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September Conversation :

There is always an exchange.

How do we connect (for real) ?

And it is not just about the link !

#Systemperspective #Community #Resilience #Connectivity

The social fabric of our reality is about links, bonds and ties. What brings us together, makes us argue and unify. There is always an alterity in that process, with whom we are exchanging something, sometimes about something else, sometimes just about ourselves. These exchanges are omnipresent, any connection made, even their attempt contains the movement of an exchange. From the physical contact between two people dancing, to the psychologist inquiring about one's action, any of our connection is about an exchange.
Therefore we pose a question, if there is always an exchange how do we connect ? What is it that makes us bond with each other ? While connectivity is discussed in many fields of social science – Palo Alto's first axiom on communication or Milgram's small world theory – connection is still often translated through the abstract idea of a "link". If we follow a simplified definition of a system as interconnected elements, the superficiality of this view needs deeper investigation as to the true nature and meaning of connection. Connections being the essence of any human community, it is necessary to discuss how connection is made; how it develops and how it fades away.
Considering that the specific nature of human connection within their shared activities, this discussion aims to further dig into the details of what make human connections. What dimensions? On which level of which scale? With whom and why? It aims to target how do we operate as social animals and how communities, network and collective might emerge from a simple shared presence to a willing full shared practice.