

# "Prosumers" - Responsibility and Democracy

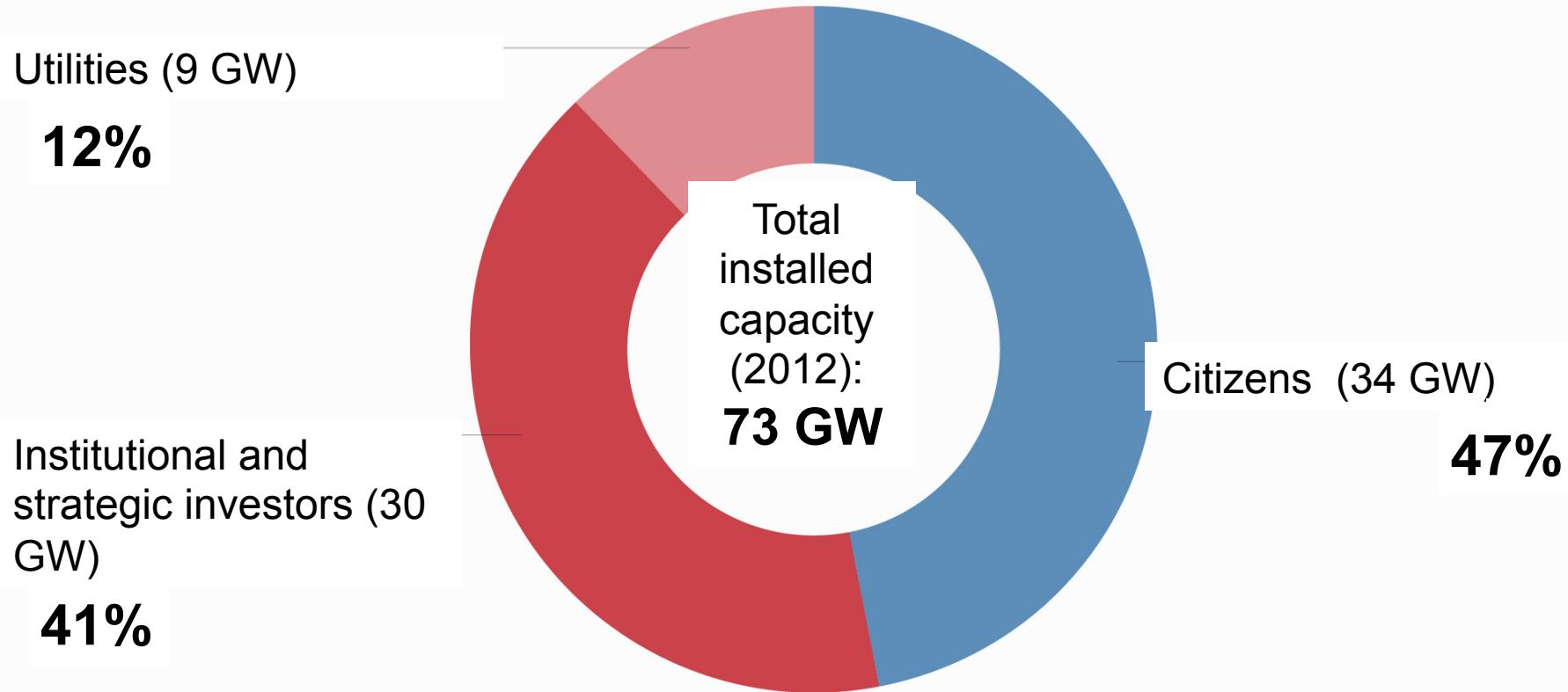


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**Room Prigogine**  
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# Renewable Electricity in the Hand of Citizens (Germany)



the electricity sector is in the middle of a strong transition towards more diverse and decentralised ownership.  
Is this citizen co-ownership necessarily more democratic and will it lead to a broader public acceptability?

## Pro and Contra

- Pro:
  - power not any longer centralised in the hand of a few utilities;
  - commitment of many citizens (directly or via co-operation) /ready to take responsibility
  - not any longer wars about energy - war is the biggest enemy of democracy
  - empowerment of citizens and decentralised value creation;
- Contra:
  - Can everybody afford to participate ?
  - Is this part of a bigger trend of systemic undermining of solidarity?: The rich (industry, individuals) pay for their own infrastructure - the (relatively) poor have to pay or are excluded from fundamental services.

Decentralised energy will play a much stronger role in the future - pro democracy means: decentralisation **and** responsibility for system

# Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit!

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