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Using Research in the Participative Orchestration of Europe

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Presentation for Panel IV: Research and Development / Sustainable Environment / Quality Management
Eurovisioning Conference: Redesigning Europe in the Third Millennium: a new sustainable vision of democracy (Budapest, 15-17 May 2004)

This topic of this paper was subsequently developed in much greater detail in
Animating the Representation of Europe (2004)

A. European multiple personality disorder

- "Personalities": Commerce, Research, Media, Sport, Arts, Military, Legislature, etc
- Interdisciplinary equivalent: Economics, Physics, Biology, Psychology, etc
- From Clinton's: "*It's the economy, stupid*" to Rumsfeld's: "*It's the photos, stupid*"
- Using "research to redesign Europe" rather than "financing European research"

B. Imagining Europe

European identity

- Challenge of a "soulless Europe" (cf Fischer, Fortuyn, Rocard, Lonergan)
- Challenge of voter apathy and democratic deficit
- New and imaginative understandings of unity, integration (cf fusion research, etc)
- Challenge to the imagination:
 - moving beyond vague promises (economic advantage, democratic participation, etc)
 - sustaining the imagination for sustainable dialogue

Metaphoric impoverishment : a cognitive challenge (cf Lakoff and Johnson)

- Basis for strategic discourse: communicating coherent imaginative strategies (cf Schon)
- Mnemonic support for the imagination: pattern language (cf Alexander)
- Participative design : new "metaphors" (cf computer software, fashion, cosmology)
- Example 1: "Gardening Europe" in the light of ecosystemic diversity : gardening knowledge?
- Example 2: Music in the light of sophisticated / popular understandings of harmony and melody
- Images of Europe: bureaucracy, market, building complex, garden, symphony, etc (cf Morgan)
- Multiplier effects: cross-fertilization, transdisciplinarity, creativity

C. Conceptual challenges for a multi-faceted Europe

Managing meaningful differences (rather than the endless quest for meaningless consensus)

- Conceptual differences and cognitive styles (cf Hofstede)
- Transcending polarities and strategic dilemmas (cf tensegrity organization)
- Working with diversity: building the psycho-social ecosystem and weaving the social fabric

New styles of thinking - beyond "project logic"

- New kinds of organization and governance sustained by new metaphors (cf Dammanhur)
- New kinds of accounting systems to sustain new kinds of initiatives (cf LETS)
- New kinds of (legal) contracts to sustain new kinds of partnerships and "programmes"

D. Practicalities

Practicalities of participatory democracy

- Mathematical realities of "participation": "representation" of millions vs bureaucratic capacity
- Hyperspace "variable geometry": Cyprus, Ireland, Euskadi, Flanders, Jerusalem, Rom, etc
- Use of web to create a coherent communication space for emergence of initiatives

Social experiments

- "Transition zones" within countries (and status of accession countries)
- Adaptation of formulae: "industrial zones", "research parks", "free trade zones", "incubators"
- "Renaissance zones" (cf [Damanhur](#))
- Social safety nets: high budget vs sustainability of alternative forms? (cf Gandhi on poverty)

E. Research specifics

Beyond text: visualization / sonification

- Bypassing the traditional snobbery of science and legislators (science + art > Hungary)
- Language translation and future of European Union (monolingual?) Eurotexting ?
- Visualization: "*It's the pictures, stupid !*"
- Irony: Eurovision (song contest, 15 May 2004) vs Eurovisioning (15 May 2004)
- European schizophrenia: linear text presentations vs musical harmony/melody
- Developing metaphoric carriers: song, football (UEFA), etc
- Putting declarations to music (no song, no meaning, no consensus?)
- Budapest Declaration (cf as sung *Creative Connections?*)
- Self-criticism: this presentation (visuals, sound)?

Simulation / Gaming - and failures of European initiatives

- Exemplar of a qualitative cultural synthesis: *Glass Bead Game --Magister Ludi* (Hermann Hesse)
- *Republic* (Demis Hassabis: <http://www.eidosinteractive.com/>)
- Community strategy games: *Game of Life* (Damanhur), *Transformation Game* (Findhorn)
- Beyond *Monopoly* to a *Game of Europe?* Football as a meme carrier? Sporting memetics?

Articulating the systemic linkages underlying the EU Constitution -- meaningfully

- Fundamental challenge: voter apathy, empty promises, cynicism, etc
- Is the constitution "singable"? Is it an archetypal poem (*Kalevala*)? Why not?
- Failure of *Agenda 21*? Not "singable" to sustain memorability of vital links of sustainability?
- Cognitive challenge: mnemonic holding of complexity through visualization and sound

F. Contextual support

Research and intelligence

- Application of science. Research as its own metaphor (cf nuclear fusion at Cadarache)
- Network of centres of excellence (cf Imagination Lab, <http://www.imagilab.org/>)
- Secret intelligence services: destruction vs construction of relationships

Art and science

- "Art and science" (cf Gyorgy Kepes) vs "Art and political strategy" (cf *Book of Five Rings*)
- *From Poetry-making to Policy-making* (www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs/poetpol0.php)
- Strategic aphorisms of the EU (cf *Wit and Wisdom of the United Nations*)

Cultural disposition of Hungary: providing an alchemical melding of art and science. Design vs Composition

Related papers

- Practicalities of Participatory Democracy (www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs00s/demopart.php)
- European Identity through a System of Metaphors (www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs/idenmets/ideneure.php)
- Enhancing the Quality of Knowing (www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs/knowqual.php)
- Knowledge Gardening through Music (www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs/music.php)
- Coherent Policy-making Beyond the Information Barrier (www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs/infopol.php)
- Aesthetics of Governance in the Year 2490 (<https://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs/gov2490.php>)



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