



## COST ACTION CONSTITUTION-MAKING AND DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY

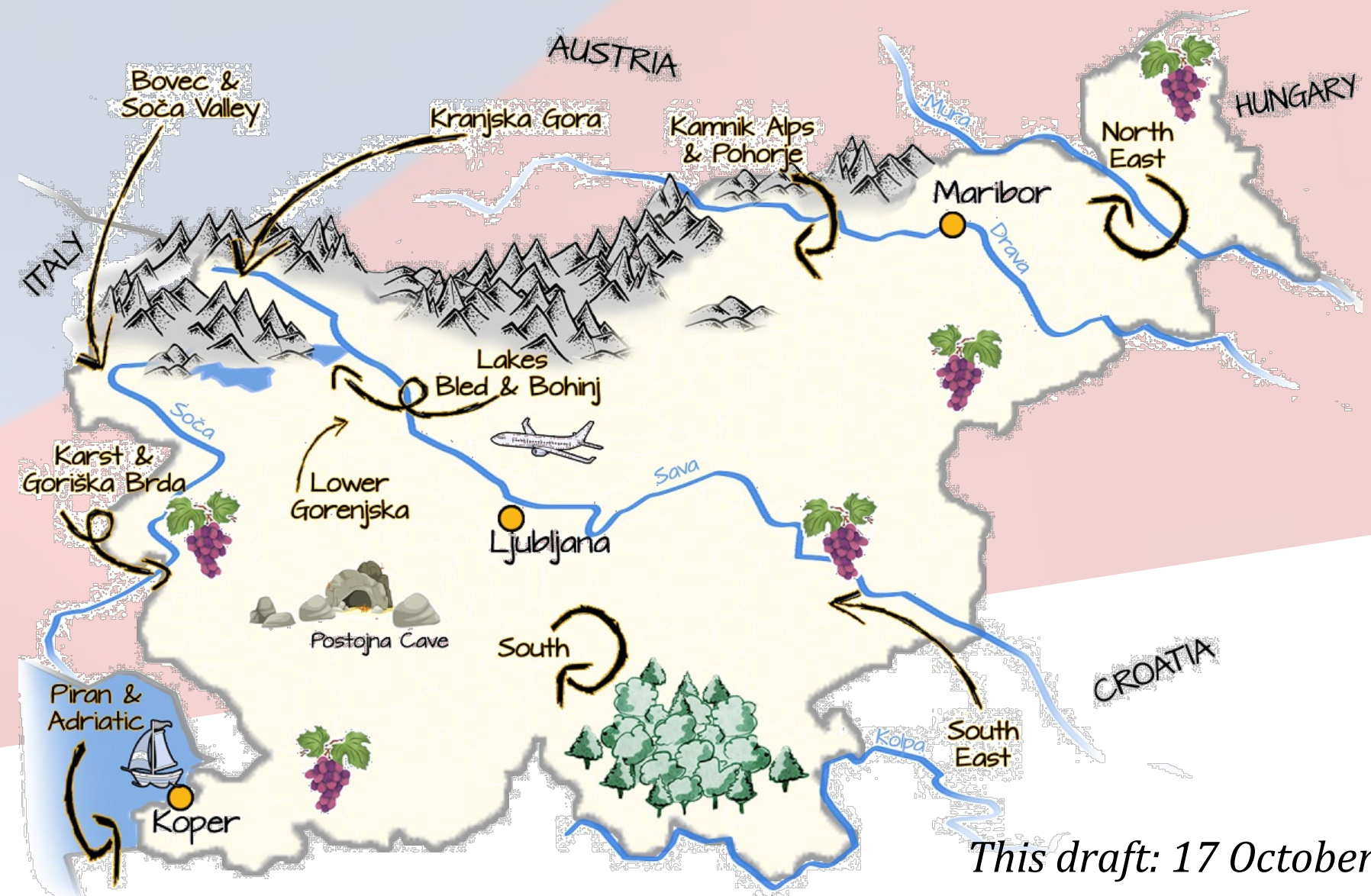
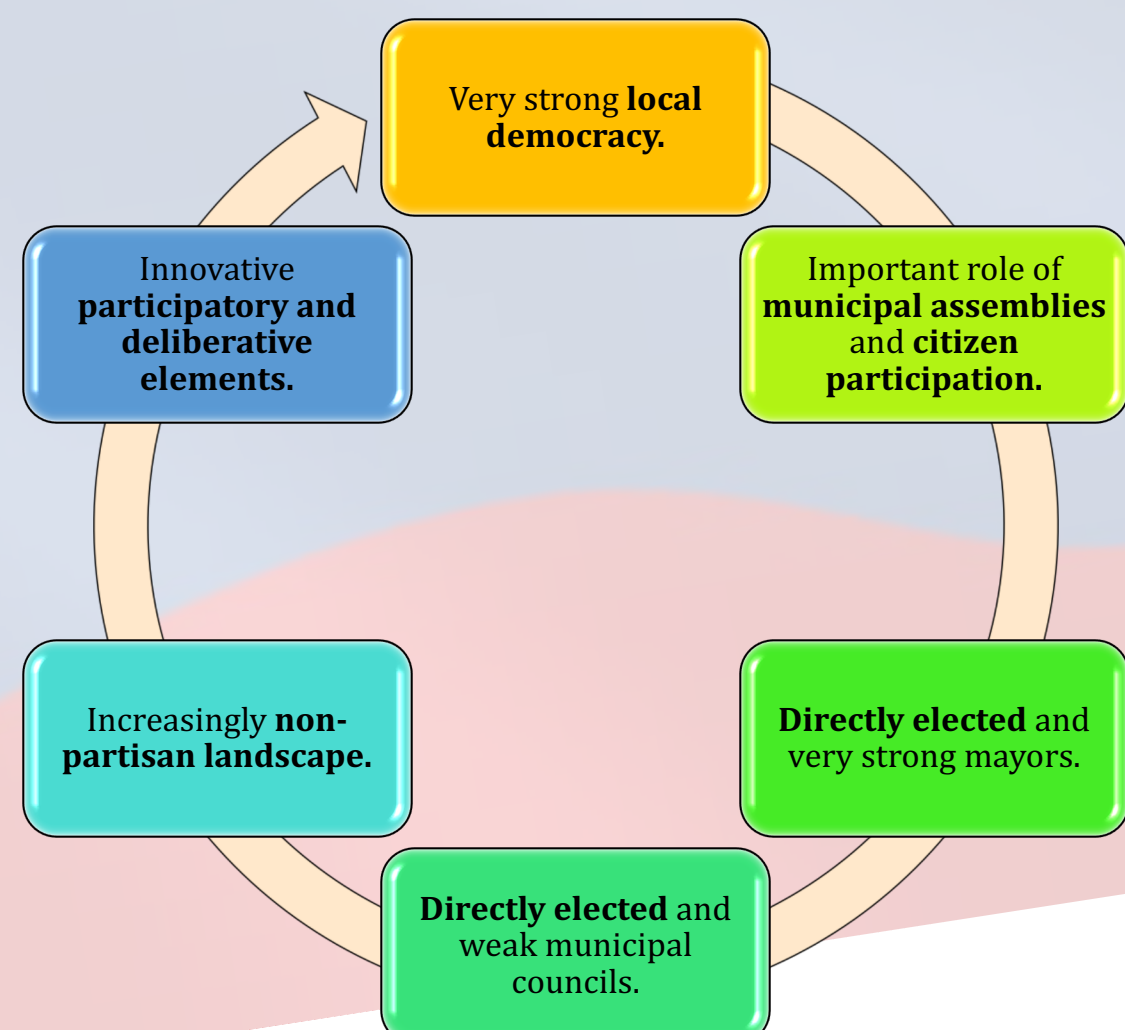
# SLOVENIA



**Slovenia is so-called new democracy, born after dissolution of former Yugoslavia, but today a consolidated *representative* democracy with short, 28-year long tradition**

- Referendums are allowed, both on **national** and **local** levels of government,
- Referendums can be **constitutional, legislative** or **consultative**,
- Total of **21 national referendums from 1996 to 2019**, some with important consequences,
- Especially rich tradition of legislative referendums, that were used both as policy instruments or as political weapons against the ruling coalitions,
- Change in referendum related 99<sup>th</sup> article of the Constitution (2013) → couple of new limitations to the referendums on the national level - only 40,000 citizens can henceforth request it, but not also thirty MPs or the National Council as before 2013. Referendum is also not possible to be requested on laws, which have implications on public finances and the human rights.
- Very weak deliberation on the national level, often used just as part of the formal procedure with very little outcome. Stronger and more often used on the local level of government.
- Only **parliamentarians** can revise the Constitution, but any constitutional change can also be subject to the constitutional referendum (if demanded by 30 MPs),
- **Seven constitutional revisions** from 1991 to 2019 (16 articles changed or added),
- Key role of political parties – coalition governments, often quite weak and difficult to manage.

### ▪ **One-tier** local government system:



This draft: 17 October 2019