

TWO YEARS LATER

This document highlights a number of themes and questions to galvanize debate after watching “Two Years Later”. The idea is to discuss the three transversal themes that appear in the documentary:

1. MUNICIPALISM

The approach of municipalism is that of a democratic system based on proximity, horizontality and direct democracy. The aim of decentralizing power by having neighbourhoods and communities as the starting point underscores the pragmatic and direct methods where objectives come before party interests. The main objectives are placing day-to-day practice and remedies at the centre of the political debate, construct from the bottom and opt for collective intelligence.

Possible questions

What examples of municipalism appear in the video?

Should a municipalist movement go beyond its city? If you agree, how should it and why?

Do you know any municipalist projects that inspire you to trust institutional politics? If so, which are they and why?

2. SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND THE INSTITUTIONS

A large number of the people in Barcelona En Comú come from social movements. This has brought about a new relationship with the powers, with the institutions and with these activist spheres. With an aim to readjust these relationships, the idea is that of an “open” Town Hall, an approachable organization and active heeding of challenges by a mobilized citizenship.

Possible questions

Is it possible to defend the same from within the institutions as from without?

How can governments for change avoid being victims of the expectations they themselves have brought about?

How should an activist behave before an apparently like-minded government?

3. FEMINIZING POLITICS

The aim of feminizing politics is to break away from male and patriarchal logic, which impose certain forms of relationships and order. It does, of course, go way beyond the essential requirement of including women in public office and work teams and the proposal involves changes in practice and policy and placing people and their concerns at the centre of institutional policy.

Possible questions

How is this attempt at feminizing politics apparent in the video? What difficulties have there been? What examples of feminist policies are shown in the video?

How would you adopt “a feminist focus to all areas of government”?

How would we react to a politician if they publicly discussed their doubts, fears or contradictions? Would it be the same in the case of a man and in that of a woman?