

INTRODUCING THE ISSUE

Published a year ago, the first issue of the journal “Social novelties and Social sciences” was devoted to the problems of ensuring security in the context of digitalization. The authors of the journal raised issues related to the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, in particular, the problems of digitalization of medicine and education. Today, it is already clear that the pandemic has affected more than just the economy. Many experts say that it has become the driving force behind the exponentially increasing digitalization of all spheres of society. Society is being transformed, and more and more activities are now online. How will a person change as a result of such transformations? This issue of the journal “Social novelties and Social sciences” is devoted to the attempt to answer this question. The authors of the journal analyze the impact of digitalization on the development of human capital.

The greatest discussion, of course, is caused by the problems of digitalization of education, the transition to new models of online courses and distance learning. And this is no accident. Digitalization of health care in the context of the pandemic has become an additional tool that has allowed us to quickly solve the problems of fighting the disease. For example, in Moscow, artificial intelligence is used to diagnose the disease from X-ray images of the lungs. At the same time, the total transition to distance learning and accelerated digitalization of education is associated with a whole range of risks. Their list begins with the ethical problems of digitizing personal data and ends with such negative consequences as a new stratification of society depending on the quality of human capital development, on whether a person had access to traditional offline education or not.

However, according to experts, the consequences of digitalization can be even more profound. This raises a complex philosophical, ethical and sociological problem of the formation of a new type of human being, who cannot imagine his existence without the use of digital technologies, moreover, living in a new virtual reality. Social and cultural patterns, ideals, and values change accordingly. How will the cultural sphere of society change in this regard, and what will be the culture of the digital future?

The materials of the authors of the journal, both famous and young, address current issues of our time. The peculiarity of this issue is that it presents the reader with a look at the identified problems not only of Russian specialists, but also of our colleagues from Belarus and Kazakhstan.

The issue opens with the section “The space of discourse: the human capital of the digital age”, which presents articles that offer readers different approaches to the process of digitalization and to the development of human capital in these conditions.

Maria Polozhikhina's article contains a deep and extensive analysis of what human capital includes and how it is evaluated. It also examines the contradictory impact of the digitalization process on the

institutions that determine the reproduction and use of human capital. The author pays special attention to the problems of human capital development in Russia.

Nina Bogdan examines the current directions of innovation policy related to the digitalization of the economy, and the tasks of the corresponding development of human capital, shows the problems of measuring the effectiveness of the use of accumulated human potential. The article reveals the views of Belarusian specialists on the use of human capital in the context of the formation of the digital economy. The author substantiates the necessity of applying the “human-centered” concept of social development.

Valentina Kurganskaya and Vladimir Dunaev introduce the concept of digital capital, the possession of which largely determines the success of a person and social groups. At the same time, it is a sui generis or unique “metacapital” that affects the availability and use of other elements of human capital, as well as the stratification of society. The authors analyze new forms of social stratification generated by the processes of digitalization of all aspects of modern society. The article describes the ontology, ideology, and mythology of the digital society. The mechanism and immanent logic of the impact of digitalization processes on the social structure of society are analyzed. The authors study the specifics of a number of new social strata that arise as a result of the implementation of digital technologies in the processes of social construction of reality and various models of social stratification.

The “Point of View” has become a platform for discussing the opportunities and risks of digitalization of education, repeatedly accelerated by the quarantine in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Opens the section article by Vladimir and Elena Artamonov, which discusses the problems of education in the post-industrial era, the authors present the key concepts and make an attempt to describe the post-industrial reality as a volatile and complex system. The authors discuss new approaches in technical and corporate education. A model of the development of “post-industrial education” is proposed, which helps to understand the main trends and challenges that await the education system in the future. In their work, the authors address the issues of “postcovid-reality” and distance education, they consider technical and organizational methods of its implementation. In accordance with the concept of “life-long learning”, conclusions are drawn about the changing roles of students and teachers.

This topic was continued in the review of the practice of digitalization of education systems in a number of European countries and Russia by Boris Ivanovsky. The author defines the benefits and risks that arise from the use of digital technologies in the educational process, studies the impact of the pandemic on accelerating the adoption of virtual platforms and online courses and related problems of teaching quality. The peculiarities of the use of digital technologies in the field of higher education of the Russian Federation are considered.

The discussion of problems related to the digitalization of domestic education continues in the work of Irina Strelkova, who examines the features of the digitalization of the Russian education system. She

notes the contradictory nature of the changes especially related to the introduction of digital technologies. The author articulates the risks of introducing distance education, including for consumers of educational services, emphasizes the lack of elaboration of legal norms for effective regulation of the process of digitalization of Russian education. The scientific validity and economic feasibility of the implemented format of digitalization of Russian education and possible consequences of its transformation are evaluated.

Viktor Medennikov substantiates the need to re-evaluate the role of human capital in the development of society in the digital age. Since high-quality education is the main direction of the formation of human capital in any country, the importance of creating an information space for scientific and educational institutions is demonstrated. The author proposes a methodology for assessing the level of human capital on the basis of information scientific and educational resources. The results of calculations obtained by this method on the example of agricultural educational institutions are given. Also the author presents a mathematical model for assessing the impact of human capital on the socio-economic situation of the regions.

Within the framework of the column “Man in the digital world”, views on the problems of digitalization of cultural and creative activities of a person, the status of works of art created by artificial intelligence, as well as the impact of digitalization of the cultural sphere on the educational environment are presented. So, Irina Mikaylova justifies the actuality of new methodological approach from the terms of Synergetic Historicism, to the study on specifics of reproducing digital culture and its influence on individual and collective consciousness. The results of her investigation in question based on the Method of Dual Oppositions and the Law of Self-Organizing Social and Cultural Ideals, showed that the global digital transformation toward substituting the biological human brain for Artificial Intelligence threaten Humanity not only with the irreversible transformation of human nature, but also with the end of Human Era. The results of the analysis as deconstructive implications for the reproduction of digital culture in recent years indicate that the selected path contributes to deepen the divide between digital culture and the subjects of reproduction, as well as the worsening of the problem, which was initially focused digitization process.

In recent years, specialized media have increasingly focused on the so – called “neural creativity” – works created by special algorithms. The digitalization of art is becoming more widespread, and objects created by neural networks are popular and even sold by such well-known auction houses as Christie's. However, the legal status of such “works” has not yet been determined, as well as the question of who is their author. Alexander Ishutin, Sergey Kosarimov, and Ekaterina Chikirka invite the readers of the journal to think about the legal nature of neural art and the copyright protection of works created by artificial intelligence.

Natalia Korovnikova continues the theme of the digital cultural environment. She touches on such an aspect of it as the role of the digital museum in the modern educational space. The author shows the risks and prospects of digitalization of modern museum activities.

Vlada Petushkova, developing the topic, describes the practical experience of implementing the project of digitizing the archive of an outstanding Soviet political figure A.N. Kosygin and the subsequent use of the digital archive for organizing exhibitions.

Angelina Ivanova addresses the topic of telehealth. The use of telehealth is an increasingly common avenue for providing clinical care, performing re-search and conducting public health interventions. However, telemedicine has not only advantages, but also problems. The author raises complex ethical and legal issues relating to the doctor-patient relationship, standards, privacy, cost and liability.

Another feature of this issue is a new section “Events Mosaic”. Within its framework, Svetlana Kodaneva presents the conference “Co-evolution of Technology and Society in the Context of the Digital Age”, which was held in December 2020 in an online format. The speakers discussed the key problems of the modern development of technology and society, as well as the intensification of the scientific search for solutions to the many social, economic, political and legal problems that arise today. The conference was organized by the Moscow Power Engineering Institute and the Institute of Scientific Information on Social Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

We hope that the materials published in this issue will contribute to a constructive discussion in the social sciences of current problems of the development of society in the context of digitalization.

Svetlana Kodaneva