

***HOMO TECHNOLOGICUS* COMES OF AGE AN ONGOING EVOLUTION**

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Abstract

Biological evolution intertwines with cultural (today mainly technological) evolution, whose mechanisms are partly Lamarckian, to beget a bio-cultural evolution. Technological tools are produced by man to modify the environment and to get information about it. In turn instruments exert a feedback on man converting him into *Homo technologicus*, a bio-technological symbiont subjected to a continuous transformation. Nowadays such transformation has become deliberate and intentional, and aims at two kinds of target: therapy and enhancement (to repair or to improve natural capabilities or to generate new ones). Enhancement obtained through the use of technology opens the post-human perspectives. However, man has always been post-human, since he has always been hybridized with plants, animals, food, medicines, drugs, and, today, machines; and has always been altered and strengthened by artificial processes. This continuity makes the post-human concept less shocking, since it inserts the post-human into the flow of a natural-cultural evolution; on the other hand it bestows the full responsibility of his own evolution upon man. Actually while man has always been post-human, only today he is fully aware of this by virtue of the overwhelming power and speed of technological development. Such novel awareness propounds dramatically the serious ethical problems generated by this new progresses. On the other hand most post-humanists are more interested in the enhancement of cognitive capabilities than in the social and ethical aspects.