

Act-now: fairness revisited

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Resumo de apresentação do simpósio:

The present global pandemic crisis has revealed the strengths and weaknesses of the institutional frameworks of contemporary societies. These institutional structures are solidly grounded upon the belief systems that have been dominant for the last five hundred years, both in the Northern and the Southern hemispheres. No matter the contradictions and contrasting characteristics, certain epistemic, methodological and paradigmatic traits can be identified across national cultures, political regimes, ideological doctrines, social traditions and historical processes. In other words, no matter the opposition and dissimilarity across subjective and objective human realities, nevertheless, it is possible to argue that the last few centuries have created a powerful overall zeitgeist, the spirit of time, that unites local and global, individual and collective, and internal and external realities across the globe. These under currents help to interpret present day paradoxes, ambiguities and contradictions, all of which are at the core of latent and explicit conflicts and antagonisms, blocking eventual possible solutions to emerge and develop.

The goal of the present paper is to present a reading matrix of present day challenges through a critical dialectic approach. On one side of the coin, to acknowledge the density, intensity and authenticity that concepts such as fairness aggregate and to dislocate such self-explanatory power to real life events that directly affect regional systems of human rights. On the other side of the coin, to demonstrate that through simple and yet powerful examples of root-causes grass-root movements, it is possible to see the future unfolding in the here and now, hic et nunc, perspective.

The basic argument is that what is happening in Cabo Delgado, a northern province of Mozambique, in the Eastern coast of Africa, in Manaus, the Amazon capital of the Northern Brazilian state, or in Cairo, the capital of Egypt, in Northern Africa is not independent from what is happening in Berlin, in Lisbon or in Ljubljana, the current trio of the European Union's presidency of the Council of Europe. The dark web and the world wide web; the informal, illegal and criminal versus the formal, the legal

and the socially, morally, politically and scientifically supported Cosmo visions; the nineteenth century civic rights movements and the twenty-first century digital empowered mass movements; these three critical dialectic oppositions are part of a single polarity duo, a creative tension between what is possible to acknowledge, to see, and yet, to deny, in the name of a so-called higher cause versus what emerges as an unstoppable urgency and as a wakeup call for immediate action.

Palavras chave:
pandemic crisis;
dark web;
fairness;
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civic participation.

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