



An Organisation for Promoting  
Understanding of Society

## LISTENING POST

### Spain at the Dawn of 2019

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#### **PART 1: THE SHARING OF PREOCCUPATIONS AND EXPERIENCES**

*In this part, the Listening Post participants were invited to identify, contribute, and explore their experiences in their various social roles, be they: in work, unemployed or retired; as members of religious, political, neighbourhood, voluntary or leisure organisations; or as members of families and communities. This part was largely concerned with what might be called, 'the stuff of people's everyday lives': the 'socio' or 'external' world of participants.*

#### **PART 2: IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR THEMES**

*In Part 2, the aim collectively was to identify the major themes emerging from Part 1.*

The movement Me-too seems to have been one of the most relevant events for the group, seasoned with certain situations of harassment and gender violence has led to greater mobilization of women and a claim by women in general. If before it was channeled rather into feminist movements and into associations that were not always well seen now, it has been transferred to all the generational layers of women where they feel more supportive.

There seems to be a need not to hear news, to isolate oneself from a society in which one has to protect oneself, given that the news is no longer credible or at least sensational.

The issue of micro plastic attached to the environment were another issue that arose, there are fears of the consequences that this can generate both at the egoistic level (that can happen to me, what diseases can generate me ...). But it is thought that there is no good awareness.

There was also talk of the loss of essential values at the social level, it seems that we are all so busy that we do not stop to build or rebuild certain basic values.

It seems that this economic post-crisis period has generated us to become accustomed to precariousness. At least get used to that precariousness has

allowed some to try to solve it by developing creativity.

It seems that this year has served to continue uncovering the corruption installed in different estates, such as banking, politics, the church. Although at the same time we are more spectators of the scandal than activists of change. Because in the end what they have sold us now is that in order for everything to change, you change your first one, and, we have passed to an individualism of self-development and we have forgotten that we live in community.

This led to the thought that in the end everything remains the same, but we have decorated it in a better way and we have believed it. That decoration based on the transparency that even pubs are now decorated in white.

We are scared that Trump will leave, that Brexit will happen, that Bolsonaro will be elected, but we are more in the "why" what happened in "how" they have done to make this happen knowing that the algorithms of social networks use our data to manipulate our actions. The sensation of being spectators of a genocide to free thought, but not to worry about how important we are.

There are feelings of social division and even in personal relationships, including male-female relationships globally.

Politicians, on the one hand, have lost credibility because they live in a culture of constant confrontation between them for their partisan interests rather than for their citizens'. On the other hand, it is recognized that in spite of all this, environmental and other policies have been included that allow progress, although it also gives the impression that the parties in power have included these policies when other collectives were gaining strength in the citizen's conscience. But his discredit is quite high. This is reflected in the last Andalusian elections where, if we add abstention 42% and blank votes 3%, we find 45% of the electorate. What is not surprising is that if those who do not miss the vote are the most radical and extremist we find results like those that have been. But we only look at the scandal of the new political formations and we do not realize that half are participants with their abstention.

It is also said that the concern for healthy nutrition has increased. But there is still a long way to go to permeate all social strata.

Education is something that worries very much, but it began to speak at a given time of what education?, Since education has always existed, another thing is what is necessary in these days to raise future generations of certain dangers. It is seen that parents are becoming less and less responsible for contributing to the development of their children's values and, in addition, new technologies have led to the fact that even at meals we find families stuck on the phone and everyone eating in silence or almost, isolated from the relationship.

## **MOST RECURRING THEMES**

- The growth of consciousness in relation to equality and respect for

women.

- The concern for the environment and the repercussions that climate change can have on health and natural disasters
- Education combined with the lack of values
- Political fatigue and corruption
- Immigration
- Social networks.

### PART 3: ANALYSIS AND HYPOTHESIS FORMATION

*In Part 3, the participants were working with the information resulting from Parts 1 & 2, with a view to collectively identifying the underlying dynamics both conscious and unconscious that may be predominant at the time; and developing hypotheses as to why they might be occurring at that moment. Here, participants were working more with what might be called their 'psycho' or 'internal' world: their collective ideas and ways of thinking that both determine how they perceive the external realities and shape their actions towards them.*

#### **HYPOTHESIS 1**

If the Me-Too movement and other events like the herd have generated that women have mobilized as they have never done so far, it could be that the woman has felt like a united group and also with more support from men, this may be because women in recent times, it has been occupying more and more positions of responsibility and its influence in society has been increasingly felt, which has led many to lose their fear of demonstrating and to more strongly demand respect and equality.

It gives the feeling that at this moment the claim generation gap has been broken, they are mobilized from grandmothers to granddaughters and that gives strength, the reality is that at this moment is claimed more from movements that only seek equality and respect.

#### **HYPOTHESIS 2**

If we are concerned about the environment, it may be due to the fact that there is more and more a feeling that affects our health and subsistence, as well as a climate change that is increasingly worrying us at natural catastrophe levels, which has led to a greater awareness and this may be due to a personal selfishness or a sense of point of no return that begins to generate fear.

#### **HYPOTHESIS 3**

If we are concerned about education, it may be because deep down we see that basic values have been lost and that human relationships are becoming less human, which means that we project the needs in a better education for young people. This may be because deep down we do not know how to manage relationships in this change of time

influenced by technological advances and social changes that have occurred in an accelerated manner.

Other topics that did not give time to look for hypothesis but that have been relevant are: Emigration, Social Networks, politics, corruption, health services and current information.

On the other hand, there is a sense of social fragmentation on many levels, we see it at the level of states, continents of societies in itself, which may be leading us to the radicalisms that we find at a social level.

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