

The Totalitarian Rubric*

to determine whether you live in a totalitarian dictatorship

This rubric had been developed to determine if and to what extend you are living in a totalitarian dictatorship because that we live in a democracy is not that evident as it might seem. This rubric is based on an analysis of Hannah Arendt's *Totalitarianism* named *What is Totalitarian Dictatorship?* By Eef Veldkamp. From Arendt's

Totalitarianism one can distillate 'totalitarian traits' which you will find in this rubric. Are the most of the results of the questions located at the red side of the rubric, it means chances are significant that you are living in a totalitarian dictatorship. This rubric can be used for the following subjects: your family, your work or the society.

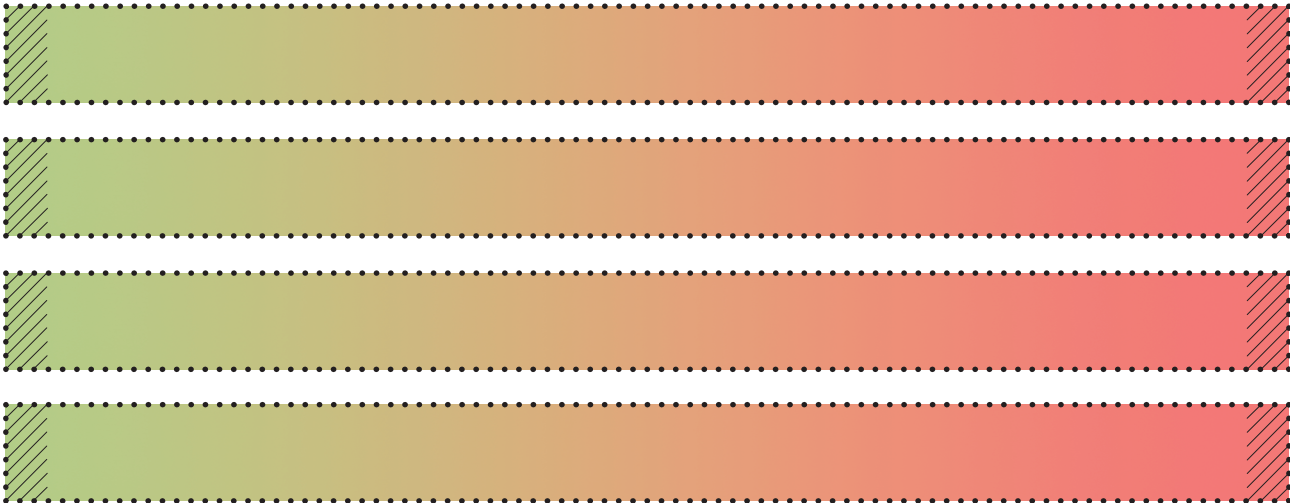


Colour the average colour here.

The ideology (of the chosen subject)

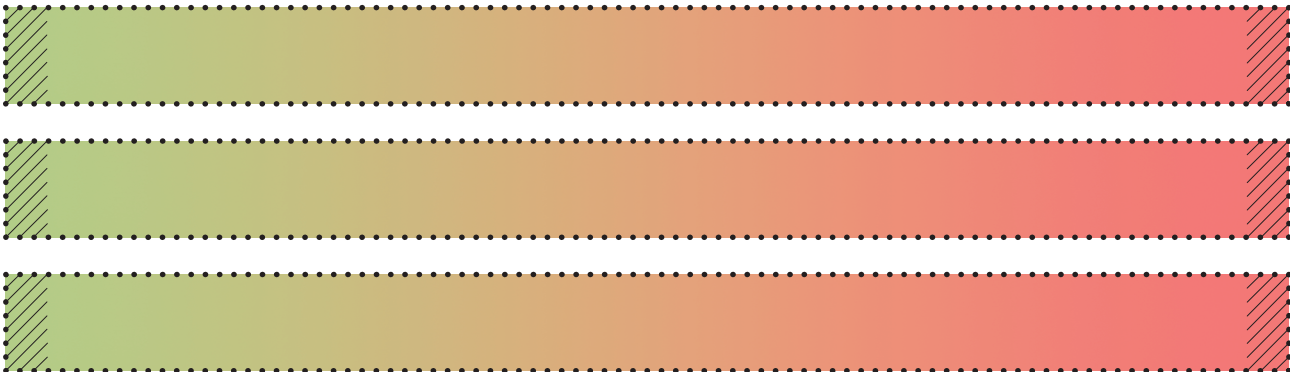


- 1.1 Ideology aims at world domination, in whatever form: as an idea, belief or by transforming reality to fit it.
- 1.2 The ideology presents itself as a "natural law", an "absolute truth" or as the "history" and corroborates this with "evidence" (propaganda).
- 1.3 Ideology concerns everything, the whole of reality, but also transcends it; the ideology is more than mere reality.
- 1.4 Within ideology there is no hard distinction between fact and fiction, true and false which flow fluently into one another. This is enforced with terror.



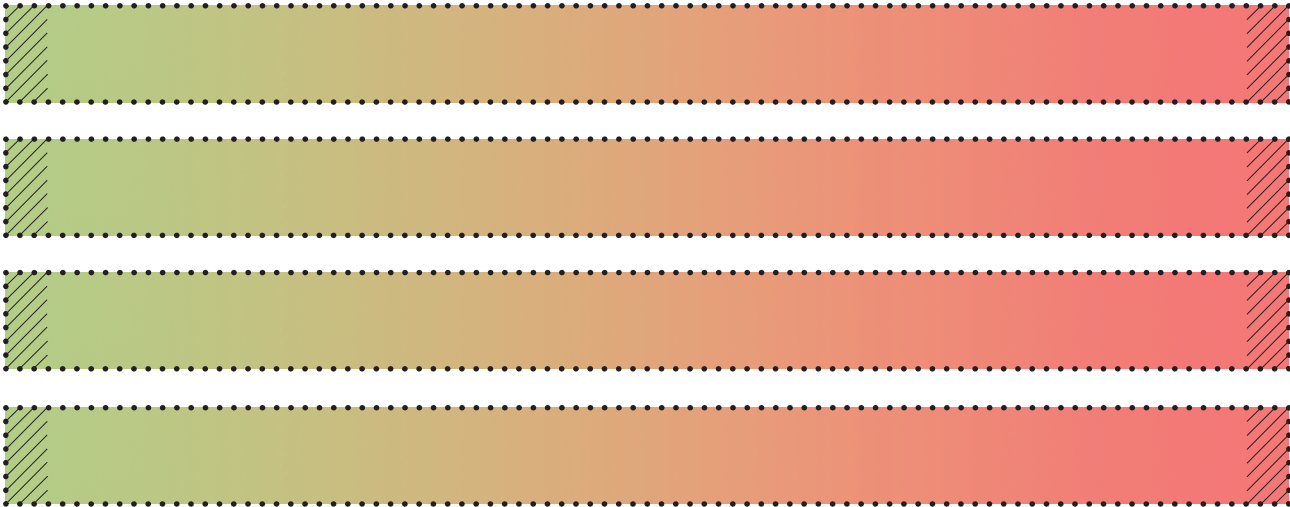
The movement

- 2.1 The movement aims to keep moving and changing. This also applies to its organisation: members, activities, programmes, faculties.
- 2.2 The movement is formless: it is not clear to anyone where and when power lies, let alone why and whom exactly has what power over it.
- 2.3 The movement is reflexive, it eventually destroys itself because the movement of the movement leads nowhere, and thus bites itself in its tail.



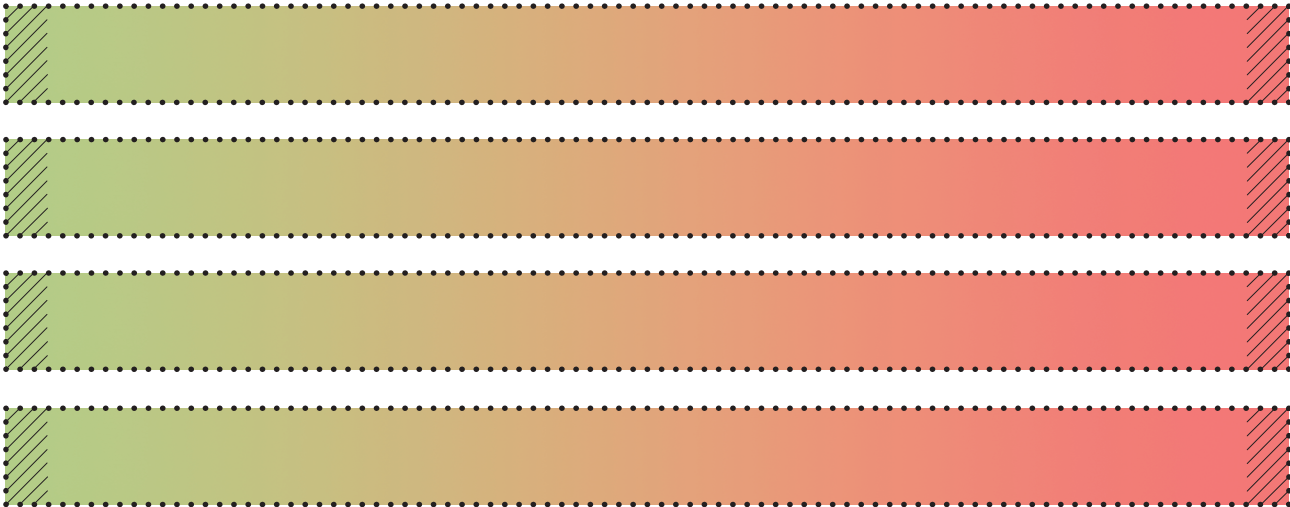
The leader

- 3.1 The leader is "merely" the functionary of the masses: he/she carries out the so-called "will" of the masses. He/she is the messiah of ideology.
- 3.2 The leader is a "totalitarian paradox": leader and subjects are one, but the subjects are also subjected to the leader.
- 3.3 The leader is not in the seat of power: here sits the ideology. Of the ideology he/she is the interpreter, orator and executor.
- 3.4 The leader is not a power-hungry tyrant, but he/she is negligible and 'atomised': alone in the masses. Ideology comes first, the leader accepts this.



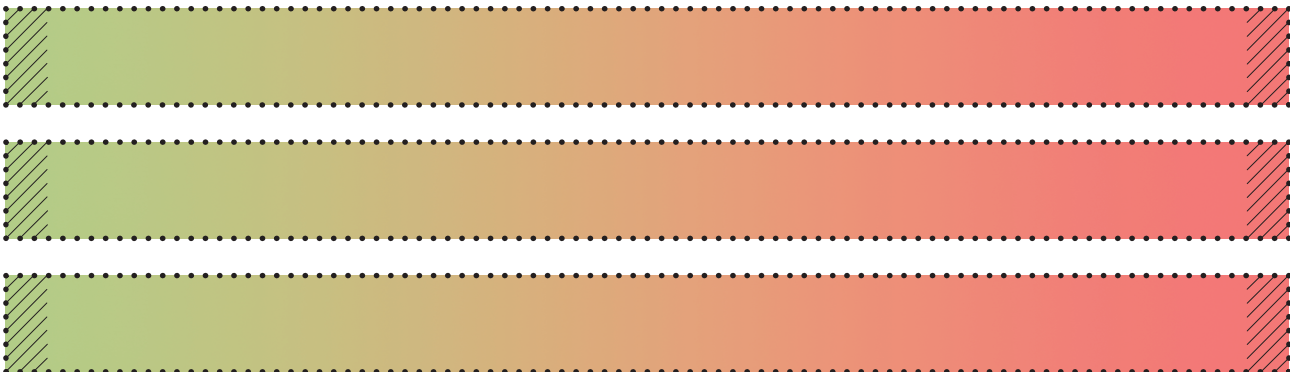
The state apparatus

- 4.1 The state apparatus implements the ideology in reality but is doomed to fail because reality is inconsistent with it and therefore does so through terror and propaganda.
- 4.2 The state apparatus is chaos yet there is no spontaneity. The endless "doubling of state services" makes it unclear where power lies and who is responsible for what.
- 4.3 In the state apparatus, the highest public power lies with the police. Aggression is therefore often directed inwards within the state, instead of outwards.
- 4.4 The state apparatus is so formless that it takes a sixth sense to know whom to obey. It breeds fear, also because the state apparatus is unreliable.



The mass(es)

- 5.1 The masses are suffering from a "majority complex": a will for a quantitative majority; for mandate, and within that echo tunnel they maintain the ideology.
- 5.2 The masses are the sum of radically socialized, atomized individuals. There reigns "desolation". Although a 'mass', there is no togetherness.
- 5.3 The masses eventually oppress themselves. Without their collective belief in the ideology, totalitarian dictatorship does not exist.



* By determining whether the traits are present (red) or not (green) and placing a cross at the determined location between both the rubric eventually offers an insight in the totalitarian character of society. Colour the average colour in the box in the right top corner. Based on: Veldkamp, Eef. (2017)

"Wat is totalitaire dictatuur?" Dissertation. Nijmegen: Radboud University. Which is an analysis of: Arendt, Hannah. (1951). *Totalitarisme*. Translated by R. Peeters en R. De Schutter. Meppel: Uitgeverij Boom. 2014. For more supportive information see this analysis.

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Your result offers a valuable insight in the totalitarian state of the subject you used in this rubric. By filling in this form and sending it to us we hope to in the end offer

a reflection on the totalitarian state of the whole society. Subjects as family of work also contribute to the reflection on society and its social institutions.

Your analysis

What is the subject you used in your analysis? (society, your work or your family)

samenleving / werk / gezin

How do you feel about the subject you used, apart from the result of this rubric?

Do you have any comments about your analysis?

Personalia

What is your name?

What is your profession?

What is your age?

Contact information

What is your address?

What is your email address?

What is your phone number?

Additional

Do you have any other comments?

U kunt uw analyse inleveren bij De Balie of opsturen naar:

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^{*} Obviously, we will be careful with your analysis and data. Your personal data will not be published, shared or sold. We will keep you updated on the progress of this research through an email service from which you can also unsubscribe. In the case of any form of publication we will notify you. In this

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