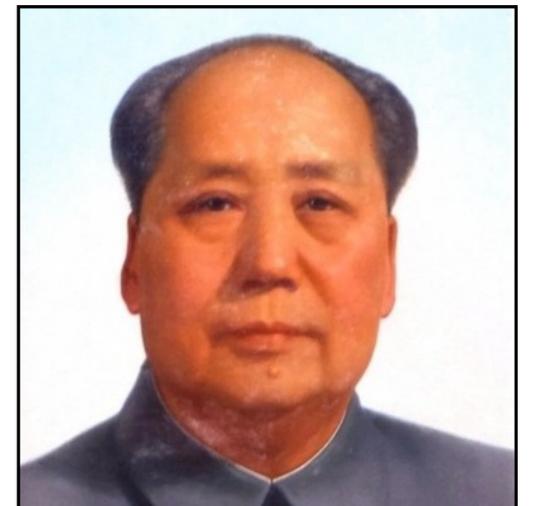
Power is the possibility of imposing one's will upon the behaviour of other people. Mankind is caught up in an eternal struggle for power.

Galbraith:

State bureaucracy has tendency to make the state an instrument of its own purposes. It uses consign power (stick) compensatory power (carrot) and conditional power (possibility to change beliefs) eg in alliance with the media

Mao:

Power grows out of the barrel of the gun



People have a will to power but power corrupts.

“Justice society”

In 1984 the US Supreme Court made a ruling that federal courts had to refer to a regulatory agency so long as interpretation of the law seemed to be a “permissible construction of the statute”. This gave power to bureaucrats in charge of environmental matters. The case (Chevron) has recently been overturned by the US Supreme Court.

In Finland the previous ruling was adopted with open arms and interpreted to mean that the bureaucracy knows what law means.

Bureaucratic elites choose the highest judges for their own protection and power extension. This has further advanced the bureaucratic cause at the expense of administrative subordinates.

In a totalitarian state power decides what law means. In a true justice society interpretation of the law is made by a court that is impartial.



Media and freedom of speech

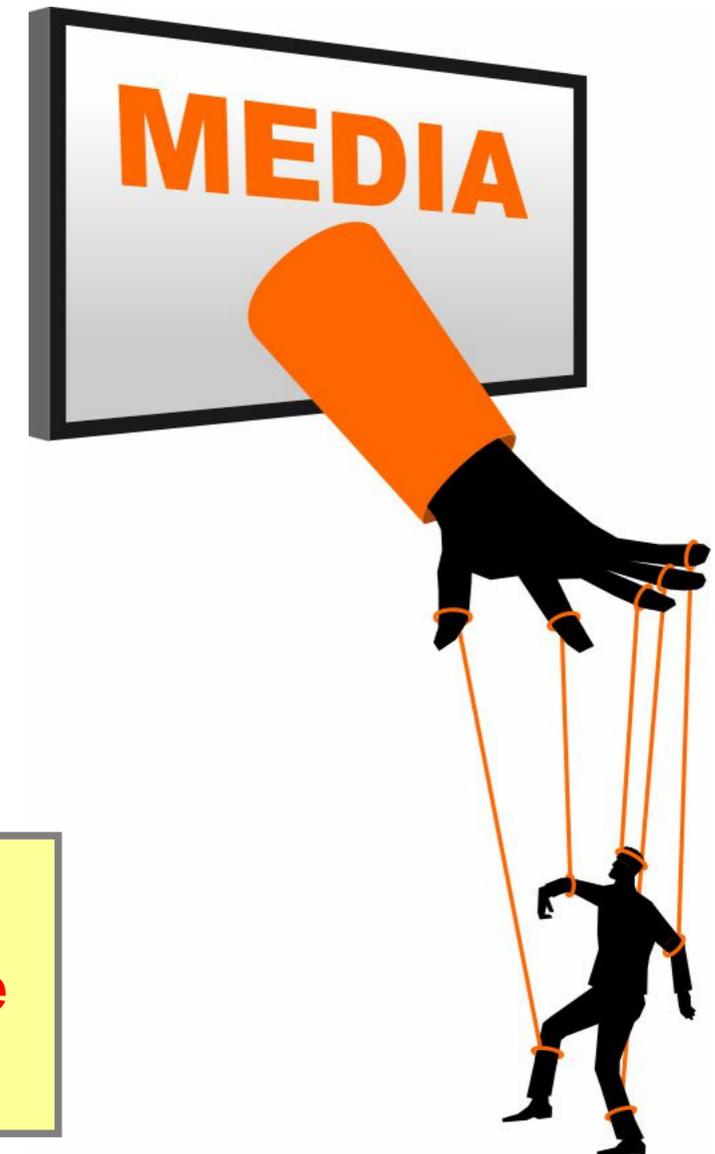
“The truth is that there is ideology in journalism. Our stories overwhelmingly tend to cluster around the same narrow set of political and moral assumptions about how the world should be run.”

Nick Davies, an award-winning British journalist

The urban media elite routinely uses the following manipulation strategy to support the ecobureaucratic power structure:

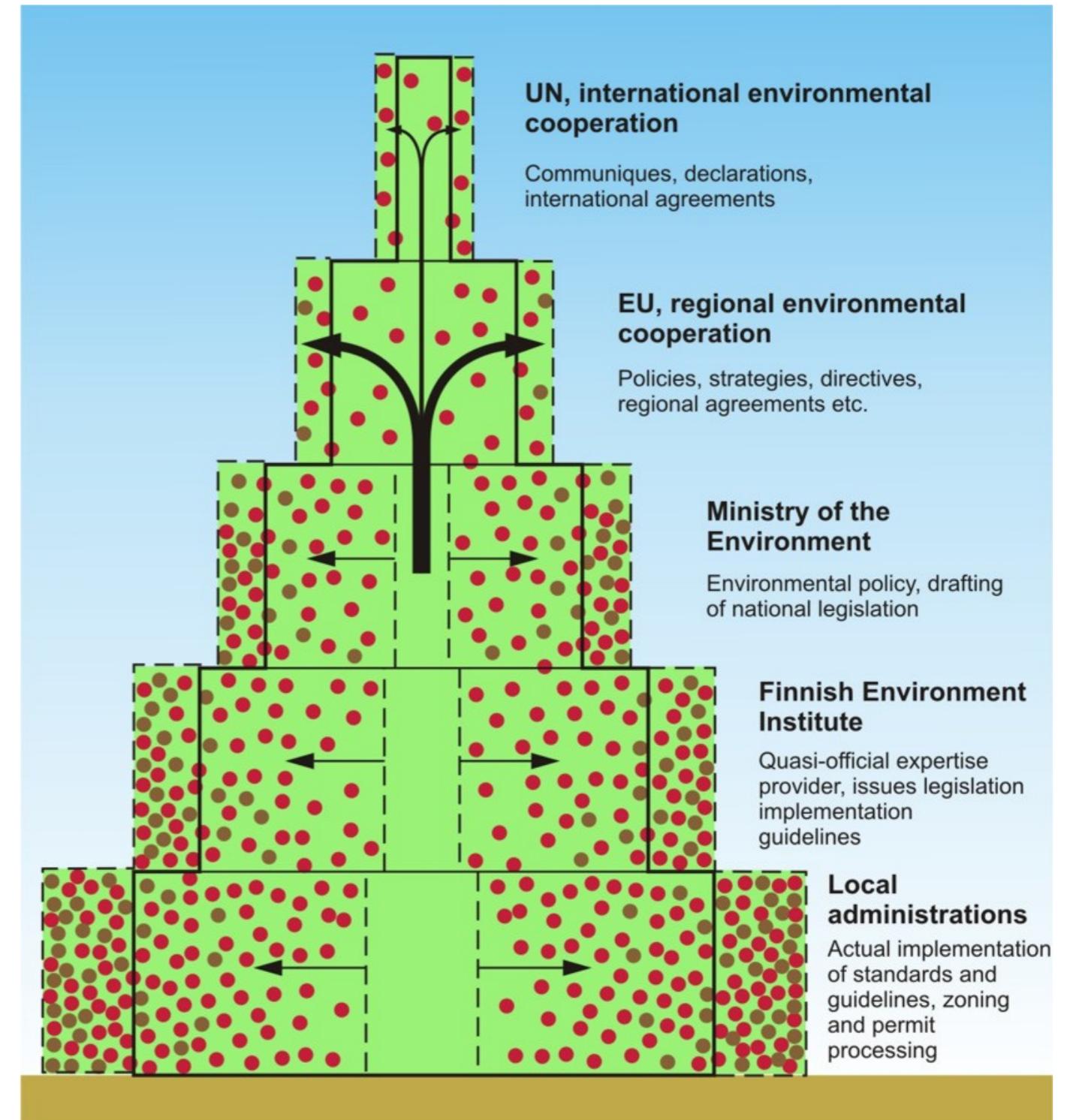
- Forget all rationality and proportionality
- Focus on a single fact taken out of the big picture
- Seek support from the likeminded in the academic elite
- Deliver guilt and shame
- Block experts with different facts and views from media
- If you can't block them, label them extremists or nuts

For the urban power media freedom of speech means that it has the right to pursue its political agenda, but others do not have the right to criticize that, even in state media financed by the people.



The growing pyramid of ecobureaucratic power

- The urban ecobureaucratic elite pushes it's own "fantastic" ideas to the international level.
- There the likeminded bureaucrats adopt these ideas and turn them in to strategies, agreements, directives and regulations.
- When these come back to local level bureaucratic interpretations and guidelines are attached to them and reinforced by the courts and the media.
- Administrative subordinates of the environmental bureaucracy are increasingly showered with acts of power and arbitrariness.



The barrel of the gun

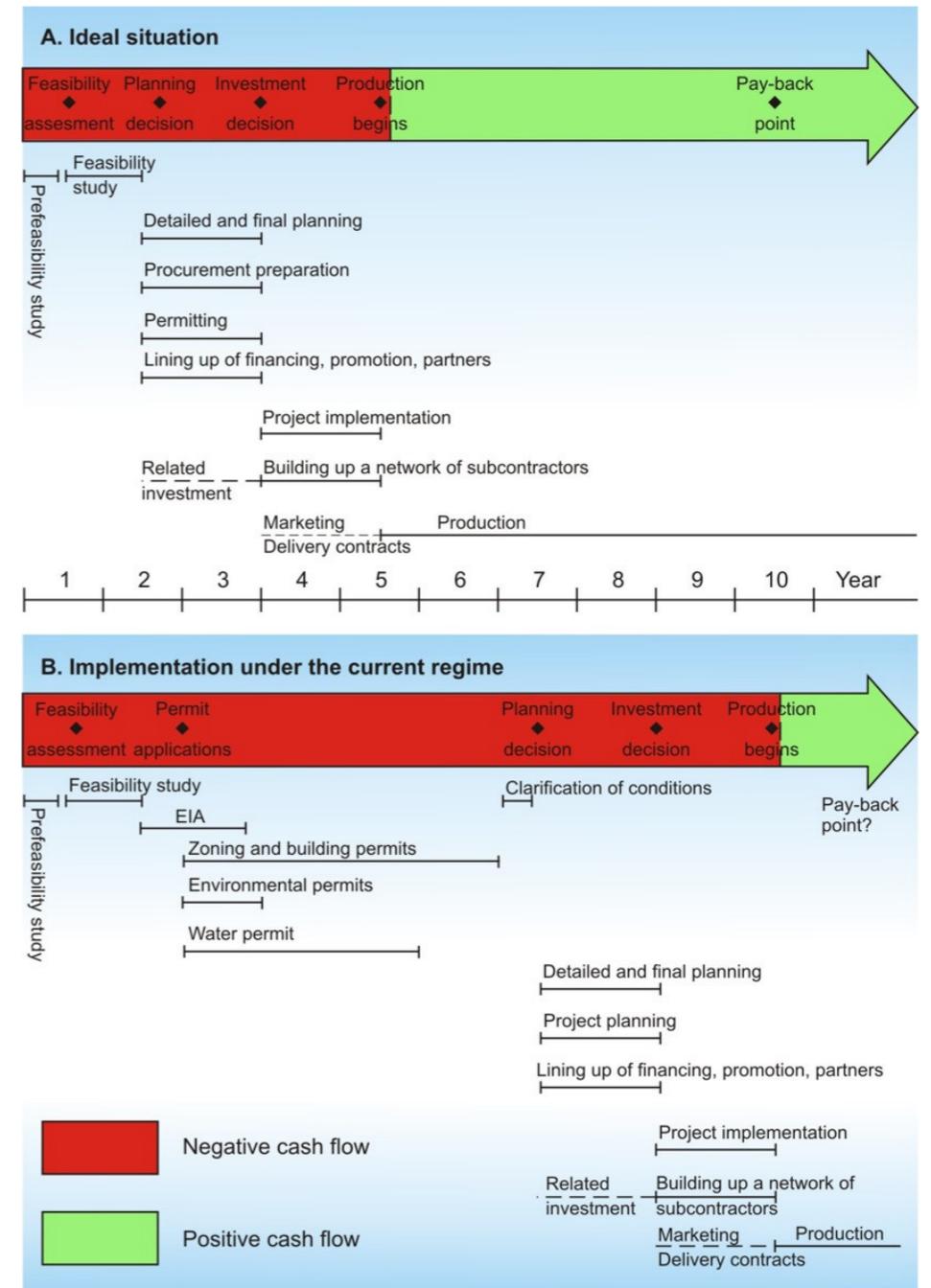
Ability to sink investment projects into a limbo of never-ending permitting process without any accountability is the principal source of ecobureaucratic power.

Being able to select which projects proceed and which do not, gives ecobureaucrats an irresistible force to pursue their own political goals.

Long permitting processes, uncertainty on the outcome and unfair permit conditions do not encourage investment activity.

European industries have not been able to grab business opportunities travelling in time, renew their structures and improve competitiveness.

This problem is at the core of social and economic decline of Europe.



Effect of the permitting process on the implementation schedule of an industrial investment project. Ideal and current scenarios.

Consolidated version: Treaty on European Union and the treaty establishing the European Community

The Union shall establish an internal market. It shall work for the sustainable development of Europe based on balanced economic growth and price stability, a highly competitive social market economy, aiming at full employment and social progress, and a high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment.

- General justice principles like proportionality principle are higher legislation
- There is a legal basis to crush baseless and harmful ecobureaucratic power structures

In a democracy power resides with the people. Do we want to sink our jobs, retirement benefits and wellbeing into ecobureaucratic power structures or do we seek balance between the legal goods above?