

# ECHOES OF THE EVENTS

## **Scientific videoconference “Human as natural, social, existential being: Actual problems of the philosophical anthropology”**

**Moscow: Institute of Philosophy of RAS, May 21, 2015**

On the 21 of May, the Department of the History of Anthropological Doctrines of the Institute of Philosophy of the Russian Academy of Science (Moscow) together with the Department of Philosophical Anthropology at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the Lobachevsky State University of Nizhni Novgorod organized the first scientific videoconference, dedicated to the actual problems of the philosophical anthropology. During the conference were discussed the following questions connected with the status of philosophical anthropology as a field of philosophical knowledge: absurd as a phenomenon that could be subject to a profound rational comprehension; the uprising of technoids; man as a project of nature; new interpretation of subjectivity, etc.

Through the collaboration, the participants discovered the actual and urgent problems of the philosophical comprehension of man. The further extension of the rational tradition in understanding human behavior was declared a critical question. This tradition is opposed to the absurd that penetrates different aspects of modern reality. Absurd as a subject has interested philosophers and sociologists for long. At first, it crystallized as a problem in the process of discerning true and false propositions. Primarily absurd was considered a logical error, an incongruous reasoning. It played a major part in rhetorical and law-court practices. Absurd has many faces and is culturally determined. Silently tolerating it, a country could fall into an abyss of absurd. People get used to the absence of thought and hypocrisy, prevailing everywhere. However, there is another way that could reinforce the social process. It is time to oppose absurd with mature civil courage, common sense and social therapy.

Special attention was given to the “uprising of technoids”, i.e. an attempt to eliminate universal living sentient being that suggests anthropomorphism only as a variation of the entity. In the course of the conference, it was observed

that the philosophical-theoretical efforts made to analyze these prospects are narrow and even eccentric. A range of studies does not show any serious metaphysical consideration of such key concepts as man, death, immortality or life. Many authors ignore profound reflection on future and openly neglect the large store of philosophical ideas accumulated by humankind and developed by science fiction and utopian literature. In modern philosophical thought, different interpretations of death serve to analyze the newest notions on the finiteness of the human being.

During the conference, the human being was also discussed as a project of nature. The conference also brought to light the most problematic points of philosophical anthropology: the loss of its subject, the fundamental transformation of the identity phenomenon, expansion of the quantum thinking, the growing lust for power as one of the human passions. The conference also lay bare the meaning of constructivism in modern ethnic consciousness.