

## PARTICIPATION AND NATIONAL BUILDING

### Processes involved in reinforcing political power and popular initiative

Zesar Martínez, member of the Joxemi Zumalabe Foundation and sociology lecturer, reflects on the need to stimulate popular initiative and community organisation in order to confront the hegemony imposed by economic and political elites at the present time. To this end, Popular Education, the Systematisation of Experience and Research-Action Processes constitute emancipating traditions that may prove to be valid for the empowerment and organisation of minority or oppressed sectors, as well as fostering popular movements. [Zesar Martínez](#)

### Institutions and participation: building a new paradigm together?

Nicola Foroni, advisor and enabler of processes involving participation and transformation, analyses the commitment being made by institutions at this time of deep crisis to citizens' participation as a key tool for contributing to social transformation and a change of paradigm. Incipient socio-cultural changes that are starting to gestate provide us with major challenges, all of which needs to be coherently administered by individuals, movements and institutions in a way that is consistent with the new paradigm. [Nicola Foroni](#)

### Basque democratic renewal and feminism. The view of women's political biographies

The political science lecturer Jone Martínez reflects on the difficulties women face in participating in areas associated with democratic innovation. To this end, the experiences gained by women who take part in various participative and deliberative experiments that are currently underway in Basque society are analysed. [Jone Martínez](#)

### Youth and participation: distances

Jon Markel Ormazabal, researcher at Aztiker, focuses on gauging the distance existing between youth and participation. The author is of the view that to do so it is first necessary to define what being young involves, to examine young people's thoughts about politics, and to analyse the road maps for concern and social involvement and the move towards participation. [Jon Markel Ormazabal](#)

### Real conditions and possibilities for participation

By taking child and youth participation as a starting point, the pedagogy lecturers Nerea Agirre and Olaia Jimenez focus on the nature of and conditions attached to the processes involved in the creation of learning and participation possibilities for all citizens. In short, this would mean setting participative democracy in motion and increasing the welfare, inclusion and learning options available to all. [Nerea Agirre • Olaia Jimenez](#)

### Meta-militancy. Reflection by popular movements

Marta Luxán, Andere Ormazabal, Unai Txurruka and Olatz Dañobeitia, members of the Joxemi Zumalabe Foundation, reflect on the results of the participative process embarked on in 2012 by the Foundation. Starting from the premise that political militancy is currently undergoing change, the finer details of the process that has been set in motion, the ideas and experiences that have thus far been linked to militancy, a diagnosis of the current situation and the keys to the future are all analysed. [Marta Luxán • Andere Ormazabal • Unai Txurruka • Olatz Dañobeitia](#)

### NEWS TODAY

This gathers together cultural information focusing on the present from various areas and perspectives. This year we shall be closely following culture, economic, sociolinguistic and communication matters. This section draws on various specialists: Nagore Amondarain, Joseba Barandiaran, Dabid Anaut and Gorka Julio. [Various authors](#)