

## INFORMATION SOCIETY BEYOND PESSIMISM AND OPTIMISM

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**Abstract.** *This study investigates the role and the stakes of the concept of Information Society, nowadays. Anthony Giddens or Ulrich Beck approach a rather optimistic vision in what concerns this concept, although seen not in idealistic terms and within the context of contemporary postmodern society, where the technological information is considered in our westernized societies to be similar as role and importance with the steam power within the societies of the industrial revolution. This concept of Information Society should be studied with the ideological complex context of globalization stirring up the optimism and the pessimism of certain positions beyond which incontestably remains the stake of information as power as it appeared clearly in the working documents from the World Summit on Information Society in 2003 and 2005 and most certainly in 2009, too.*

**Keywords:** Information Society, ideology, globalization, World Summit on Information Society

### 1. Introduction

Could Information Society go beyond the optimism and the pessimism they trigger toward a more democratic reality? And which are the interests and the stakes related to a settlement of the Information Society? The stakes and the interests orient this theoretical approach, and not a sterile feverish cataloguing of some points of view, either optimistic or pessimistic. Thus, the apparent orientation toward the optimism stirred up by the subject is in fact nuanced by the selected ideas presented, characterized by a moderate, rational realistic and sensible optimism, if any, extremely suitable in emphasizing these stakes and interests animated by the race of globalization.

### 2. Information Society: Revolutionized or Runaway?

Information Society has revolutionized our world. This is a clearly different one from that anticipated by the founding fathers of the modern society, namely the great figures of enlightenment who had a straightforward idea of the ends concerning the industrial revolution (related mainly to the control of nature for human benefit) and from the anticipations of the Marxist view on the change of history itself, as well for the benefit of the human being, and why not, seen in order to control even the future.

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