

# #Basque & #Iceland #Connection

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## University of Iceland, Reykjavik

14:00

27th September 2013.

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**N.- Open Discussion: #Connection?**

**\*References**

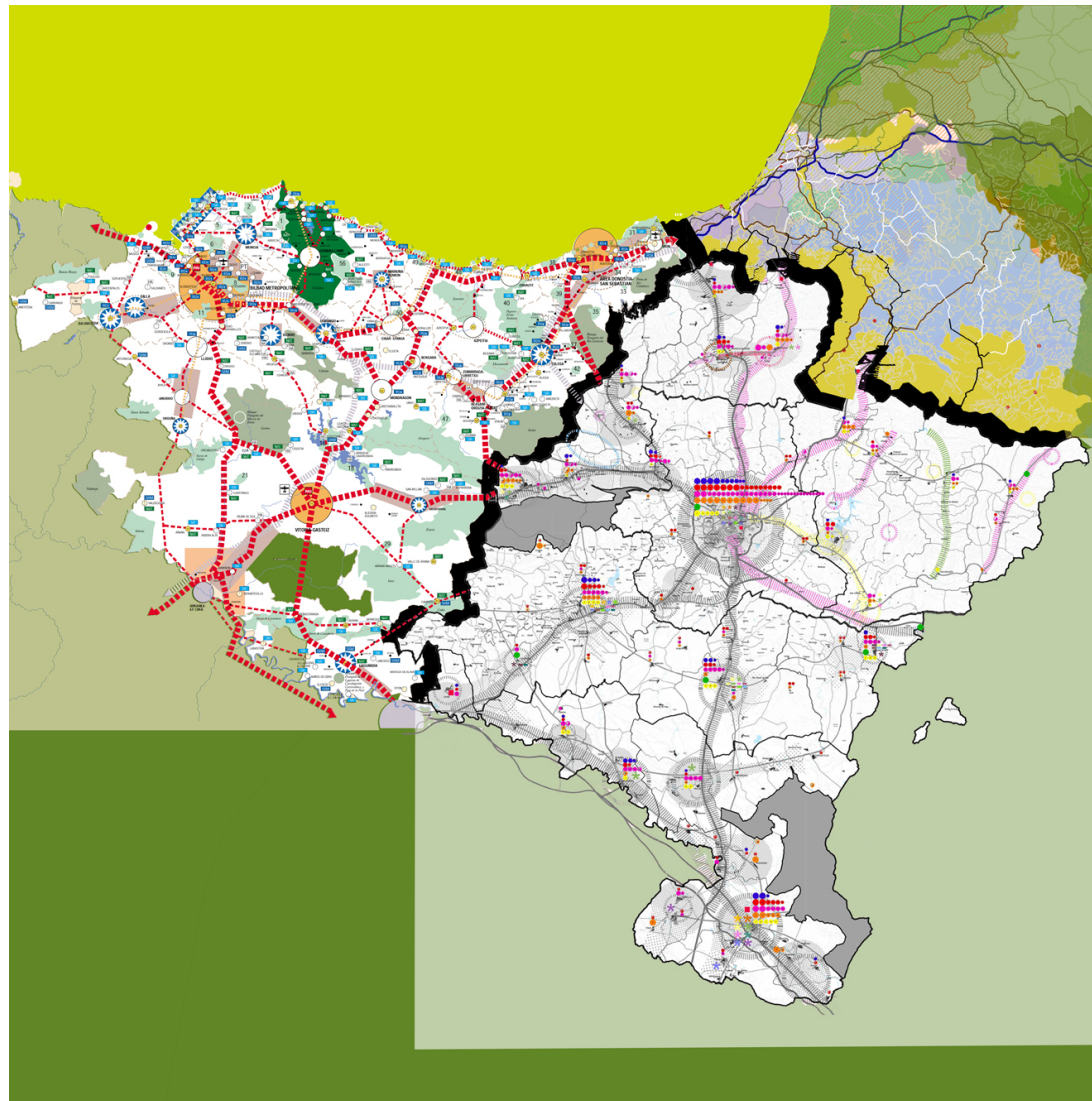
# 0.- Bio & Background.

# 0.- Bio





# 0.- Background



# 1.- Research Aims (4).

# 1.- Research Aims (4)

## ① to interpret the Basque & Icelandic situation in the global context:

- ① specifically, redefining their role as a territory in the context defined by the decline of the Nation-States (Ohmae, 1995) and the uncertain postcrisis EU general context (a) Scotland, Catalonia,(b) even Iceland itself and (c) Oresund as a non-identity based region),
- ② struggling to get out of a crisis that is more than financial,
- ③ in need to restructure their governance systems to the changes happened from 2008.

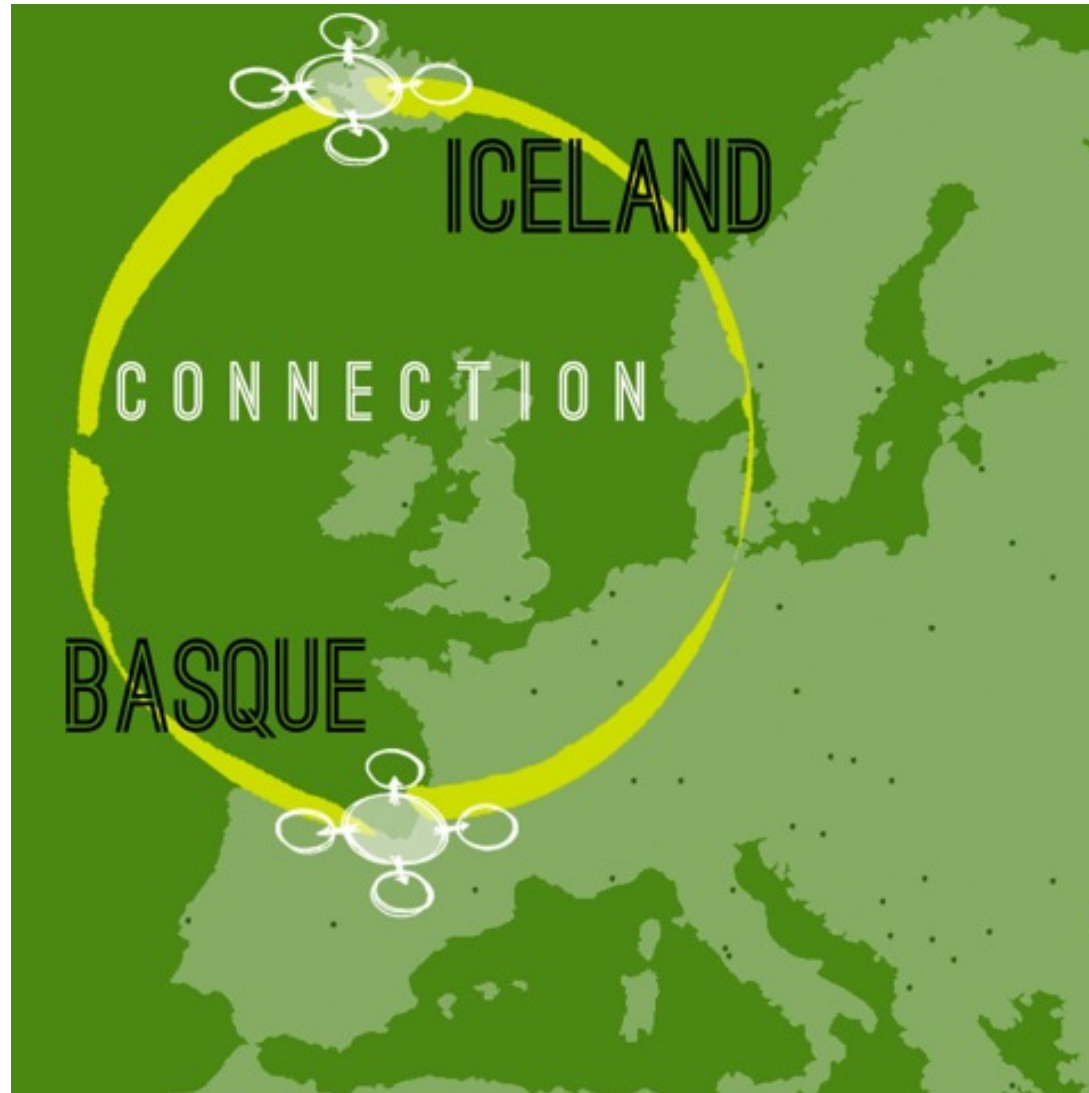
## ② to develop an inventory or interview list to capture the ethically relevant social innovation trends behind hypothetical democratic change in a given society or territory, and

- ① test it in both Iceland and the Basque Country

# 1.- Research Aims (4)

- ③ **to make explicit the underlying ethics (presuppositions, emerging topics, emotions) and strategically critical social innovation trends around themes such as:**
  - ① political innovation at the global and local scales,
  - ② the meaning of the crisis and its impact on democracy (before and after 2008),
  - ③ the influence of technology and social movements in this hypothetical social transformation,
  - ④ the role of different stakeholders,
  - ⑤ the macro & micro socio-economic real alternatives in contrast with the neoliberal agenda, and
  - ⑥ how can we see each others' experience
  
- ④ **to reconnect again (relationship between Basque whalers and Icelandic people ended tragically in 1615)**
  - ① to put together our two political systems, and look at them through the lenses of applied ethics and social innovation field (our connection not only involves two territories, but also two different disciplines: applied ethics and critical social innovation. We think both might benefit from collaboration.)

# 1.- Research Aim (\*)





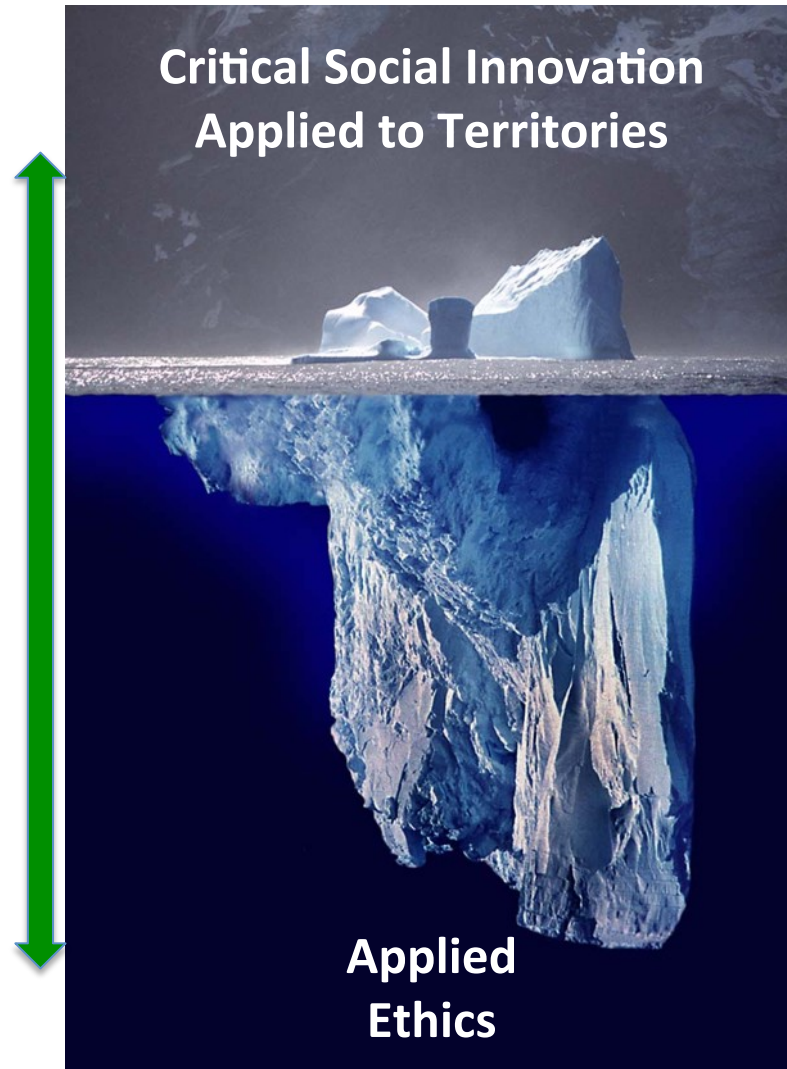
## 2.- Research Questions (3).

## 2.- Research Questions (3)

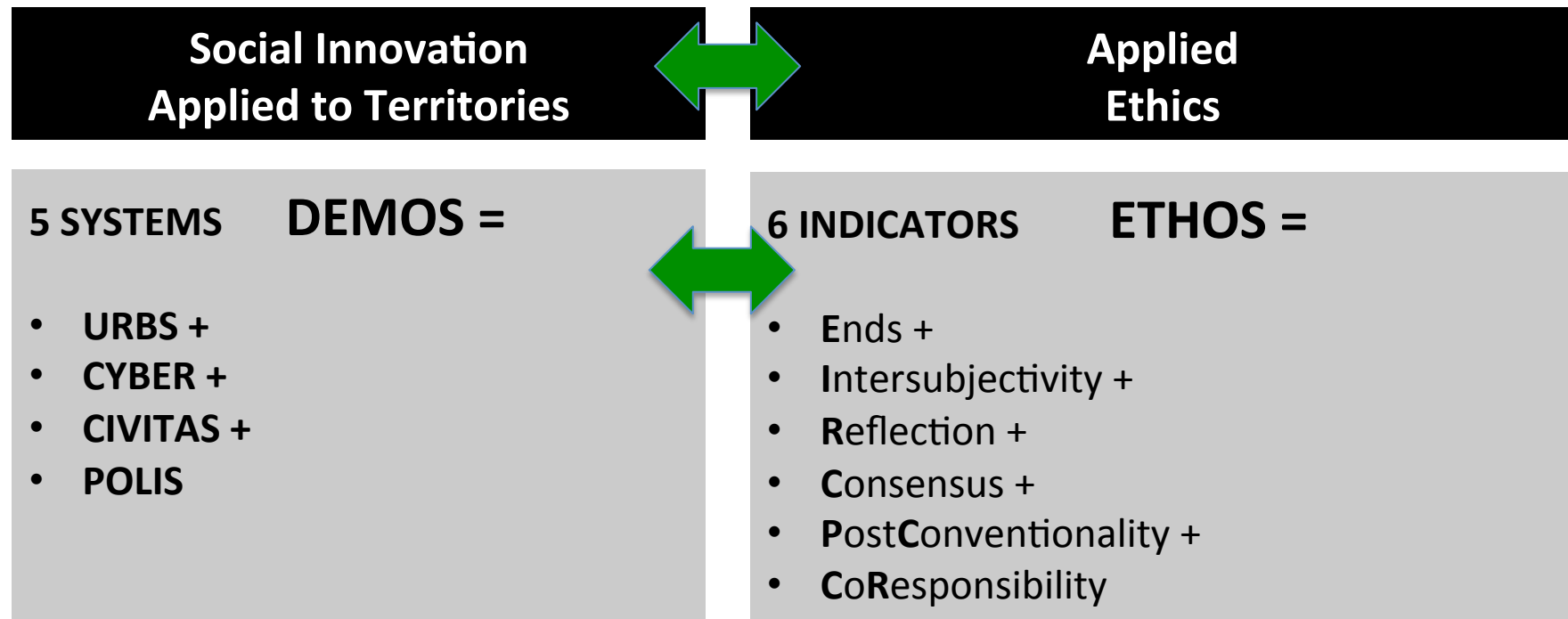
- ① Iceland was the first country to be hit by the 2008 financial crisis with dramatic democratic consequences. If there has been some **democratic social innovation or regeneration in Iceland after the crisis**, what relationship does it have with ethics? What is its moral core?
- ② Because they share some features concerning their **comparative small size and identity** (unique local language and culture dealing with bigger players in a global arena), we wonder whether some of the **transformations (innovations?)** emerged in Iceland during the Kreppa years (2008-2013) could be applicable to the crisis in the Basque Country in the new post-violence scenario (ETA's ceasefire from 2011 on). And what about micro social innovative cases (cooperativism, plurilingualism,...)?
- ③ Different as they are, **both situations involve hopes of regeneration of the democratic system**, and both raise questions such as: What has been really happening in Iceland? What is the nature of the change or innovation that has emerged? In what way is it special or different from the Basque case?

# 3.- Framework: Methodology (5 Systems x 6 Indicators) & Field work.

### 3.- Framework: Methodology



### 3.- Framework: Methodology





## 3.- Framework: Methodology

### (Critical) Social Innovation Applied to Territories

As Swyngedouw suggested, today the **social problematic** addressed through **Social Innovation** has become much more **complex** due to the deepening of mutually reinforcing **socioeconomic, socio-political and socio-ecological crises** (Moulaert et al, 2013).

### Applied (Empirical) Ethics

On one flank, **moral philosophers**, well armed with three centuries worth of arguments about the fact-value distinction, target the validity of **empirical ethics research and critique** what they see as the empirical ethicists' untenable efforts to develop prescriptive conclusions from descriptive evidence. On the opposing flank, **social scientists** (and others) attack the distinctiveness of empirical ethics research, with **criticisms** ranging from empirical ethicists' naive appropriation of the **complex methodologies** and methods developed from within their disciplines, to their apparent ignorance of social scientists' own attempts to account for the **ways in which social practices are laden with judgments of moral value**.

Dunn, M., Sheehan, M., Parker, M. and Hope, T. (2012) 'Towards methodological innovation in empirical ethics research', Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics, 21(4): 466.

# Social Innovation Applied to Territories

## Two Research Questions:

- 1.- How do Territories behave?
- 2.- How could we identify socially innovative processes among them ?

## 5 SYSTEMS:

### #URBS

- 1.- **Human Geography:** Sociodemographic factors.
- 2.- **Sustainable & Resilience Territorial:** Technical factors.
- 3.- **Urban&Rural + Centre&Periphery Linkage:** Morphological & Mobility factors.

### #CYBER

- 4.- **Physical Connectivity:** Usage of the land/users relationship factors.
- 5.- **Digital Connectivity:** Interaction enabling factors.
- 6.- **Social Connectivity:** Social Capital factors.

### #CIVITAS

- 7.- **Immigration:** Ethnic diversity and integration factors.
- 8.- **Entrepreneurship:** Socio-economic challenged factors.
- 9.- **Local Communities:** Local grassroots factors.

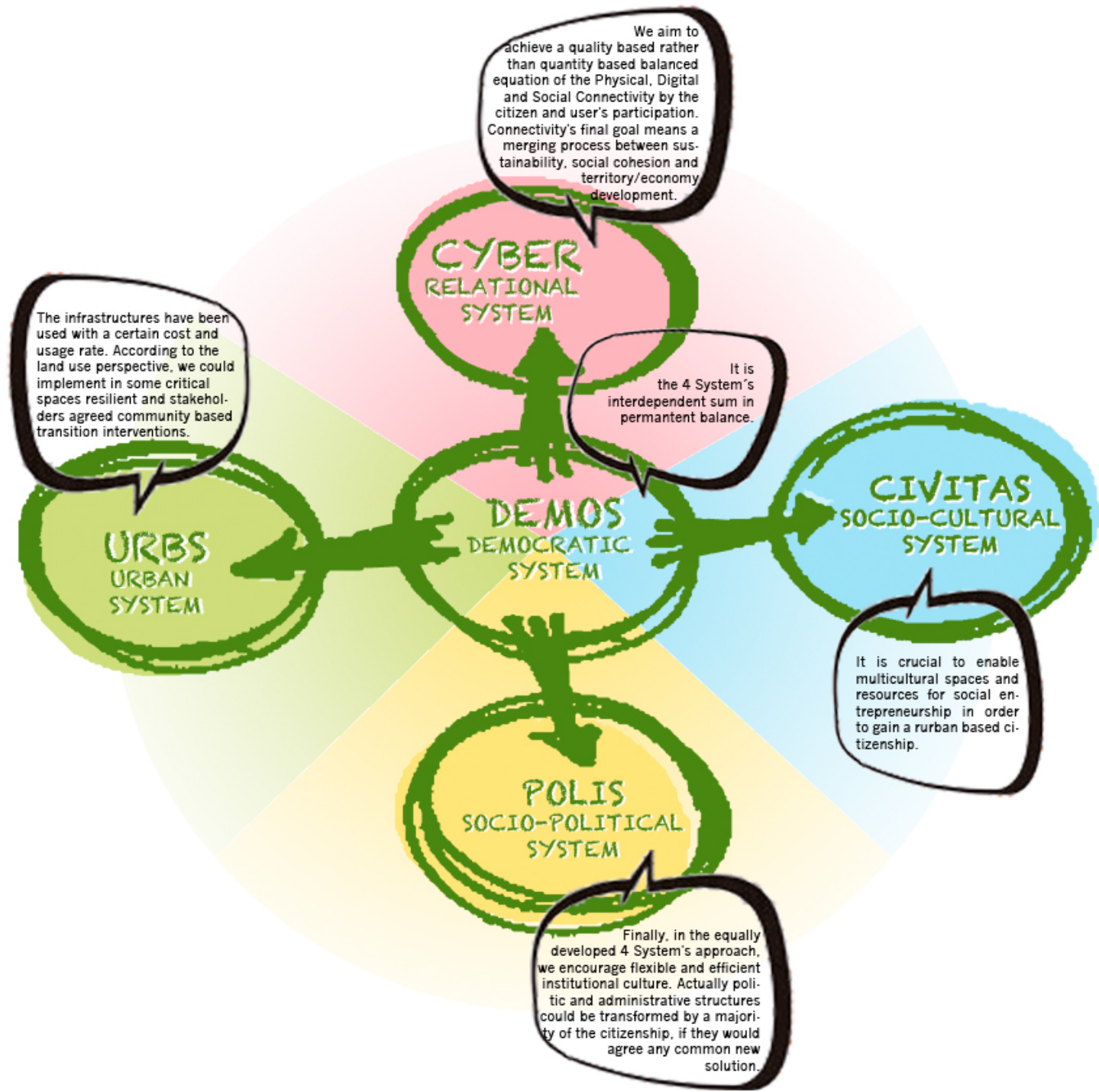
### #POLIS

- 10.- **Iceland & EU:** Globalization threats & oportunities' factors.
- 11.- **Governance:** Dialogue between stakeholders' enabling factors.
- 12.- **Participation:** Preconditions, mobilizations and participaton process' factors.

### #DEMOS



universidad del país vasco euskal herriko unibertsitatea



# Applied Ethics

## Two Research Questions:

- 1.-Can we measure the extent ethics is applied in a territory?
- 2.- How can we identify emerging trends in moral practice?

## Self-understanding

**E) Ends:** this item tries to capture the self-understanding of the moral subject(s) by looking at the extent they identify the goals or internal goods that give meaning to a given practice, and the factors influencing their choice of those ends.

**I) Intersubjectivity:** this item tries to capture the self-understanding of the moral subject in relation to others, by looking at what they think about the subject

## Justification

**R) Reflection:** this item tries to capture to what extent the subject(s) bases their decisions in a dialogue or deliberation in which the right (minimal ethics) and the good (maximal ethics) are considered

**C) Consensus:** this item tries to capture to what extent the subject's decisions would have been taken by consent in an ideal community of communication, in which all stakeholders are present in a dialogue on equal grounds

## Application

**PC) Post-Conventionality:** this item tries to capture to what extent the subject(s) implement principles that all stakeholders could agree to, irrespectively of their own conception of the good

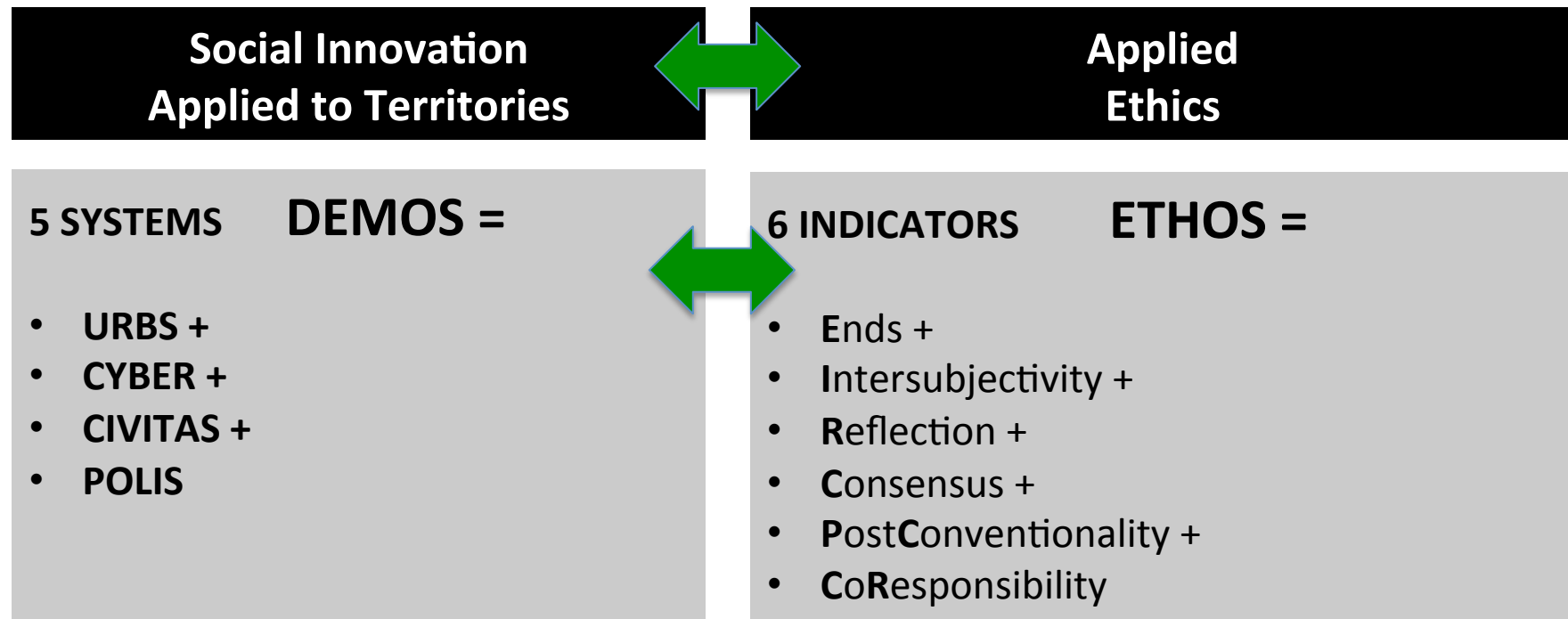
**CR) Co-Responsability:** this item tries to capture to what extent the subject(s) assume a share of responsibility for the consequences of collective behaviour

## 3.- Framework: Field work

- ① Interviews with Stakeholders: Academia and Politics.
- ② Informants: 6-8.
- ③ Hypothesis: 5 Systems x 6 Indicators = 30 Items.



### 3.- Framework: Methodology

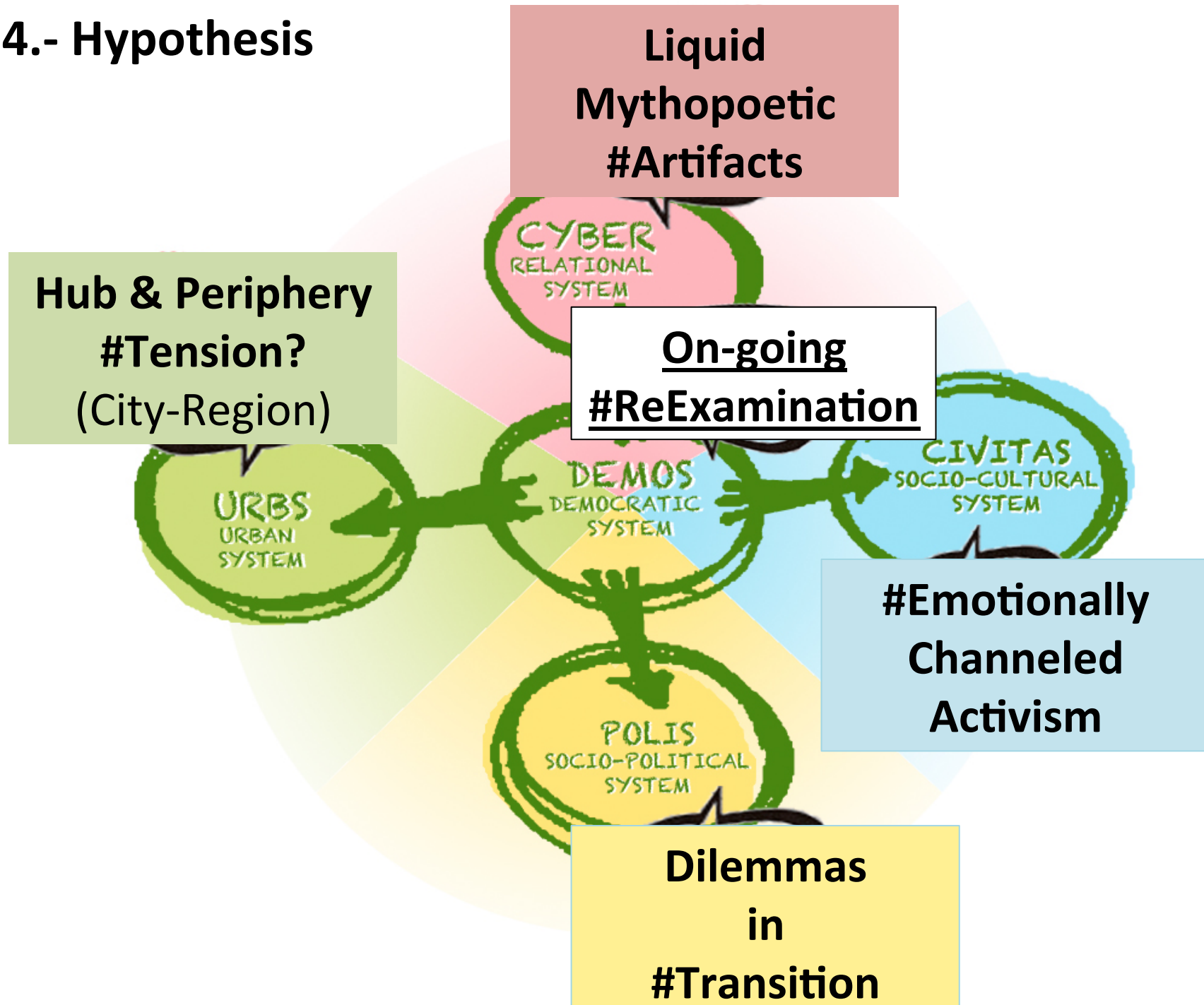


### 3.- Framework: Methodology

Social Innovation Applied to Territories						
SYSTEMS					Applied Ethics	
URBS	CYBER	CIVITAS	POLIS	DEMOS		ITEMS
						Ends
						Intersubjectivity
						Reflection
						Consensus
						PostConventionality
					CoResponsability	

## 4.- Hypothesis: (5 x 6 = 30 Items)

## 4.- Hypothesis





**#URBS**

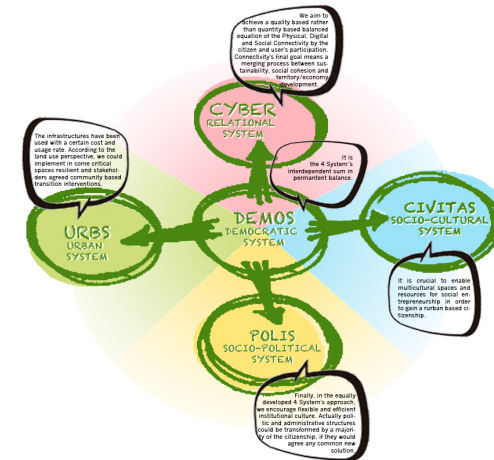
photo by @icalzada





# 4.- Hypothesis

## Hub & Periphery #Tension ? (City-Region)



ITEMS	URBS
Ends	· Sustainability & wellbeing as one of the main structural factor in the <b>regional development policies</b> .
Intersubjectivity	· Too Small vs Too Big: <b>Connectivity</b> enabling territorial balance
Reflection	· " <a href="#">#Iceland</a> has abundant <b>natural resources</b> that even the most overexuberant financiers and politicians could not damage too much." by @FT
Consensus	· <b>Fishing and tourism</b> (mobility) as the main real microeconomic recovery sectors.
PostConventionality	· Are <b>peripheral villages/geographical areas (8)</b> and Reykjavik (hub), mutually benefited economic/logistically?
CoResponsability	· Has the financial crisis affected <b>differently Reykjavik (hub) &amp; periphery (8)?</b>





**#CYBER**

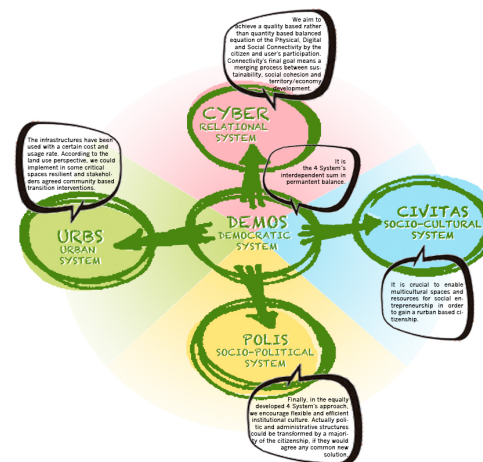
photo by @icalzada



# 4.- Hypothesis

ITEMS	CYBER
Ends	· Social networks (Facebook driven) <b>widely used.</b>
Intersubjectivity	· Network-driven new communities social <b>reconfiguration.</b>
Reflection	· A collective defence of the means for <b>happiness &amp; social wellbeing.</b>
Consensus	· Connectivity used to strategically enable the <b>socio-political agenda.</b>
PostConventionality	· <b>Physical proximity</b> between cultural diverse peers.
CoResponsability	· <b>Social Capital</b> still alive (social trust to keep the standard of living)

## Liquid Mythopoetic #Artifacts





A photograph of an outdoor courtyard at night. In the background, three people are sitting on a wooden bench. The ground is covered with fallen yellow and orange leaves. A path of tree stumps, some painted with red and blue, leads from the foreground towards the bench. To the right, there is a large, dark, abstract rock sculpture. In the background, there are trees with autumn foliage and a building with a blue corrugated metal wall and a white window. A light blue banner with the text "#CIVITAS" is overlaid on the image.

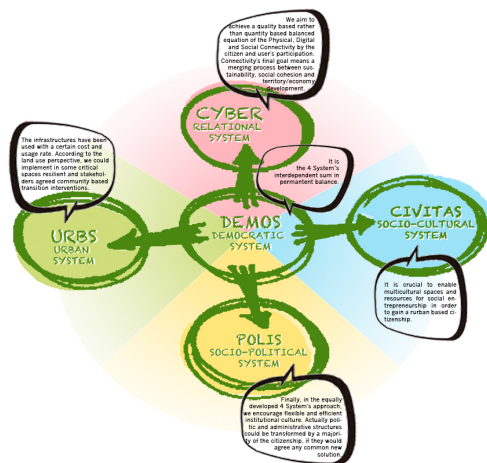
**#CIVITAS**

photo by @icalzada



# 4.- Hypothesis

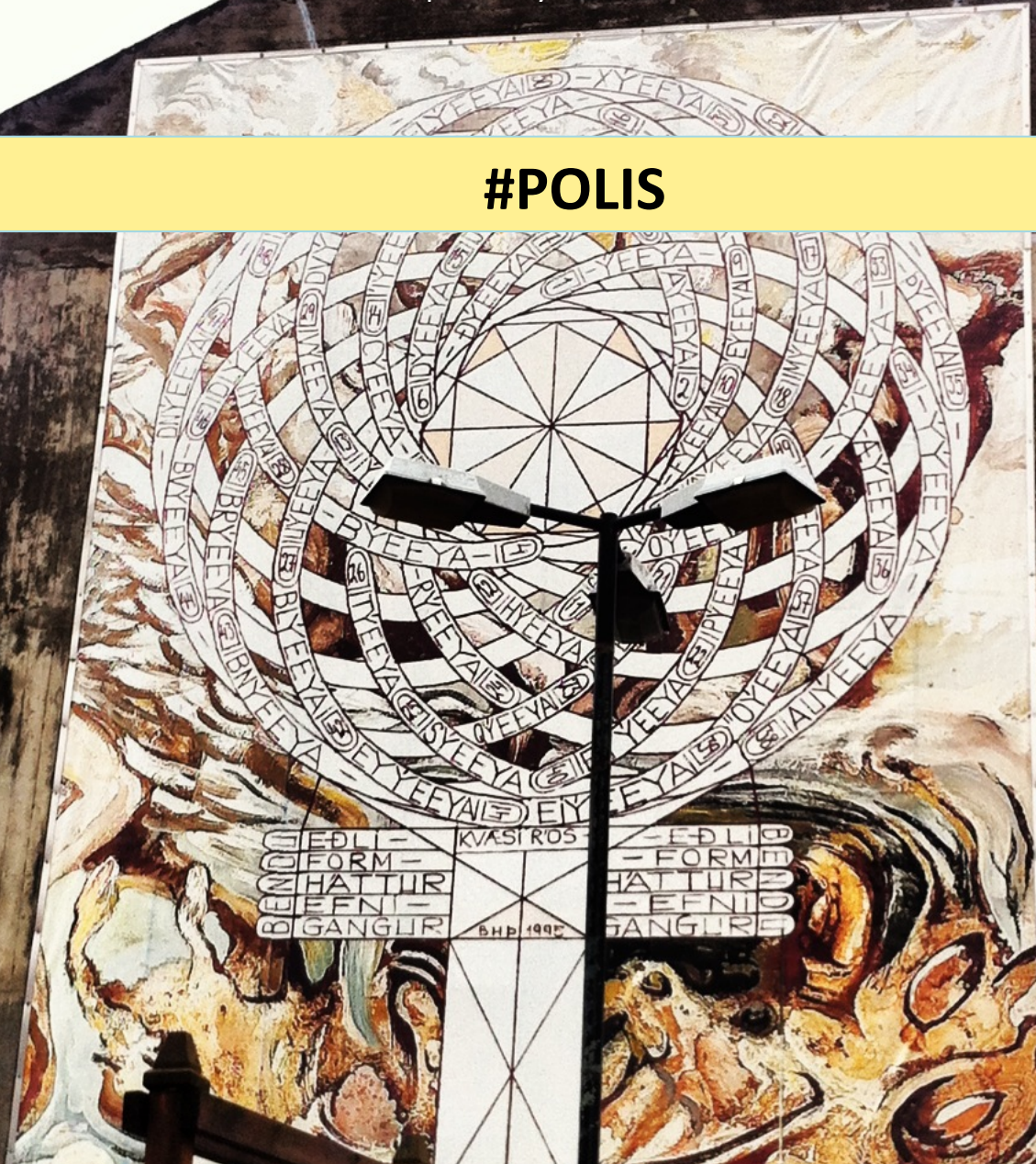
ITEMS	CIVITAS
Ends	· Self-managed <b>survival</b> of civic life via activism.
Intersubjectivity	· <b>Pans&amp;pots</b> revolution street demonstration.
Reflection	· <b>Non-violent</b> public deliberation to channel the collective anger.
Consensus	· Commitment to protect the basic rights of the <b>worst-off</b> .
PostConventionality	· Transition from activism towards <b>entrepreneurship in jeopardy</b> .
CoResponsability	· Refusal to transfer responsibility to others ( <b>scapegoat</b> ).



#Emotionally Channeled Activism

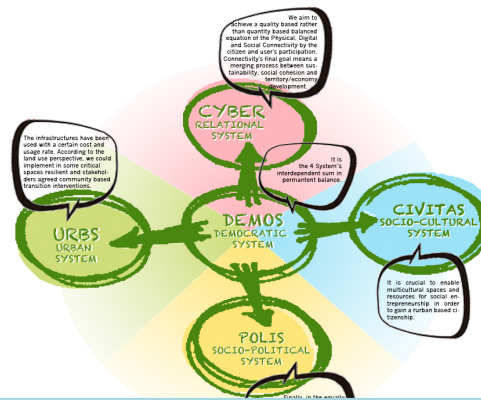
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**#POLIS**





# 4.- Hypothesis



## Dilemmas in #Transition

ITEMS	POLIS
Ends	· <b>Disatisfaction</b> with conventional political system.
Intersubjectivity	· Internal Political <b>Fragmentation</b> in Transition.
Reflection	· Mass <b>Media</b> -conditionated vs Alternative Social Media politics.
Consensus	· Togetherness when challenged in favor of <b>democratic resilience</b> .
PostConventionality	· Celebration of cultural diversity: <b>Entertainment politics</b> without populism (yet)
CoResponsability	· <b>Lack of impunity</b> / zero tolerance when trust is broken.



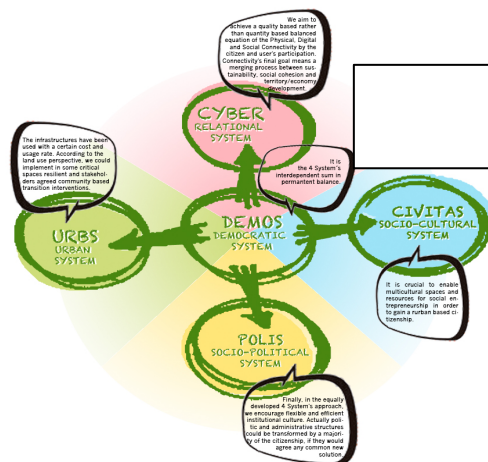


**#DEMOS**

photo by @icalzada

# 4.- Hypothesis

<u>ITEMS</u>	<u>DEMOS</u>
<b>Ends</b>	· <b>National identity</b> based on Independence, modernity and uniqueness.
<b>Intersubjectivity</b>	· The <b>myth</b> (revolution, bankruptcy and reversal) of the Icelandic miracle.
<b>Reflection</b>	· New critical order with permanent <b>contestation</b> .
<b>Consensus</b>	· Uncertainty and fear caused lack of consensus for <b>constitutional reform</b> .
<b>PostConventionality</b>	· Not conditioned by <b>immigration</b> issues (not having an active role).
<b>CoResponsability</b>	· The <b>European</b> dilemma: being inside the EU context but without institutional protection.

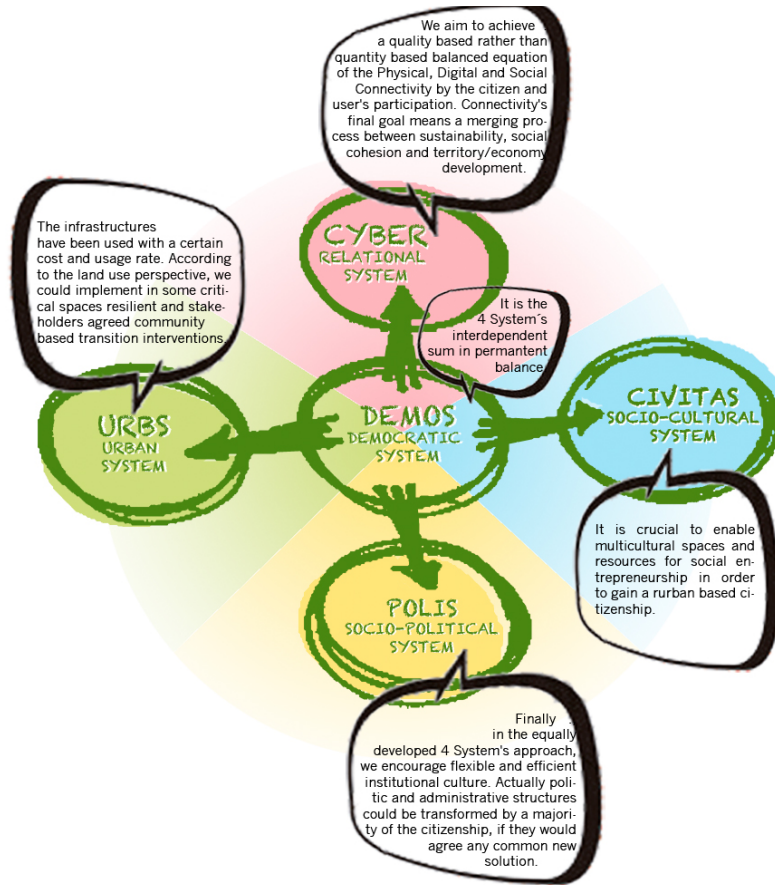


## On-going #ReExamination

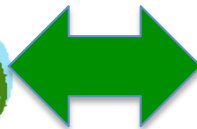
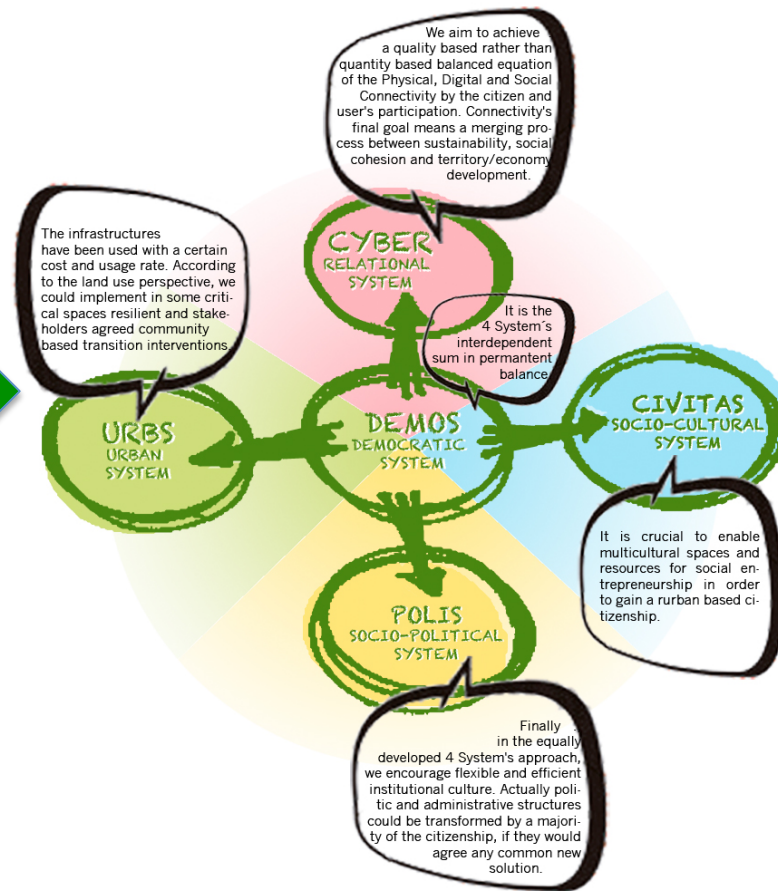


# N.- #Connection?

## ICELAND



## BASQUE



**Takk fyrir þáttökuna.**  
Eskerrik asko zuen parte hartzegatik.  
Thank you for your participation.

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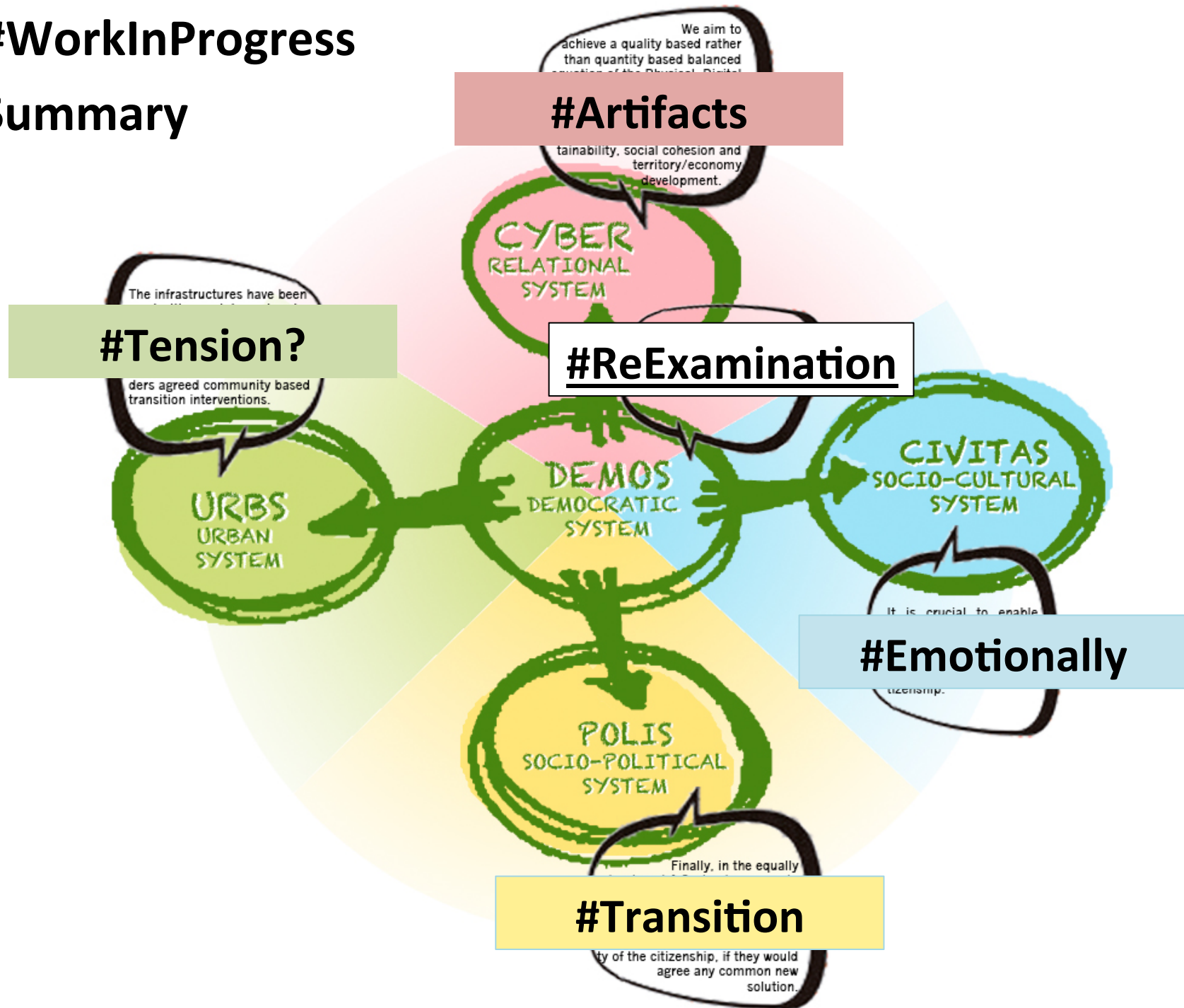
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# #WorkInProgress

## Summary



# \*References

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- **Applied Ethics.**

- **Casado.**
- ...