The following is based on the four criteria set forth by Cumming & Peterson (2017) applied to social systems:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Conceptualization** | **Possibles variables** | **How could it be observed through news?** | **Indicators in public domain databases** |
| **The identity of the social–ecological system must be lost** | It involves the disappearance of critical institutions, fundamental cultural values, and entrenched social relationships. | **Trust in institutions** (Schiffman et al., 2010; Wang & Gordon, 2011; Alfano & Huijts, 2020) | News reporting on corruption scandals, government officials' resignations, protests against the government, abuse of power, and impunity within institutions can provide insights into trust in institutions. | **World Bank Group:** <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/worldwide-governance-indicators> [/](https://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/) **World Justice project:** <https://worldjusticeproject.org/rule-of-law-index/>  **Economist Intelligence Unit:**  <https://www.eiu.com/n/campaigns/democracy-index-2023/> |
| **Loss of identity should happen fast** | It could manifest as a significant deterioration of social cohesion, community fabric, and trust in institutions in a relatively short period. | **Cultural and social values** (Schwartz, 2011; Fischer et al., 2012; Schwartz, 2014) | News coverage of increasing conflicts between groups with different cultural values, changes in the perception of social or cultural identity, or coverage of loss of cultural heritage or destruction of historical sites can indicate a loss of cultural and social values. | **European Values:** <https://europeanvaluesstudy.eu/education-dissemination-publications/evs-publications/european-values-series/>  **World Values Survey:** <https://www.worldvaluessurvey.org/wvs.jsp> |
| **Collapse involves substantial losses of social–ecological capital** | In a social system, the substantial loss of social capital could imply a comprehensive decrease in key social resources, encompassing mutual trust, social networks, civic participation, community solidarity, and human capital. | **Social capital or social cohesion (**Perkins & Long, 2002; Putnam, 2001; Almedom, 2005; Chan et al., 2006) | Decreased participation in community activities and social support networks can signal a decline in social capital or cohesion. The news could also highlight community leaders who emerge during times of crisis to mobilize others, encourage citizen participation, and promote collaboration among different groups and the implementation of community or social development programs. | **Social Cohesion and Reconciliation (SCORE) Index:**  <https://app.scoreforpeace.org/>  **Social Capital Index:** <https://solability.com/the-global-sustainable-competitiveness-index/the-index/social-capital>  **Civic Engagement:** <https://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/topics/civic-engagement/> |
| **The consequences of collapse must be lasting** | It could include the continued deterioration of social cohesion, entrenched political polarization, the weakening of democratic institutions, the loss of human capital, or the persistence of extreme social and economic inequalities. | **Economic capital**  (Bourdieu, 1986; Ahnquist et al., 2012; Karatas-Ozkan, 2023; Ripamonti, 2023) | Economic indicators such as GDP growth or contraction, unemployment rate, inflation, and government decisions on budget and public debt are essential for assessing economic capital. | **World Bank Group:** <https://datatopics.worldbank.org/world-development-indicators/themes/economy.html>  **Dyvik**: [*https://www.statista.com/topics/5442/global-economic-indicators/#topicOverview*](https://www.statista.com/topics/5442/global-economic-indicators/#topicOverview)  **OECD:** <https://www.oecd.org/sdd/oecdmaineconomicindicatorsmei.htm> |
| **Social polarization**  (Rutkevich,1993; Permanyer, 2012: Bramson et al., 2016) | News reflecting hate speech, political radicalization, social tensions, intergroup conflicts, and levels of trust between different ethnic, religious, or political groups can indicate social polarization. | **Political polarization:**  https://www.undp.org/latin-america/blog/me-or-against-me-intensification-political-polarization-latin-america-and-caribbean |
| **Safety & Security (**United Nations Development Programme [UNDP], 1994; Eller & Frey, 2019; Slavich, 2020; Mubita, 2021) | News reflecting levels of crime, homicides, internal displacement, and refugees. | **Global Residence Index:**  <https://globalresidenceindex.com/hnwi-index/safety-index/>  **Global Peace Index:**  <https://globalresidenceindex.com/hnwi-index/safety-index/>  **OECD Better life:**  <https://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/topics/safety/> |
| **Quality of life** (Diener & Suh,1997; Sirgy, 2012; Theofilou, 2013) | News addressing declining public services, access to education, housing, and mental health indices are significant for understanding quality of life | **OECD Better life:**  <https://www.oecdbetterlifeindex.org/#/11111111111>  **Social progress index:**  <https://www.socialprogress.org/> |

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