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Social sciences and arts

Abstract

The author focuses on the most important papers included in the international conference concerning the social sciences and arts.

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The paper *Socio-cultural transformations as a philosophical concept demanded by the times* was presented by Valentina Dianova and Antonina Puchkovskaya (Russia). They stated that significant changes caused by migration processes taking place today in the European part of the world not only encourage political, administrative and legal tools to resolve them, but also create a new categorical apparatus and philosophical concepts which contribute to the formation of a new world, an adequate for the period of global crisis. This is true in the perspective that previously humanitarian discourse was focused on the describing stable situations in the culture and the society, but the periods of “breaking” of traditional stereotypes and the emergence of a situation of instability are still not well understood. For better understanding of such bifurcations there were used different concepts: “crisis”, “era of transition”, “cyclical dynamics”, “progress”, “return motion”, “upward and downward waves”, “modernisation” and many others. However, during the collapse of empires and civilisations or so called the modern world-system transformations reach the global level as they affect different areas: economy, politics, religion, law, culture, carrying out on a personal and/or public levels. This comprehensive scope of their manifestations requires philosophical understanding of this concept.

The author of presentation *A call for self-responsibility – Husserl’s crisis in light of Ingarden’s ontology of responsibility* was Jadwiga Guerrero van der Meijden (Poland). She proposed in her paper an interpretation of those various crises in light of the text written by Husserl in 1923-1924, *Meditation over the idea of individual*

and communal life in absolute self-responsibility. It was in her hypothesis that particular crises can be analysed as manifestations of an underlying ethical problems: failing to realize the ideal of absolute self-responsibility. An ethical dimension of Husserl's crisis pertains to the problem of humanity and human nature more than to the methodological problems of each particular discipline of science. Therefore, to discuss Husserl's idea of life in absolute self-responsibility can serve not only as a theoretical observation for a historian, but also as a hint towards a practical solution for the crisis. In light of such a possibility it has to be stated, however, that Husserl's description of this ethical demand is limited. In order to treat it as a way out of the crisis one needs a more detailed understanding of the idea of self-responsibility than the one that Husserl's writings offer. Roman Ingarden, a Polish phenomenologist and a student of Husserl, developed a theory of the phenomena of responsibility which can serve as a further analysis of the issue. Based on his ontology of responsibility the author of the paper considered: the ontological foundation of responsibility, personal identity and freedom as conditions of responsibility and possible ends of the relations of responsibility. The leading topic of this analysis adheres to the problems of assumptions that underline an ethical call for responsibility and aims at answering the following question: in what form is the idea of self-responsibility a realistic one?

Andrejs Cekuls stated that the purpose of his paper *Aspects of ethics and social responsibility in competitive environment: Research in Latvia* was to explore the aspects of ethics and social responsibility in competitive environment. In the age of information technologies, information acquires have on the one hand to follow the law on free availability of information, and on the other hand – intellectual property rights and protection of information from unauthorized utilisation. To find a balance, employees of organisation need to know the ethical principles of gathering.

Task of his study were to research the basis of the review of scientific sources on implementation principles of ethical standards and on social responsibility, as well as to evaluate the opinions of Latvian businessmen regarding principles and boundaries of ethical principles of competitive intelligence. The results of his empirical study showed that success of the modern organisation depends on qualitative information, and efficient laws protecting business secret could become one of prerequisites of successful business activity. People are cautions when speaking about business ethics. Survey participants believed that the code of ethics of business may affect developments in the competitive environment, however, they assumed that confidential treatment caused a number of ethical issues, for example, (1) what information can be announced confidential by an enterprise; (2) who determines whether the information is confidential; (3) are the employees obliged to keep the employer's trade secrets. Inconsistent are the survey results on ethical gathering of information respecting the law, but neglecting moral norms.

The boundaries between ethical and unethical acquisition of information are quite obscure, and it is difficult to formulate the concept of "ethical behaviour", because in the age of globalisation, the amount of information grows rapidly, especially in

highly competitive fields, and standard solutions are often not appropriate. Support of public opinion should be obtained for implementation and consolidation of business ethics. According to the author it is important to promote corporate reputation among the public. She emphasized that a good business ethics is a business assessment, which is based on the criteria, compliance with which enables the long-term existence and further development of an enterprise.

Vinicio Busacchi (Italy) presented *Critical hermeneutics and the paradigm of the text*. The aim of his paper was to reconsider Paul Ricœur's philosophy under the perspective of a critical hermeneutics understood as a general methodology which is able to work in the philosophical field as well as in the fields of the social and the human sciences. Indeed, critical hermeneutics expresses at once a philosophical approach and a methodological model. The differentiation of knowledge in the contemporary sciences has provoked a great increase in complexity. In addition, some problematic disciplines, like psychoanalysis, sociology and history have not found a unified methodological and epistemological structure revealing an objective, scientific limitation. The fragmentation and compartmentalisation of all researches and the scientific limitation of the human and social sciences is a fact. Philosophy may play a strategic, epistemological and procedural role of mediation thanks to its vast and diverse traditions, its rich vocabulary, and its varied, multi-levelled approach.

Ewa Bobrowska in her paper *Emancipation of affects. Art as iconography of the uncounscious* explored Lyotard's narrative of emancipation, which both resists and reveals the individual and social unconscious. Affect-phase, according to Lyotard's *The Different*, is an emancipated feeling that demands articulation. Diverse issues of emancipation from desire, liberation from past traumas, emancipation from the self as a source of suffering have broad implications for contemporary art. The reinterpretation of the Augustinian tradition in Lyotard's *The Confession of Augustine*, Jameson's *On the Sexual Production of Subjectivity* and in Derida's *Counterpaths* sheds light on confession - like forms in contemporary art of Marina Abramović, Miroslav Balka, Sylvia Kolbowski, and Bruce Nauman.

Enrolment rate trends in the Istria county Italian preschool and elementary school institutions was the contribution of Nada Poropat Jeletic and Lorena Lararic (Croatia). They stated that there is a parallel educational system, where all the classes (except second and foreign language classes) are taught respectively in Croatian or Italian. Furthermore, the learning of the Italian language, as the language of the social entertainment, is especially encouraged in the Croatian (majority) schools. The purpose of their research was to investigate the enrolment rate trends of children that attended Italian formal pre-school institutions in the Croatian Istria County during the last decade, and to correlate it with the enrolment rate trends of children that attended Italian elementary schools in the same time period, analysing the annual statistical reports. The results of the research showed wide a variation in the enrolment rates trends, therefore confirming a numerical disproportion. The impact of the findings was significant in terms of the Italian educational planning and policy development in the Istria County.

Michaela Münsterer (Czech Republic) stressed in her paper *From system to structure: a chance for a turnaround in today's educational institutions* that philosophy and its fundamental search for principle of being, conduct and knowledge have always been a source for input when it comes to the question of learning and education as a part of being human. The aim of her presentation was to show how Rombach's work contributed to the apprehension of learning and education as a structure. Firstly, a definition of the term structure and a short overview of its origins and development was given, followed by a close look at the learning and educational theories of Heinrich Rombach. Subsequently, the author elaborated on the question on the viability of the concept of "structure" for the learning process also, and in particular in institutions. In a final step she presented ways in which structural learning can be put into practice in educational environment.

The paper of Marta Gluchmanova (Slovakia) *Migration - school - principle of tolerance* focused on the application of ethical theories, especially the ethics of social consequences in the teaching profession, particularly in times of migration. The current situation in Europe as well as in Slovakia, linked to refugees migration needed to discuss the principle and value of tolerance in schools. The author paid attention to the application of tolerance in the teacher's work, the relationship between students both in school and outside the school environment. It is essential that all moral subjects (even potential) involved in the educational process (teachers and pupils or students) were tolerant towards each other. Therefore, in strengthening and emphasizing that principle of tolerance now and in the future she saw a great opportunity for the application of the ethics of teaching demands in the teaching profession. Media deal with the issues and problems of tolerance, where it is very often talked about tolerance than the tolerability. Well, that is not enough to speak, because we have seen that even in our immediate surroundings, at school and outside school environment, we are faced with intolerance.

The article *Searching for great grandmothers, Jewish women philosophers at the Jagiellonian university (1897-1939)* was presented by Anna Smywinska-Pohl. The paper was a part of the project dedicated to the biographies, thoughts and achievements of first women students from the Jagiellonian University. The author presented what the society lose and what could be a solution as well as her findings regarding Estera Mangel, Augustyna Korngold, Anna Tenenbaum, Helena Jankielowska, Lea Ungar, Ruchla Hochenberg-Landman, Franciszka Sonnenschein – Markowicz and Melania Buxbaum. The author concentrated mainly on their biographies, research fields and publications. This paper was based on her own research as well as her analysis of the Polish copyright law.

Time in dromological perspective was the presentation of Thomas Hauer (Czech Republic). The author stated that the basis of any new theory consists in new abstract concepts used to construct the theory. Dromology, the French theorist Paul Virilio's main and the most important methodological concept, is supported to designate a systematic exploration of the role of speed in the modern and post-modern society. Speed is an expression of change in the place of something in time. Changing the place represents information about the spatial arrangement.

The theory of speed therefore requires the theory of time, as well as the theory of space. While humanities can demonstrate theories of social space, they are much less successful in the field of the theory of time. In their texts dealing with the considerations relating to the categories of time, humanities generally work with non-reflecting physical concept of time in traditional mechanics. New themes for study were linked with the social consequences of very rapid transfer of materials, energy and information. A dromologist asks what we are actually doing with rapidly changing phenomena, and what these rapidly changing phenomena are doing with us. The text aimed to give a brief description of the most important moments of Virilio's dromologic concept of time as a basis for comparison with other theories.