

The Impact of Digitalization on the Process of Informatization of Modern Societies (Socio-Philosophical Analysis)

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Information Culture, Social Philosophy.

Abstract: *This article explores the impact of digitalization on the process of informatization in modern societies through a socio-philosophical perspective. The study aims to analyze how the widespread integration of digital technologies reshapes social structures, communication patterns, knowledge production, and human subjectivity. The research employs qualitative philosophical analysis, critical interpretation of contemporary theories, and comparative examination of social transformations driven by digital technologies. The findings indicate that digitalization accelerates informatization by expanding access to information, intensifying social interaction, and creating new digital identities and virtual communities. At the same time, the study reveals emerging challenges such as digital inequality, ethical dilemmas, technological dependence, and the transformation of human agency within algorithm-driven environments. The article concludes that digitalization represents not only a technological shift but also an ontological and cultural transformation that requires the development of digital culture, ethical responsibility, and critical thinking to ensure sustainable and human-centered social development.*

Keywords: *Digitalization, Informatization, Digital Society, Digital Inequality,*

Introduction

In the era of accelerated technological transformation, the informatization of societies represents a complex process of integrating information technologies into social, economic, and cultural structures, leading to fundamental changes in the ways knowledge is produced, exchanged, and consumed. This process is not neutral: it is mediated by digitalization (the process of converting analog data and processes into digital format), media literacy (the development of competencies for critical interaction with media), and the digital divide (disparities in access to technologies and digital skills).

In line with the “Uzbekistan-2030” strategy, the goal of transforming our country into a regional IT hub has been established. This depends on numerous factors, such as the digitalization of public administration and industries, the enhancement of communication infrastructure, and the advancement of IT education [1]. To achieve this goal, digital

technologies are being actively implemented in public administration, including the development of e-government, which streamlines citizens' interactions with government bodies and increases the transparency of processes. In economic sectors such as agriculture, industry, and transport, digitalization aims to optimize processes, boost productivity, and introduce innovative solutions. Improving communication infrastructure involves expanding high-speed internet access, particularly in rural and remote areas, as well as developing 5G networks. This creates a foundation for the smooth operation of IT companies and ensures access to digital services for all segments of the population. Concurrently, efforts are being made to modernize the energy infrastructure to ensure a reliable power supply for technological centers.

Methodology

Shavkat Mirziyoyev identified the active transition to a digital economy as one of the main priorities for the next five years. "For sustainable development, we must thoroughly master digital knowledge and information technologies, which will enable us to take the shortest path to achieving comprehensive progress. In today's world, digital technologies play a crucial role in all spheres... Modern information technologies must be implemented at all stages of the education system" [2].

The increasing role of information at the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries has led to the rapid development of technologies and the intensification of sociocultural processes. This process was accompanied by the explosive growth of digital platforms, which radically changed the ways of communication, learning, and access to knowledge. The globalization of information flows has accelerated the exchange of ideas, contributing to the formation of new cultural trends and values. However, along with this, challenges arose related to the overabundance of data and the need for its critical interpretation. Informatization, as a philosophical construct, represents not just a technical evolution, but an ontological shift in understanding the existence of society.

Digitalization, media education, and digital inequality significantly influence the process of informatization in modern societies, determining the transformation of social reality. Social philosophy allows us to assess the situation in a changing social space, taking into account the deep processes influencing the functioning of society, social reproduction, and forecasting further paths of social development. The socio-philosophical analysis of information reality aims to identify the conditions for its transformation and the nature of its impact on social subjects.

Digitalization accelerates the informatization of modern societies, transforming them by introducing digital technologies into the economy, social sphere, and daily life. This process increases productivity, creates new business models, and improves access to information and communication. However, it also brings challenges such as cybersecurity threats and the need to adapt to new realities in the education system and labor market.

As V.M. Meltsov rightly notes, digitalization is actively developing both in the economy and in management systems (HR digitalization), as well as in education. The ideas of digitalization are being promoted by many well-known managers and politicians. Digitalization, following globalization, is declared the main trend in education [3; p. 6].

Digitalization and informatization raise fundamental questions about the essence of information and its role in human existence. Information, as noted by Norbert Wiener, the founder of cybernetics, is not just a collection of data, but a way of organizing the world. In the era of digitalization, information is becoming not only a resource but also an ontological category that determines the structure of reality. A person immersed in the digital environment becomes a node in information networks, where their identity, behavior, and perception are shaped by algorithms and digital platforms.

Result and Discussion

The digitalization of informatization presents society with a number of ethical dilemmas. One of them is the problem of digital inequality: a significant portion of the population, especially in developing countries, remains outside the zone of access to digital technologies, which deepens the social divide. Another challenge is technology dependence, which manifests in phenomena such as digital addiction or loss of interpersonal communication skills.

A socio-philosophical approach allows us to consider digitalization as a factor transforming the process of informatization towards greater autonomy and visualization of social processes. Positive aspects include increasing social justice through access to information: digitalization of knowledge allows individuals to participate in the global exchange of ideas, which contributes to the formation of an "information reality" for the digital generation. In a philosophical sense, this corresponds to the concept of an "information society", where information becomes the basis of social capital, enhancing communicative rationality and creating new forms of existence, such as virtual communities.

From an existential perspective, digitalization forces us to rethink humanity's place in the world. If previously a person was a subject creating and interpreting information, then in the digital age, they are becoming part of an algorithmic system, where their decisions are largely predetermined. This raises the question: does a person retain their uniqueness and creative potential in the context of total digitalization?

Digitalization, accelerating informatization, opens up both unprecedented opportunities and serious challenges for society. It expands the horizons of knowledge, communication, and economic opportunities, but simultaneously requires a reassessment of the ethical, social, and philosophical foundations of human existence. For the harmonious development of society, it is necessary not only to develop digital technologies but also to form a digital culture based on the principles of critical thinking, ethics, and responsibility. The impact of digitalization on the process of informatization in modern societies represents a complex socio-philosophical phenomenon that combines progress and risks. Digitalization enhances informatization, making it more effective and comprehensive, but also creates challenges in ethics, privacy, and social justice. To minimize negative consequences, interdisciplinary approaches, including philosophical reflection on the values of digital society, are necessary. The future depends on the balance between

technological development and humanistic principles, which will allow us to transform digitalization into a tool for sustainable progress.

S. S. Avanesov notes that the development of technologies leading to the “substitution” and/or “displacement” of humans sheds new light on the general problem of technology as an anthropological threat. This is not about a technical device physically threatening humans (although, of course, a huge number of people have already died and suffered from various mechanisms) [4; P. 6]. Automation and digitalization, on the one hand, make everyday life easier, but on the other hand, create dependence, alienation, and loss of control over one's own existence.

Indeed, technologies not only replace human labor but also transform the anthropological landscape, challenging traditional notions of freedom, responsibility, and identity. For example, artificial intelligence capable of making decisions can lead to a person losing their role as a subject of action, turning them into a passive consumer of technological solutions. This creates a risk of dehumanization, where a person becomes an appendage of the system, losing their uniqueness and autonomy. Moreover, mass digitalization and constant immersion in the information environment are changing cognitive processes, reducing the capacity for deep analysis and reflection.

As the Internet spreads and expands worldwide, it is important from a scientific perspective to shift philosophers' attention from the “digital divide” - the inequality between the “haves” and “have-nots”, differentiated by dichotomous measures of access to new technologies, to “digital inequality”, which we understand not only as differences in network access but also as inequality among individuals with official Internet access. In our case, digital inequality is not a technical and economic problem, but rather an issue that requires philosophical consideration [5].

Digital inequality is traditionally associated with unequal access to information and communication technologies (ICT), including the internet, computers, and mobile devices. However, modern research shows that this phenomenon is not limited to physical access (the so-called “first level” of the digital divide). It encompasses three levels:

- a. Inequality in physical access to technologies and the internet, linked to economic, geographical, or infrastructural constraints. For example, in rural regions or developing countries, access to high-speed internet is often limited or non-existent.
- b. Differences in digital competencies and the ability to effectively utilize technologies. Even with access, people with low levels of digital literacy (such as elderly or less educated groups) cannot fully leverage digital resources.
- c. Inequality in the benefits people derive from using technologies. This includes disparities in access to opportunities such as online education, remote work, participation in the digital economy, or political engagement.

Conclusion

From a philosophical standpoint, digital inequality raises the question of what it means to be human in the digital era. If technologies become an extension of human

experience, then their uneven distribution creates a new form of anthropological gap, where some groups have more opportunities for self-realization than others.

Thus, digital inequality is not merely a technological issue but also a sociocultural one that reflects deeper structures of power and resource distribution within society.

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