

E·O·E

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T E N P O I N T Z E R O

DIGITAL MANKIND | HOMO DIGITALIS +

JÜRGENS | GUIOT

&

EOE CO-AUTHORS



PREMISE

IN ORDER TO CHALLENGE AND EMANCIPATE HOMO DIGITALIS

There is this old joke about the existence of God. It has been decided to connect all the computers of the world into one unique network. Comes the day when the president of the United States is to press the ultimate button. A metallic voice is heard and it is saying to the mightiest man on the planet: *"Ask me a question."* The President is hesitating and frames his question as follows: *"Does God exist?"* There is a long silence and the system answers *"from now on God does indeed exist"*. Funny ha-ha or funny peculiar? Both as a matter of fact.

Until late in the XXth century you could see in every Flemish pub and café a framed sentence with an eye in a triangle: *here you shall not swear for God is watching you*. Christian faith was teaching us that God, like Big Brother, sees everything and registers it systematically including even our deepest thoughts in his great book that is to be opened at the last judgment in order to put us on trial.

Nietzsche has claimed the death of God but we have worshiped high technology ever since. God is dead, long live the Internet.

Soon it will really be possible to know absolutely everything about us in real time including our medical files, our sexual and political orientations, consumer's profiles, you name it. All kinds of aids and digital prostheses that we use to keep informed, to reinforce our memory, consult references, solve problems, communicate and exercise our creativity are like a powerful seismograph of all our thoughts, dreams emotions and nightmares that draw a complete profile of us. That portrait looks more like the weird picture of Dorian Gray than like Dorian himself.

Homo digitalis fears God no longer but he is getting panicky towards an overwhelming all invading technology that Martin Heidegger as well as Ernst Jünger used to fear as if it was the devil.

Be quiet, fear not, says every angel when it appears in the Bible or the Koran. *Don't be afraid*, said Jesus when the boat was foundering in the waves and the apostles were in total panic.

The fear of technology seems to be written in modern man's genes:

Quichotte was afraid of windmills; 19th century weavers were determined to destroy the continuous spinning frame for it was menacing their jobs by destroying work positions. Then came the steam locomotives as a threat for horse power and the ocean steamers as a final jeopardy for traditional sailing ships including the swift and majestic clippers. It all fuelled the fear of steam power, of electric power, the fascination for raw oil machinery, later for atomic power and now digital power that is fostering an acceleration of acceleration.

Homo digitalis suffers badly from that permanent acceleration. But there is a lot worse to come. After Nazi-, Communism- and Islamist total rule, comes the worst version of all possible totalitarianism as a major threat to democratic values and human rights and liberty i.e. Big Brother and Brave New World combined and reinforcing each other.

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Worst of all and most insidious indeed is the totalitarianism of blind and icy technology that exerts total control all the time, worldwide upon every human being of the planet, you and me included. In other words: there seems to be no escaping this global Stasi-NSA domination around the clock and all over the world.

How to tackle it, how to cope and oppose it, how to escape its domination? Simply by education.

Technological education greatly helps us to become its slaves when we desperately want to become its masters... But how shall we escape it? More than anything, by a skillful collective education of the critical mind towards free and independent thought.

Yes in a short future biological life will undeniably be instrumented by sophisticated technology that will clone our organs and bodies. Animal and vegetal life will hereby be modified according to our increasing needs and the expectations and demands of the rulers. Perhaps shall we even be miniaturized and transformed physically in order that we may be sent towards other planets and even other galaxies where another form of life will be possible after homo sapiens dementia will have devastated our dear planet earth to a degree that it becomes impossible to live and breathe on it?

Like in a dramatically revised version Brave New World. Traditional national and regional education are trying very hard to turn homo sapiens dementia into an obedient and passive homo digitalis. Therefore it is beginning to integrate sophisticated technologies but so far to no avail.

Eyes of Europe goes on the opposite assumption i.e.; that all resources of technology be mobilized on behalf of man and not the other way round.

In a very short future, Generation x teenagers, -digital natives as we call them - will have access to all treasures of human culture, provided they have been technologically trained to master computers and provided they really are willing to conquer human knowledge. But how many are actually aware of that? How many do really want that?

Digital machinery will soon be in control of the human mind with an eye to conditioning everything we consume, read, think, everything, hopefully with the exception of our free will, our personal consciousness and our quest for liberty, or perhaps not even that too. And that is exactly where the wedge needs to be driven. And that is precisely the ambition of Eyes of Europe: bring the teenagers of Europe to interact with each other in real time upon all burning issues that threaten the planet earth in order that they may awake from their hypnotic sleep.

For it is in the consciousness of its and our weakness that we EoE is drawing its and our strength. Eyes of Europe stands indeed for autonomy and permanent exchanges between European teenagers who are to teach each other about the burning issues that threaten human life on the planet earth.

[Marc Guiot](#)

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