

# Table of contents

1	Introduction.....	13
2	Citizens and democracy .....	23
2.1	Citizens' role in democracy .....	25
2.2	On competence, rationality and reasoning .....	33
2.3	Democracy and equality .....	48
2.4	Conclusion .....	52
3	Political participation and political information: what drives it, how can it matter? .....	55
3.1	Participation: What drives it, why does it matter? .....	56
3.2	Information: what is needed and what difference does it make? .....	65
3.3	Low turnout and information: when it matters.....	72
4	The unresolved democratic dilemma: Information, cues, and ignorance.....	78
4.1	Is there a low information rationality? .....	78
4.2	Information replaced by shortcuts and cues? .....	81
4.3	Findings: Heuristics and cues versus information.....	85
4.4	Conclusion .....	95
5	Levels and determinants of knowledge and participation .....	97
5.1	Levels of participation and information .....	98
5.2	Social determinants of participation and information .....	114
5.3	Conclusion .....	125
6	Participating and being informed: does it make a difference? .....	129
6.1	Does participation and information make a difference in values and issues? .....	130
6.2	Outcome differences in relation to levels of turnout and information: a multivariate approach.....	143
6.3	Turnout and information effects in popular votes .....	152
6.4	Determinants of participation and information effects.....	163
6.5	Conclusion .....	167

7	Mobilisation, demobilisation and political outcomes.....	171
7.1	How to explain electoral volatility.....	171
7.2	The political consequences of mobilisation and demobilisation.....	186
7.3	Conclusion .....	218
8	Conclusion .....	221
9	Appendix.....	233
10	Bibliography .....	237