

KATARSIS: an overview

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Overview

- ◆ Background
- ◆ Objectives
- ◆ WPs
- ◆ Links between WPs
- ◆ Methodology: ontology, theory, empirical research tools
- ◆ Agenda

Background

- ◆ Social exclusion dynamics at articulated spatial levels
- ◆ Beyond the Knowledge-Based Society - **A Non-European reading of the Knowledge-Based Society (KBS) asking for re-orientation**
- ◆ A EU research approach that is too dependent on the official interpretation of the Knowledge-Based Society and its research approach. Therefore KATARSIS cares to:

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Put to the scientific forum the diversity of research methods used or intended to be used – but waiting for proper funding – to study the diversity of existential spheres in Europe and how the users or occupants of these “existential biotopes” have developed specific strategies to “make their world work”. To this purpose actors from practice networks will participate in some of the proposed activities of KATARSIS;

Developing a methodological framework that will lead future research on strategies to combat the consequences of growing inequality, not only by learning from existing approaches, but also by extracting common trends in theorising and empirical methodology.

Objective 1

- ♦ Objective 1. Provide a State-of-the-Art review regarding the specific consequences of growing inequality in Europe and how these consequences have been researched. This review focuses on the following questions: “How have specific groups that have suffered badly from growing inequality and exclusion dynamics reacted in a social and/or creative way?” The focus is less on ‘the growing bad luck and how bad it is’ than on the ‘brave people working their creative way out. We have organised this State of the Art in several categories that we have called “existential fields”, because they are related to various sectors of everyday life. We will focus on the “existential fields” in which we believe European citizens are suffering more from social exclusion but are also being more creative. For a selection of 5 existential fields we will provide an overview of the severe consequences of inequality and exclusion (minor focus) and creative strategies to handle or overcome these (major focus) and how these have been researched.

Objective 1 continued

For each field, disciplinary and thematic as well theoretical and methodological foci will be identified. Each field survey, which will correspond to a sub-WP of WP1, will include information on cooperation with other research institutions, stressing their scientific methodology and the links with research in other fields. Methodologies will be evaluated as to their effectiveness in identifying socially innovative and creative strategies and dynamics to address growing inequality and its consequences.

Objective 2

Offer an overview of attempts to integrate various approaches to analyse and establish creative strategies to overcome situations of social exclusion.

Objective 2 is to further these integration exercises, which are by nature usually multi-disciplinary, multi-theoretical and geared towards qualitative analysis, by extracting methodological commonalities among teams and fields – favouring these serving objective 1, by connecting them to broader methodological debates in social science – involving other social science researchers beyond the CA consortium - and by involving practitioners working along the lines of these integration exercises (practice users group).

Objective 3

Develop a methodology for the analysis of socially creative strategies out of exclusion and for the coordination of ongoing research, which will later be used to guide a wider scientific and policy- as well as practice-oriented discussion on creative and social strategies against exclusion (see especially WP5).

Workpackages

WP1

- ♦ **Existential field 1: Labour market, employment strategies and social economy (WP1.1)**
- ♦ **Existential field 2: Education and training (WP1.2)**
- ♦ **Existential field 3: Housing and Neighbourhood (WP1.3)**
- ♦ **Existential field 4: Health and Environment (WP1.4)**
- ♦ **Existential field 5: Governance and Democracy (WP1.5)**

Workpackages, continued

WP 2, 3, 4

- ♦ **Integration exercise 1: Bottom-up Creativity to overcome social exclusion:** the reinvention of culture and arts as platforms for social and creative strategies to overcome conditions of exclusion (WP2);
- ♦ **Integration exercise 2: Governance:** the renewed interest in the relation between governance and democracy in areas and communities where strategies against social exclusion are highly relevant (WP3);
- ♦ **Integration exercise 3: Social Innovation:** 'readings of social innovation' dynamics in various community contexts and at various scales of society (WP4).

Workpackages, cont.

- ◆ **WP5: Methodology Development**
- ◆ **WP6: Management of research activities**

The overall coordination of the surveying activities (WP1), the integration exercises (WP2 through 4) and WP5 Methodology Development will be the responsibility of the General Coordinator in cooperation with the Lead Partners.
- ◆ **WP7: Administrative and Financial Management**
- ◆ **WP8: Dissemination and User-Groups**

Links between WPs

Objectives	Objective 1: Surveying of scientific results and its comparability	Objective 2: Overview of integration exercises with involvement of user groups	Objective 3: Methodology for Scientific Analysis and Coordination of Research Š Preparing future research
Workpackages			
WP1: Existential fields	Literature surveys, using methods improving comparability	Surveys of literature per existential field as inputs to Integration Exercises	Guidelines for multi-disciplinary scientific developments as learned from existential fields research
WP2: Integration exercise 1	Surveys of literature per existential field as inputs to Integration Exercises	Presenting and communicating integration exercises (IE)	Specific theoretical, methodological and communication ŌlessonŌ from IE
WP3: Integration exercise 2	Surveys of literature per existential field as inputs to Integration Exercises	Presenting and communicating integration exercises	Specific theoretical, methodological and communication ŌlessonŌ from IE
WP4: Integration exercise 3	Surveys of literature per existential field as inputs to Integration Exercises	Presenting and communicating integration exercises	Specific theoretical, methodological and communication ŌlessonŌ from IE
WP5: Methodological Development	Templates for surveys (comparability, communicability, synthesis)	Multi-input model (surveys, peers, practice-community) for integration exercises	Design of multi-dimensional research, training and communication model
WP6: Scientific coordination	Coordination of WP1 to WP5	Coordination of WP1 to WP5	Coordination of WP1 to WP5
WP8: Dissemination and user groups	Occasional involvement of specialists from both types of user groups	Active involvement of practice and policy users in IE	Broader networking and dissemination of results (including methods for scientific research and coordination)

Links between WPs

