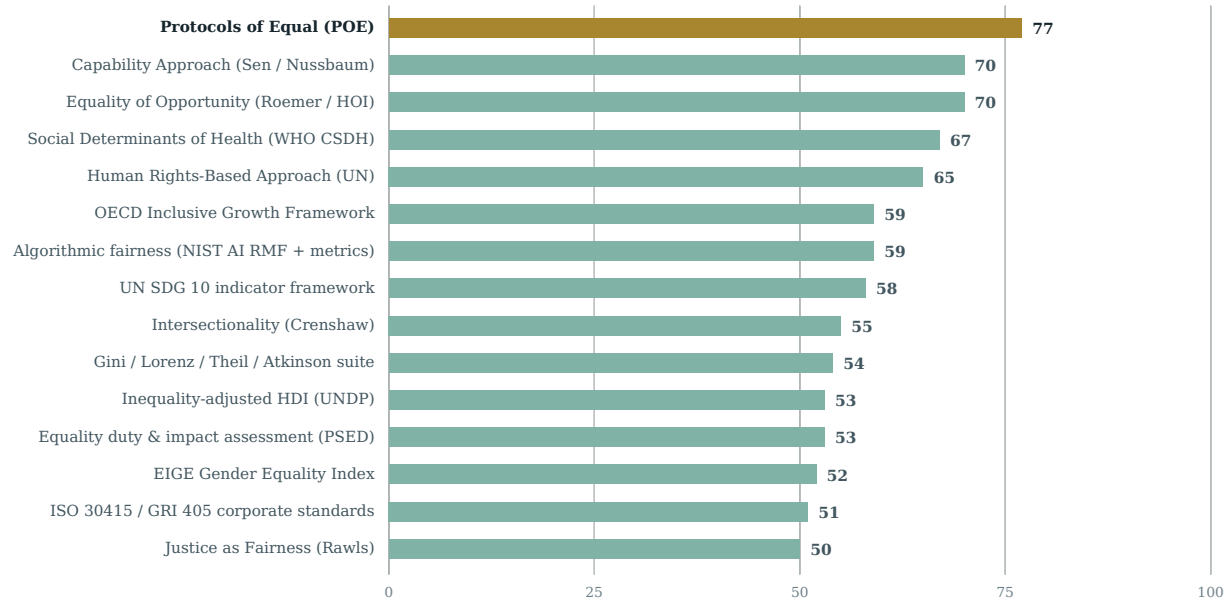


Can equality be engineered like infrastructure?

The Protocols of Equal benchmarked against fourteen established frameworks across ten design criteria. It finishes first on this scorecard — and the reason it finishes first is itself the most important finding in this report.



How to read this scorecard before you read anything else

The ten criteria supplied for this benchmark — closed-loop operation, causality recognition, architectural layering, unified calculation, identity-neutrality — are, almost line for line, the capabilities the Protocols of Equal claims for itself on its own Technical page. A scorecard built from one framework's feature list will rank that framework first. That is a property of the measuring instrument, not a discovery about the world.

So read the totals as **design ambition and internal architecture**, which is exactly what the brief asked for. They are not a claim that POE works, that its numbers would be reproducible, or that it outperforms Sen or Rawls at the thing those frameworks were actually built to do. A fifteenth column — evidentiary maturity (EV) — is shown in the table but deliberately excluded from the total. On that column POE scores lowest of all fifteen.

QUESTION 1

Analyze the information on protocolsofequal.com, including the About, Technical and Use Cases pages.

Reviewed: the home page and its principle/clause post archive, [/about/](#), [/technical/](#) and [/use-cases/](#). The technical.txt and technical.md endpoints returned server errors and could not be retrieved; the HTML [/technical/](#) page appears to carry the same specification, so nothing is believed to be missing.

The framework rests on a single asserted constant, the **Rule of Sow and Reap (ROSAR)**, defined as equilibrium between intent and outcome — sowing and reaping, input and output, cause and effect. Everything else hangs off it. An **Instance of Sow and Reap (INOSAR)** is the unit of analysis: one circumstance, captured whole. Each instance is mapped through the **MOSARC**, a four-tier structure running Conduits (macro domains such as arms, healthcare, public sector) → Occurrences (meso events such as a hiring decision or an adjudication) → Principles (micro phenomena that bend the sow-and-reap relation) → Factors (nano binders, split into Clauses, Deviates and Neutralizers).

Cutting across all four tiers is the **Symmetrical Polarity Construct**: every construct exists in an ascending (ASARC, toward equality) and a descending (DSARC, toward inequality) form, with floating markers for Breaking Point, Revelation Point, Reversal Point and Apex. Measurement runs on a symmetric ± 5 scale, aggregating through the POE Calculator into an **Equality Quotient** that can be rolled up from an individual instance to a team, a city, a nation. The operational loop is Observe → Map → Measure → Compute → Improve → Validate → Repeat, with "Actionable Protocols" as the intervention step. Applications are set out for individuals, communities, organisations and jurisdictions — constitutional equality, legislation, administration, adjudication, enforcement — and mapped to ten UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The author is D S Reid; the material is dated 2023–2026 and is self-published. There are no external citations, no peer-reviewed publications, no datasets and no worked numeric example anywhere on the site. The site describes itself as research-ready rather than researched, and estimates three to five years of empirical work ahead of it. That self-assessment is accurate and is the honest ground on which the rest of this benchmark stands.

QUESTION 2

Provide a brief synopsis of the POE's objective, strategy, and potential for positive change (2–3 lines each).

Objective

Turn equality from a moral aspiration into an operational discipline — something classifiable, measurable, auditable and enforceable. The stated end state is "Extremely High Level Equality," reached through a universal equitable infrastructure that works irrespective of culture, jurisdiction or era.

Strategy

Anchor every equality question to one constant (ROSAR), decompose each circumstance through four tiers of the MOSARC, score every construct on a symmetric ± 5 scale, aggregate into an Equality Quotient, then generate Actionable Protocols and re-score until the target is met. Diagnosis and remedy are produced by the same mirrored structure.

Potential for change

Its real contribution would be a shared vocabulary and audit trail for inequality at the level where people experience it — the individual decision, not the national statistic. If even the Principles library and the instance-level audit loop survive testing, that alone would be a useful addition to equality practice, independent of the grander claims.

QUESTION 3

List and score (units of 10) the top 15 known equality frameworks — the POE plus 14 more — across ten criteria. Rank by complete score out of 100.

- C1** Conceptual strength — ethical basis, logical unity, applicability

C2 Equality specificity — built for equality end to end

C3 Architectural design — layers, dimensions, granularity

C4 Universality — across cultures, sectors, countries

C5 Closed loop — solves inequality internally, start to finish

EV Evidentiary maturity — reference column, excluded from the total
- C6** Neutrality — free of demographic, ideological or identity bias

C7 Causality — root cause, cause-effect mapping, intervention accuracy

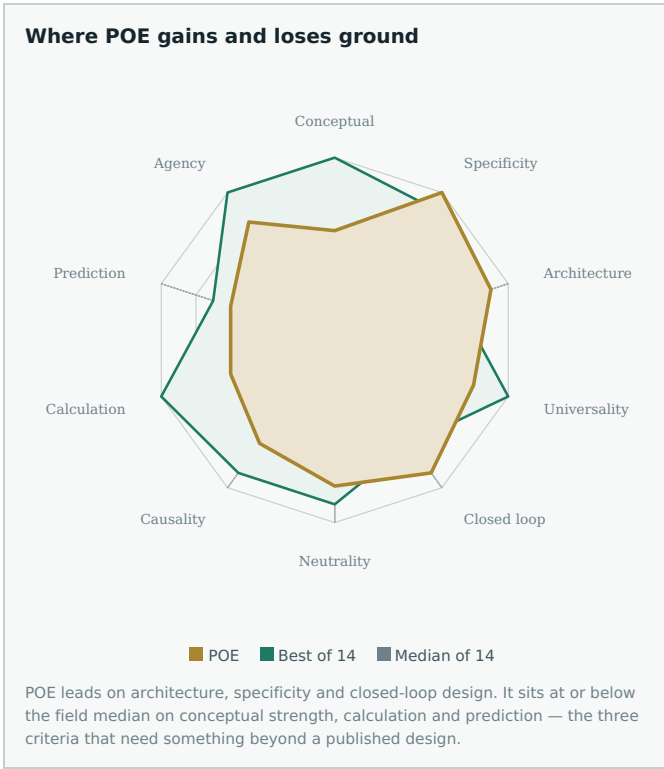
C8 Calculation — volume, unity and depth of quantifiable output

C9 Prediction — risk forecasting, scenario modelling, prevention

C10 Agency — power handed to individuals and collectives

#	Framework	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	C7	C8	C9	C10	Total	EV
1	Protocols of Equal (POE)	6	10	9	8	9	8	7	6	6	8	77	1
2	Capability Approach (Sen / Nussbaum)	10	8	5	9	4	7	7	6	4	10	70	9
3	Equality of Opportunity (Roemer / HOI)	8	9	6	7	5	6	8	9	6	6	70	8
4	Social Determinants of Health (WHO CSDH)	8	8	7	8	5	5	9	7	5	5	67	9
5	Human Rights-Based Approach (UN)	9	7	6	9	6	7	5	4	3	9	65	8
6	OECD Inclusive Growth Framework	6	6	6	7	5	7	5	8	5	4	59	8
7	Algorithmic fairness (NIST AI RMF + metrics)	5	8	6	4	7	4	6	10	7	2	59	7
8	UN SDG 10 indicator framework	6	9	5	9	5	6	3	7	4	4	58	9
9	Intersectionality (Crenshaw)	8	9	5	7	3	2	8	3	3	7	55	7
10	Gini / Lorenz / Theil / Atkinson suite	6	8	3	10	2	9	2	9	4	1	54	10
11	Inequality-adjusted HDI (UNDP)	6	7	4	9	3	7	3	8	3	3	53	9
12	Equality duty & impact assessment (PSED)	6	9	5	4	6	3	4	4	5	7	53	7
13	EIGE Gender Equality Index	6	8	7	4	4	4	4	8	4	3	52	8
14	ISO 30415 / GRI 405 corporate standards	4	7	7	6	6	4	4	6	4	3	51	6
15	Justice as Fairness (Rawls)	10	7	4	6	2	8	4	2	2	5	50	8

Cell shading: 1-3 4-6 7-8 9-10



Nine specific weaknesses found in the published design

These are why C1, C8 and C9 score where they do. Each is fixable, and several are editorial rather than structural.

- **The scale table contradicts itself.** On the Technical page, +2 is labelled "moderately inequitable system" and +1 "barely equitable" while both sit in the positive band; -3 reads "07-80%"; +5 is "fully equitable" at 90%. A scoring instrument whose own key is inconsistent cannot yet be applied by a second assessor.
- **The weighting scheme is undefined.** The Calculator specifies Observed Value → Weight Applied → Weighted Value → Numerical Conversion, but no weights are published. Without them the Equality Quotient is not reproducible — two analysts scoring the same instance can legitimately reach different totals.
- **Definitional circularity.** Equality is defined as ROSAR equilibrium; inequality is defined as ROSAR breach. The claim that "the vast majority, and potentially all, inequalities occur due to the breaking of ROSAR" is then true by construction, not by observation. Nothing the framework measures can disconfirm it.
- **Intent is treated as observable.** The Seed Clause promises "validation of personal intent at a root level." Intent is the single hardest thing in social measurement to establish. If the framework cannot operationalise this, the causal chain loses its first link.
- **No inter-rater reliability.** Principles and factors are a curated library from one author. Which principles apply to a given occurrence is a judgement call, and nothing yet shows two trained assessors would classify the same event the same way.
- **Moralised vocabulary undercuts the neutrality claim.** Clauses as "Heroes," Deviates as "Villains," principles named "Approval From The Bad" and "Evil Action Good Reaction Discrepancy." Structurally the framework is identity-neutral; lexically it imports strong moral judgement, and assessors absorb the lexicon.
- **Prediction is asserted, not designed.** The Monitor module is marked "will update soon." Velocity and Trajectory are named as data points but no forecasting method, time-series model or risk threshold appears anywhere. C9 reflects intent only.
- **Terminology drift.** MOEC and MOSARC are used interchangeably; "Occurrences of Inequality" carries the acronym OCOEQ; Breaking Point of Equality reuses APEQ, already the Apex acronym. Minor, but it obstructs exactly the precision the framework is claiming.
- **Unsupported quantities.** "Up to 90% improvement" on SDG 10 and "decrease inequalities by up to 90%" have no derivation. Published numbers without a method attached will be the first thing a peer reviewer strikes, and they cost the project credibility it does not need to spend.

QUESTION 4

Rank the top 5 individual conceptual strengths or attributes demonstrated by any of these frameworks — especially anything exceptional.

1 The circumstance-effort decomposition

Roemer's move, operationalised in the World Bank's Human Opportunity Index: split every outcome into the part traceable to circumstances a person did not choose and the part traceable to their own effort, then measure only the first. It converts a centuries-old philosophical argument into an estimable quantity, and it is the single most successful translation of moral theory into measurement in this field.

Equality of Opportunity · Roemer, 1998; HOI, World Bank 2008

2 Conversion factors and the capability space

Sen's insight that identical resources produce radically unequal freedoms depending on what a person can convert them into. It permanently relocated the question from what people have to what they are actually able to do, and it is why the Capability Approach still outscores everything else on both ethical grounding and agency.

Capability Approach · Sen, Nussbaum

3 The veil of ignorance

A procedural device that generates distributive principles without reference to any actual group, identity or interest. Nothing else in the field achieves neutrality structurally rather than by promising to be careful — which is precisely the problem POE is also trying to solve, by a different route.

Justice as Fairness · Rawls, 1971

4 The structural-to-intermediary causal pathway

The WHO Commission model chains socioeconomic position through material circumstances, behaviours and psychosocial factors to health outcomes, with each link independently testable. It is the strongest example in the field of a causal architecture that survived empirical contact, and it is the benchmark any new causal framework should expect to be measured against.

Social Determinants of Health · WHO CSDH, 2008

5 Mirrored polarity as a diagnostic engine

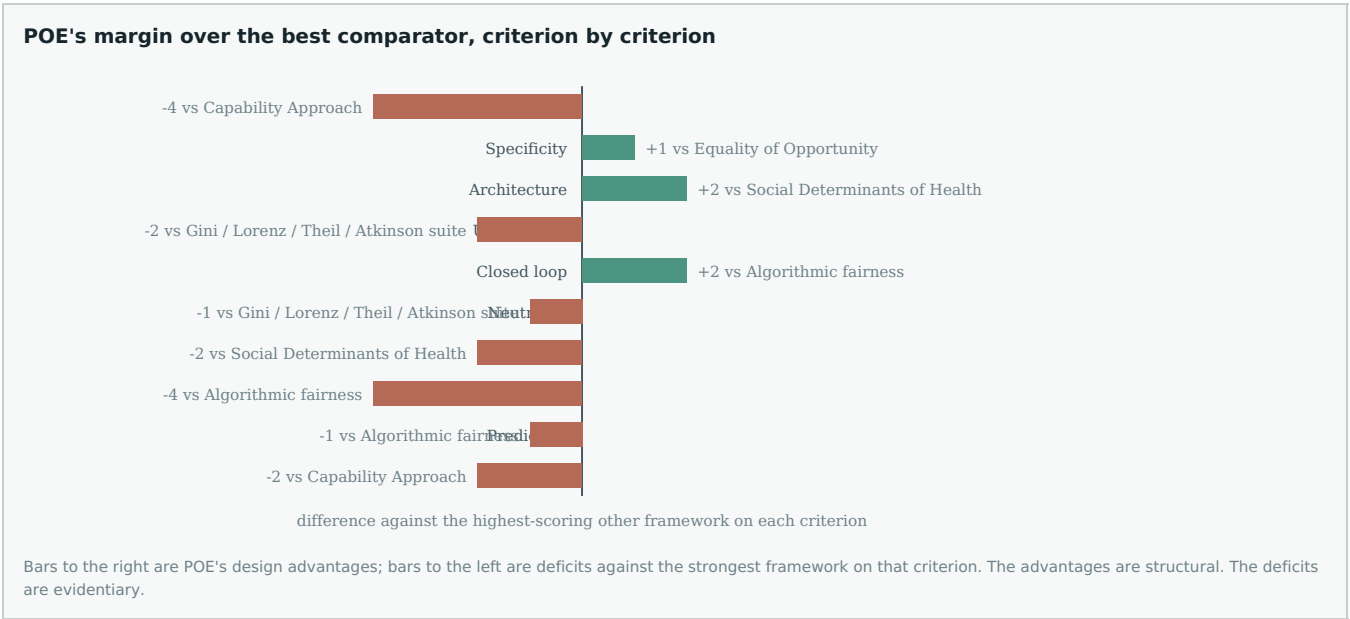
POE's own standout: every construct exists as an ascending and a descending twin, so detecting inequality and specifying its remedy are the same operation performed in opposite directions. No other framework here generates the intervention directly from the diagnosis — most stop at a measured gap and hand the remedy to policy. Whether it holds up under data is unknown; as a design idea it is genuinely novel.

Symmetrical Polarity Construct · Protocols of Equal

Close behind: the subgroup decomposability of the Theil index, which lets total inequality be split cleanly into within-group and between-group parts — the quietest but most-used piece of mathematics in the whole field.

QUESTION 5

List the top 5 features where the POE excels beyond existing academic, institutionalized and governance frameworks, with the impact of each in 1-2 sentences.



1 **Diagnosis and remedy from one structure**

Because every construct has a mirrored opposite, identifying a Deviate simultaneously names the Clause that neutralises it. Every other framework here ends at a measured disparity and hands the intervention to a separate policy process — POE closes that handoff inside the framework.

2 **The individual instance as the unit of analysis**

The INOSAR scores one circumstance — this hiring decision, this adjudication — and rolls upward into aggregates, rather than starting at national statistics and trying to disaggregate downward. This is the direction that matters for the person actually experiencing the inequality, and it is the direction almost no institutional framework runs in.

3 **Identity-agnostic classification**

POE evaluates the intent-to-outcome relation rather than membership of a protected category, so it can assess a case where no demographic axis is in play at all. That is a real portability advantage over Intersectionality, EU gender indices and statutory equality-duty regimes, all of which need a named characteristic before they can start.

4 **Four-tier granularity with a named phenomenon library**

Most frameworks reach indicator level and stop. POE keeps going to micro-phenomena — Latency of Sow and Reap, Unsown Reapings, Inequality Amplifier, Hedging Ignorance — giving practitioners vocabulary for mechanisms that currently get described only as "systemic." Shared names are the precondition for shared measurement.

5 **Force and enforcement treated as an equality domain**

The arms branch — Arms Hypocrisy, Leveraging the Hammer, Requisite of the Hammer, the Power of Solutions clause requiring an equitable alternative before rights are infringed — is close to unique. Coercion is generally handled by separate human-rights and criminal-justice literatures, and folding it into the same measurement structure as hiring and healthcare is a defensible and unusual choice.

What these five have in common

Every one of them is an architectural claim, and every one of them is testable. That is a better position than most new frameworks manage — the things POE is strongest on are also the things that can be checked soonest, and relatively cheaply.

QUESTION 6

Does the POE show promising signs of becoming an effective tool to detect, diagnose, reverse and prevent inequalities?

Detect Promising	Diagnose Promising	Reverse Plausible, unproven	Prevent Not yet designed
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Yes on the first two, with qualification on the rest. **Detection** is the strongest case: the conduit-occurrence-principle-factor decomposition gives an assessor a structured way to interrogate a single event, and the named-phenomena library is specific enough to be applied by someone who did not write it. **Diagnosis** follows, because the Deviate concept forces an answer to "what specifically broke this" rather than "which group is behind." Those two are where the framework earns its keep.

Reversal is architecturally coherent but empirically empty. The Actionable Protocol step assumes that neutralising an identified Deviate produces the corresponding equitable outcome, and that assumption is exactly the kind of thing that fails on contact with institutions, incentives and politics. It might hold; nothing yet shows it does.

Prevention is the weakest link and should not be claimed at present. Forecasting requires a model that takes current state and produces a probability over future states. POE has Velocity, Trajectory and a Monitor module marked "will update soon" — it has the data schema for prediction and none of the machinery. Removing the prevention claim until there is a model behind it would strengthen the project's credibility, not weaken it.

One structural caution that cuts across all four: the framework is currently a closed system authored by one person, with internal consistency as its only validation. That is how a framework is supposed to start. It is not how one is supposed to stay, and the risk is that the architecture keeps elaborating without ever being exposed to a case it could fail.

QUESTION 7

Would you recommend that the POE be researched to see if it can live up to this projected assessment?

Yes — and the case for doing so is stronger than the case for most self-published frameworks, because POE is unusually falsifiable. It makes specific structural claims that a small study could confirm or kill within months rather than years. That is worth spending research effort on regardless of whether the grand claims survive. The sequence that would settle it, cheapest and most decisive first:

1 Fix the scale, then publish the weights

Repair the internally contradictory ± 5 table and publish the weighting scheme. Until an outsider can compute an Equality Quotient and get the same answer twice, nothing else can be tested. This is weeks of work and it blocks everything downstream.

2 Run an inter-rater reliability study

Give ten trained assessors the same thirty real cases — hiring files, benefit determinations, sentencing records — and measure agreement on conduit, principle, factor and final score. A Krippendorff's alpha above roughly 0.7 means the framework is a measuring instrument; below 0.4 means it is a vocabulary, which is still useful but a different product.

3 Test convergent validity against known measures

Score cases where the answer is already established by audit study, litigation outcome or administrative data, and check whether the Equality Quotient tracks them. If POE flags inequality where a paired-résumé audit found none, or misses what a court established, the constructs need revision.

4 Attack the intent assumption directly

Take the Seed Clause and ask what observable proxies could stand in for root intent, then test whether assessors can infer it above chance. This is the load-bearing assumption in the entire framework, and it is the most likely place for it to break. Better to find out early.

5 Build one prediction model, on one conduit

Rather than claiming prevention in general, take a single domain with longitudinal data and build a model that forecasts a Breaking Point of Equality before it occurs. One validated forecast in one narrow domain would do more for the project than any amount of additional architecture.

Two things to stop doing in the meantime

Drop the unsourced percentage claims — "up to 90%" on SDG 10, "the most comprehensive equality framework available" — and drop "universal constant" in favour of "foundational premise" or "primary thesis." The site already concedes that Newton's Third Law is an analogy rather than proof; the wider material has not caught up with that honesty. Overclaiming is the fastest way for a serious framework to be dismissed unread, and this one has enough genuine substance that it does not need to.

technical.md returned server errors) and published literature on the fourteen comparator frameworks. Scores are one analyst's structured judgement of published design, not measurements — a different analyst applying the same ten criteria would reasonably differ by several points per framework. Comparator frameworks are scored on how they perform against these ten criteria, several of which they were never built to satisfy; a low total here is not a judgement of a framework's worth in its own domain.