

# Iceland and Its New Constitution



Presentation at the  
Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center  
Bellagio, Italy, 29 November 2019

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# Outline

- 1) Artists and academics
- 2) Iceland and its New Constitution
  - a) Timeline
  - b) Method, including crowd sourcing ...  
... and, yes, a song: One Chapter
  - c) Substance
  - d) A just society with equal opportunities for everyone



# Timeline and Method

- 1) 2008 – Financial collapse; Protests in the streets, pots and pans
- 2) 2009 – New election; Change of government
- 3) 2010 – National Forum; Constituent Assembly election, 25 seats
- 4) 2011 – Constituent Assembly at work for four months, passed bill 25:0
- 5) 2012 – National Referendum, bill approved 67% against 33%
- 6) 2013 – Parliament failed to ratify bill; Old rascals back to office
- 7) 2016 – Panama Papers scandal featuring three Icelandic ministers
- 8) 2019 – Bribery scandal in Namibia; Renewed protests in the streets
- 9) – Bill still held hostage by Parliament, which plays with fire

# Substance

- 1) Natural resources: Property of the nation
- 2) Electoral reform: One person, one vote  
Equal apportionment of seats in parliament
- 3) Transparency  
Including protection of whistle blowers
- 4) Environmental protection  
And, again, we burst into song: 12 verses, 8 lines each

# Rhyme and Alliteration

Bráðnandi jöklar, bitin tún,  
bliknar nú andinn fúsi  
og þjóð minni finnst sem foldin öll  
í fólkskunnar hlekkjum dúsi;  
sem glórulaust afl af grimmd og heift  
með græðgi hvert hjarta knúsi,  
líkt einsog nú sé lífið sjálft  
lokað í gróðurhúsi.

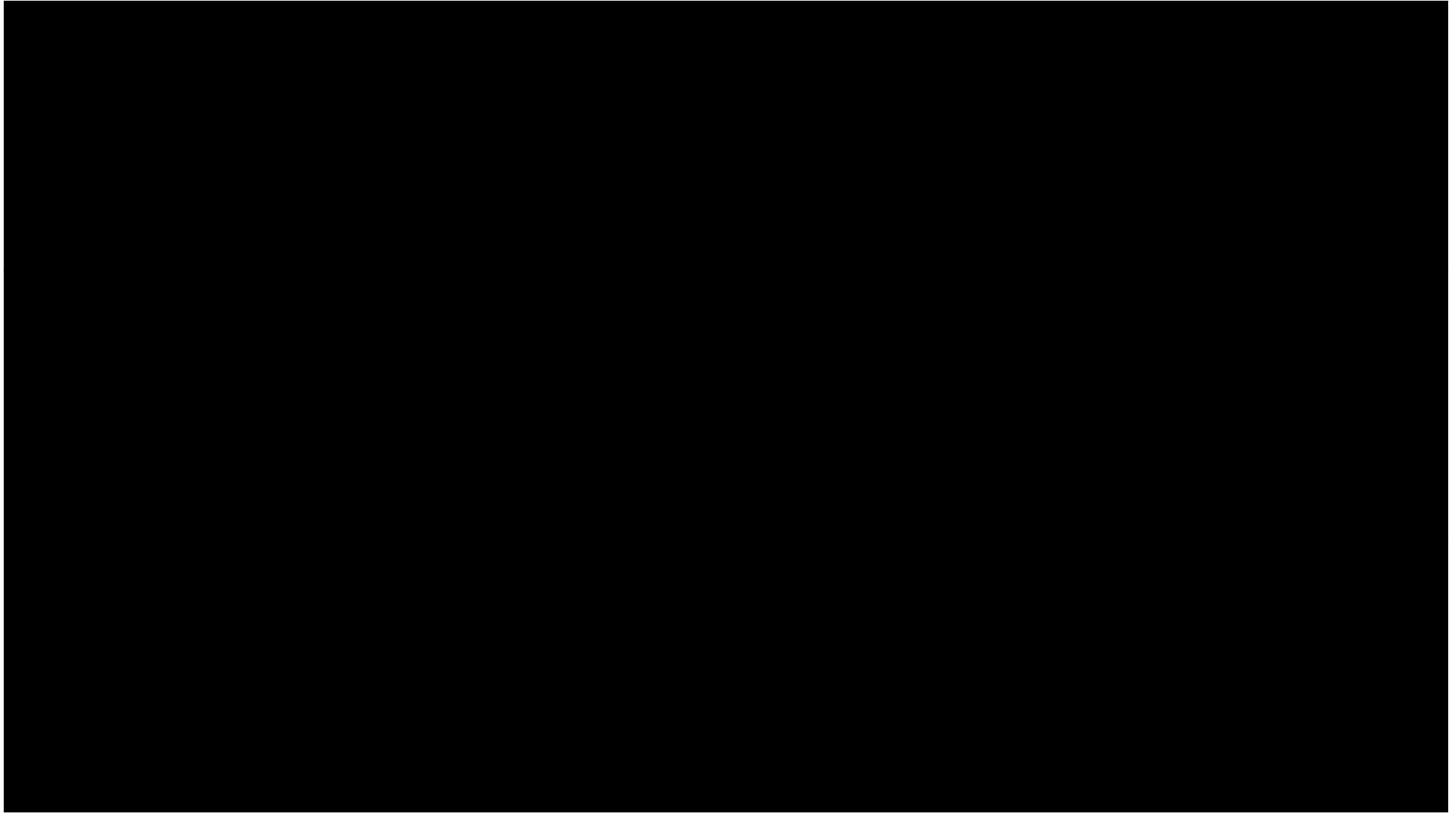
# Rhyme and Alliteration

Bráðnandi jöklar, bitin tún,  
bliknar nú andinn **fúsi**  
og þjóð minni finnst sem foldin öll  
í fólksunnar hlekkjum **dúsi**;  
sem glórulaust afl af grimmd og heift  
með græðgi hvert hjarta **knúsi**,  
líkt einsog nú sé lífið sjálft  
lokað í gróður**húsi**.

# Rhyme and Alliteration

Bráðnandi jöklar, bitin tún,  
bliknar nú andinn fúsi  
og þjóð minni finnst sem foldin öll  
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með græðgi hvert hjarta knúsi,  
líkt einsog nú sé lífið sjálft  
lokað í gróðurhúsi.





# Substance

- 1) Natural resources: Property of the nation
- 2) Electoral reform: One person, one vote  
Meaning equal apportionment of seats in parliament
- 3) Transparency  
Including protection of whistle blowers
- 4) Environmental protection  
Song

