1. It is important to emphasise a **citizenship** in which the construction of identity is directed towards constructing meanings. Citizenship, as a synthesis of justice and membership, is a *property* that emerges from the way we relate to each other. It is about a citizen who creates his/her self through everyday communication, and it is a process of identity formation and recognition of community membership beyond normative conditions. This does not imply minimising the relevance of normative conditions; on the contrary they form an essential part of social agreements. However norms and citizenship are understood as a thing that we build in the process of constructing our identity. Citizenship is understood as a stable construction-property in the process of building a meaningful identity that emerges from daily citizens interactions (Mendiwelso-Bendek, 2002), (Mendiwelso Bendek Z. 2015).  

2. **Citizenship** is observed as a stable construction that emerges from the way in which people relate to each other and which we build in our *moment-to-moment communications*. Through the relationship of ownership and inclusion local citizens can influence the identity of the democratic system as they elect representatives or engage in reflecting upon their values, perceptions, concerns, expectations. For a more direct, participative and deliberative influence, citizens can directly leverage their power through their moment-to-moment communications with local decision makers. For a more indirect leverage they can exercise their influence through collective pressure groups, as these get involved in dialogues and other forms of engagement with global policymakers and experts. In this way there is an opportunity for them to exercise local and global influence. Through these two channels they can improve interactions with the political system; creating continued need for critical reflection that questions and refines the relationship of citizens with politicians and experts as an ongoing process. (Espejo, R. and Mendiwelso-Bendek, Z. 2011)  

- **Community Based Research**, community education and experiential learning have influenced a wide range of *active citizenship learning initiatives* in recent times, enabling individual and collective critical understanding of the realities, issues, perceptions and expectations of communities in order to develop strategies for social transformations. Take Part is one of the UK Programs that over the past decades has support learning to take part in Civil Society as an active citizen. Take Part programme (2002-2013) designed to improve citizens’ knowledge, skills and confidence, as well as structures and processes for community engagement and empowerment, involved several local authorities as well as third sector organisations and universities. The Take Part programme contributed to the development of “research mindedness”, which led to an ESRC capacity building cluster. Through this programme third-sector organisations began to develop an enhanced awareness of the value of research more generally. It helped third-sector organisations

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understand how to undertake research for themselves, commission research most effectively and identify relevant research methodologies and tools, as well as ways of identifying, evaluating and then applying research findings. Overall, this research helped to develop innovative approaches to community engagement and empowerment, issues of central importance to the self-organisation of the third sector, as well as the public and private sectors. This programme on the organisation and practice of citizenship learning showed the impact of conceptual robustness in direct applicability to local efforts. It included a sustained strategy of maintaining a link within the programme from research to practice. (Mayo, M., Mendiwelso-Bendek, Z. and Packham, C. (Eds) (2013)³,

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