

PHILOSOPHY

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Humans and social robots: on the question of their relationship in the context of robophilosophy

Through the prism of robotics philosophy, a relatively new field of robotics is considered – social robotics, which marks the transition from robots designed to perform tasks designated as 3D – dull, dirty, dangerous (boring, dirty and dangerous work) to socially qualified robots; from tools to social partners. The ambiguous role of robot anthropomorphization is demonstrated: facilitating the building of social contacts between humans and social robots and the risk of becoming accustomed to ethically irresponsible, unencumbered relationships. It is shown that the blurring of ontological, epistemological, and moral boundaries between humans and the objects they create, characteristic of social robotics, makes us think about the moral, legal, political, and civil status of robots (and other inhumans), and also actualizes on new grounds the age-old philosophical questions about the essence of man, his place in the world, and his humanity.

Key words: anthropomorphization, anthropomorphism, instrumentalism, artificial agents, posthumanism, social robotics, human-robot interaction.

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