

Cultural dignity as a missing category in understanding modern human reality

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The aim of the presentation is to outline both the concept of cultural dignity itself, distinguishing it from other concepts sometimes used interchangeably, illustrating the reductive nature of contemporary humanities and social sciences, such as cultural identification or even identity. The thesis of the paper is the assumption that these reductions result from a broader process of axiological reduction that takes place in the humanities, but above all in the understanding and interpretation of the reality of the contemporary man, who loses the ability to recognize autotelic values.

This socially and economically constructed process results from the dominance of utilitarian strategies of technological progress and the commercial model of the world, which is transferred to power relations, intercultural relations and, consequently, to the mental world and the deconstructed imagination of contemporary humanists. As a consequence, the sciences about man, and then the sciences about culture and social reality, lose the possibility of recognizing and then understanding the reality of the human person and the reality created by him, of an intra- and inter-personal nature, as well as the full reality of cultural communities. The implication of this type of reduction is manifested in the weakening of the human condition, the destruction of human rights, but also the rights of nations and other communities, cultural security and the destruction of normative resources necessary for the development of every type of personal and social being, their relations and their ability to revitalize the growth experiences, especially in times of modern poly-crisis