EMERGING ORGANIZATIONAL FORMS AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES:

Spanish State case:
“Indignated” or 15M mobilization

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Empirical research
(Dec 2010 - 2011)

28 Interview
Participative observation and virtual ethnography
Web analysis 145 initiatives

But focus in analyzing the role of Free Culture movement in 15M

But focus on Catalan case

+ Previous research on the global movement
Warm up presentation:

1) CONTEXTUALIZATION OF THE SPANISH STATE CASE

2) ADDRESSING THE QUESTIONS OF THE SESSION

3) FINAL REFLEXIONS ON THEOREICAL FRAMES OF ANALYSIS
1) CONTEXTUALIZATION OF THE SPANISH STATE CASE

1. Disruptive change of scenario before and after 15 May (15M) mobilization.

2. In one month the level of population support increased enormously - 80% of the population (Elpais Survey June 2011).

3. Gaining visibility of the mobilization by synchronizing and intervening in electoral campaigning. Campaigning for “don't vote” or to vote disrupting bipartidism.

4. Political message: Slogans “Truly democracy now” “Politics do not represent us” “This is not a crisis, is that I don't love you anymore” “We are not a commodity of politicians and bankers”

5. Ambivalent character - both transmitting a message of “protest” for life precarization (44% of youth unemployment, housing draconian conditions, cuts in health and education budgets, ….) and a messages of empowerment “we can”, citizens getting organize - a more active role of active civic society as resource provider and manager (in contrast to market and state modes).

Since 2008 high increase of “alternative” practices: deep increase of cooperativism (workers, housing, wireless, consumers (organic food),…), increase of ethical banking, time banks and other forms of reciprocal cooperation.

On the base of 145 initiatives: 52% frame their action as “performative”/building together/cooperation in contrast to 32% framed their action as protest (positioning the action and changes in political institutions).
2) ADDRESSING THE QUESTIONS OF THE SESSION

Which organizational forms were adopted by the movements in each case?

From a movement of movement of the global movement to an “informational ecosystem” or commons mobilization. Flexibly connect several forms, degree and layers of involvement and contributing to a common pool of moments of convergence; and which run more (in contrast to previous waves) though individual forms of belonging and connect though multi-belonging and previous modes of affinity.

1) Sum and superposition of contributions: **Scalability though “layering” of several degrees and model of involvement.**

2) “Committed” individualism and “friend affinity” put into action: Increase of individuals base modes of involvement and multi-belonging. Organization of the mobilization though previous networks of friendship and other forms of affinity.

3) Questions form of representation
Scalability though “layering” of several degrees and modes of involvement

First: “Non-politicized” initiative to mobilize citizens coordinated though Facebook and casual bars aggregating “new” and youth people and by the new groups during the previous 4 months of 15M (inspired by Arab Spring and Iceland mobilizations).

Second: Convergence with the housing movement and free culture movement.

Third: 15M big mobilization and spontaneous occupation of square in Madrid. Square repression of the little occupation (and its eccos though the social media) activated the solidarity from social movement networks, mobilizations against education and health cuts and mobilized them coming also to the squares.

Four: Merging in the squares between “new” active citizens with previous (more traditional) social movements networks of the global movement or recent mobilizations of students. Later on, going from central squares in each city to neighborhoods.

Five: Square repression arriving to mass media activated the sympathy of older generations very sensibility in Spanish with police repression evocative of the dictatorship, and the sensibility of large population suffering life precariousness. Not mobilized in the street but supporting the mobilization.

Six: In the course of one month, major trade unions and lefties political parties also called to mobilize to the days of protest but did not converge with the squares.

Seven: The organizers of the first mobilization (Truly democracy now) did not converged with the squares either, but keep mobilizing for the shared days of protest.
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