

PHILOSOPHICAL CONCEPTS AND POSTULATES IN THE MODERN WORLD: CHALLENGES, REFLECTION AND THEIR PRACTICAL APPLICATION

CONCEITOS E POSTULADOS FILOSÓFICOS NO MUNDO MODERNO: DESAFIOS, REFLEXÃO E SUA APLICAÇÃO PRÁTICA

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Abstract: The contemporary world faces many challenges, such as environmental crises, social injustice, etc. New philosophical concepts and postulates are required to solve these issues. The article aims to describe the challenges, reflection, and practical application of philosophical concepts and postulates in the innovative society. The educational process focuses on philosophical concepts and postulates. The research is on grounds the analysis, synthesis, and generalization of scientific literature. The paper defines philosophical concepts and postulates and gives an example of philosophical doctrines. The authors outline the main challenges of philosophical concepts and postulates in the world today: ecological imbalance between society and the environment; Worsening poverty of the vast majority of humanity; cultural imbalance. The article considers the practical application of philosophical concepts and postulates in the contemporary world. Philosophical concepts and tenets are fundamentally necessary because they contribute to the integration of scientific knowledge. They form the most general patterns of development of society and nature. Also, philosophical concepts and postulates are used in all areas of modern society. This, in turn, makes it possible to see the general trend of global issues, the dynamics of their interaction, and interdependence.

Keywords: Challenges. Philosophical concepts. Philosophical postulates. Practical application of philosophy. Reflection.

Resumo: O mundo contemporâneo enfrenta muitos desafios, como crises ambientais, injustiças sociais, etc. Novos conceitos e postulados filosóficos são necessários para resolver estas questões. O artigo tem como objetivo descrever os desafios, a reflexão e a aplicação prática de conceitos e postulados filosóficos na sociedade inovadora. O processo educacional concentra-se em conceitos e postulados filosóficos. A pesquisa baseia-se na análise, síntese e generalização da literatura científica. O artigo define conceitos e postulados filosóficos e dá um exemplo de doutrinas filosóficas. Os autores delinham os principais desafios dos conceitos e postulados filosóficos no mundo atual: desequilíbrio ecológico entre a sociedade e o meio ambiente; Agravamento da pobreza da grande maioria da humanidade; desequilíbrio cultural. O artigo considera a aplicação prática de conceitos e postulados filosóficos no mundo contemporâneo. Os conceitos e princípios filosóficos são fundamentalmente necessários porque contribuem para a integração do

conhecimento científico. Eles formam os padrões mais gerais de desenvolvimento da sociedade e da natureza. Além disso, conceitos e postulados filosóficos são utilizados em todas as áreas da sociedade moderna. Isto, por sua vez, permite ver a tendência geral das questões globais, a dinâmica da sua interação e interdependência.

Palavras-chave: Desafios. Conceitos filosóficos. Postulados filosóficos. Aplicação prática da filosofia. Reflexão.

1. Introduction

The modern philosophy is the philosophy of the XXI century. Our century is a further development of scientific and technological progress, as well as revolutionary approaches in various spheres of life that were launched in the previous century. From the moment of the first human space flight to the current day, humanity has been in continuous intellectual, cultural, social, and technological development. Scientists run lots of experiments and develop modern technologies that make people's lives much easier. Psychologists and sociologists from all over the world consider both the pros and cons of human growth and development in terms of technology. A large selection of goods and services in the foreign and national markets has contributed to the expansion of territories and the establishment of new contacts. It has opened up new horizons for humanity in the development of its capabilities. At the same time, such negative aspects as the growing need for material wealth and comfort, as well as the decreasing demand for spiritual development, are becoming more frequently noted. Ethical principles are increasingly evolving, and philosophical questions seem to have no place in the world of consumerism and technological development.

The theoretical justification of modern society's life is based on various solutions that arose from philosophical concepts and postulates. Over time and with changes in the structure of society, these concepts have been revised, supplemented, and expanded. Thus, they have crystallized into what we have today.

2. Literature review

Many studies are devoted to defining the terms "postulates" and "concepts." In philosophy, the term "postulate" is used to denote the fundamental ideas and principles on which a philosophical system or theory is built. Postulates are basic principles that do not require proof but are accepted as axiomatic. They serve as the starting point of philosophical thought and

determine its direction (Andrushchenko and Mozgova, 2020). Philosophical concepts derive from postulates (Ryabinova and Yurchenko, 2021). The latter can be used as assumptions or "undeniable truths" to construct an argument or build a philosophical concept system (Tararoev et al., 2023). Each philosophical concept may have various postulates expressing fundamental assumptions and principles (Blihar et al., 2021). The use of postulates allows for organizing and systematizing philosophical thinking and provides opportunities for further development of its concepts (Boyko et al., 2017).

In scientific literature, significant attention is given to the question of philosophical reflection as a mechanism for addressing many ideological and psychological issues of a democratic society. Philosophy can serve as a means of purposeful rationalization of human life. Thereby, it contributes to forming a healthy society consisting of active and conscious citizens capable of independently organizing their activities. A developed culture of philosophical thinking is a guarantee of a healthy and harmonious society (Andrienko, 2020). Reflection is a useful course is directed to discussion, reasoning or self-awareness of one's actions, behavior, deeds, things, experiences, emotions, position, potential, temperament attitudes towards others, and so on (Kopievska, 2013). Moreover, reflection is understood as a process of self-awareness. It is an act of investigation that leads people to understand, comprehend, and realize various forms of consciousness to subjectively examine self-knowledge or the surrounding environment, as well as critically analyze its content and methods of cognition (Pavelkiv, 2019).

Nowadays, the demand for philosophy is incredibly high. This is evidenced by the emergence of new educational platforms, courses, and communities that engage with the fundamental tenets and concepts of philosophy (Ryazanova, 2021). At present, both separate nations and the world community at large need philosophical postulates and an understanding of themselves, their place, and their purpose in life more than ever before (Hadfield, 2017).

In addition, scholars explore the practical application of philosophical concepts and postulates within the contemporary world. They analyze how philosophy should help modern people find their identity (Petrushenko, 2016).

The postulates and concepts of practical reason are a set of basic principles that guide us in making reasonable and correct decisions in our daily lives (Tillman, 2016). These postulates are based on logical thinking and common sense (Hayden, 2016). The knowledge and application of philosophical concepts and postulates allow us to be more rational and practical in various areas of our activity (Loncar, 2016). They help us assess the situation from all angles, consider all aspects of a problem, and choose the most optimal solution (Earle, 2014). Furthermore, these postulates

prevent our biases, emotional reactions, and mistakes that can occur in decision-making (Friedland, 2017).

The issue of the practical application of philosophical concepts and postulates in today's world still needs to be solved.

The article aims to outline the challenges, reflection, and practical application of philosophical concepts and postulates in the contemporary world.

Research goals:

1. Define "philosophical concepts" and "postulates."
2. Consider the challenges of philosophical concepts and postulates today.
3. Identify the reflection of philosophical concepts and tenets.

Analyze their practical application.

3. Methods

Research methods are based on the principles of historical, philosophical, cultural, value-based, and comparative historical approaches toward the research subject. The dialectical method and the method of abstraction were used to analyze philosophical concepts and postulates..

4. Results and Discussion

A philosophical concept is a system of philosophical notions and ideas that explain the world and define a person's place in it.

The formation of a philosophical concept begins with a human's perception of the world. These can be religious ideas, scientific discoveries, social realities, and personal experiences. Later, people start to formulate their thoughts and build a system of beliefs that helps them understand the meaning of life and their attitude to the world around them.

A philosophical concept is the result of years of work and the development of ideas. As such, it is not static, yet it constantly evolves and changes depending on the shifts in the surrounding reality and the philosopher's standpoint.

A philosophical concept plays an important role in people's lives and influences social and cultural processes. It helps us to form our worldview and define values and priorities in life. Besides, it allows us to develop critical thinking and analyze the surrounding reality.

In philosophy, the term "postulate" is used to refer to the basic ideas and principles on which a philosophical system or theory is based. Postulates are fundamental principles that do not require proof but are accepted on faith. They serve as the starting point of philosophical thought and determine its direction.

Postulates in philosophy can take different forms and be expressed through statements, assumptions, or axioms. They serve as the basis for philosophical systems and help philosophers analyze and understand the world around us.

The importance of postulates is determined by the fact that they make it possible to establish the general foundations and principles on which a philosophical concept or theory is built. They help to define the basic assumptions or truths that underlie philosophy. Postulates serve as the basis for philosophical analysis and explanation of various phenomena and problems.

The essence of postulates lies in their inseparability from an ideological direction or system. They represent fundamental provisions that empirical methods cannot confirm or refute. They are the starting points on which logical reasoning and conclusions are built.

Table 1. Examples of postulates

Examples of postulates	Description
"Nothing happens by accident"	This postulate asserts that all events have causes and can be explained and understood; they are not random.
"People are free in their actions"	This postulate asserts that a person has the freedom to choose his or her actions and is not completely subject to external factors or pre-determination.
"There is a higher being or forces that shape the world"	This postulate assumes the existence of a supreme being or force that is beyond the material world and determines it.

Source: compiled by the authors.

Philosophical concepts and postulates play an essential role by fulfilling several functions, namely:

– *Epistemological function.* Postulates help to define the criteria of truth, helping to distinguish reliable knowledge from the false one. They are the basis for building scientific theories and philosophical systems. For example, the postulate about the external world's existence makes it possible to conduct scientific experiments and draw conclusions about the surrounding reality.

– *Ontological function.* Postulates define basic ideas about what exists in the world. They can relate to human nature, moral values, the existence of God, and other fundamental issues. For example, the postulate of free will states that a person has the ability to make decisions regardless of external factors.

– *Methodological function.* Postulates define the basic approach to the study of philosophical issues and the resolution of philosophical questions. They may indicate the need to emphasize certain aspects and use certain methods or approaches. For example, a postulate about the need for deductive reasoning in philosophy may show the importance of logical inference and the application of argumentation.

– *Axiological function.* Postulates can express ethical orientations and philosophy. They can define some ideals, goals, or principles to be achieved. For example, the postulate of goodness supremacy can become the basis of an ethical system where goodness is considered as the highest standard.

In different periods of its development, humanity has sought to understand and improve both its way of life and its inner world. If material wealth was defined as the basis of life, spiritual values were a matter of moral progress, as well as ethics and philosophy. The general concepts and postulates of philosophy passed from one era to another. They were considered an example of perfection of spirit and harmony of mind and body. Philosophical concepts such as postmodernism, post-Marxism, gender philosophy, or globalism have all the features that combine trends in human development and changes in views, principles, and priorities for their well-being. From this perspective, the diversity of philosophical sects of our time can only hinder the search for human uniqueness and identity.

Classical German and other philosophies were based on the search for the interconnection between consciousness, existence, needs, and moral principles. In contrast, modern philosophy seeks to solve the problems of "oversaturation" with excessive comfort and the number of services offered by the contemporary world. It also seeks to address the challenges of new thinking, which is diametrically opposed to the thought of our ancestors. In addition, philosophical issues are also related to the imbalance and disharmony caused in humans by the artificially imposed requirements of the economy, politics, and society. Earlier philosophical concepts considered people in their surroundings, perceiving them as individuals with both features of mental evolution and degradation. Nowadays, following the tradition of postmodernism, we speak only about the diversity of philosophical genres and styles of thinking.

Philosophy no longer exists as a real practice of transforming the world around us. It exists only as a set of texts, many of which require organization and a choice of how to read them. The world has become different, and this is evidenced by all the mass media, changes in the environment, and cases in the life of society around the globe. These changes are irreversible for different motives. From the plow and the hoe, we have moved on to computers, telephones, TVs,

and other things that are directed for the thriftiness our time. The saving of lost time can be understood as a vortex of fast-moving events that do not give a person a single second for self-reflection and comprehension of what is happening. This is how the XXI century entered our lives.

The state of philosophical concepts and postulates today is assessed by many researchers ambiguously. First, they are becoming popular and accessible thanks to high level of computer technology development and the step of communication between people. A philosophical text is no longer a rarity. Secondly, philosophical concepts and tenets can interfere with the commercial interests of modern society. They require an awareness of philosophical statements of the world and people's lives.

Modern philosophical postulates and concepts are not exclusively the work of a single research scientist. Philosophical questions and their solutions are diverse. At the same time, philosophers try to understand what is at the basis of the processes that take place in societies and cultures, using non-standard methods of perception.

Contemporary technologies of philosophical thinking imply a non-linear structure of knowledge organization. The era of speedy time flow, crazy upheavals, and cosmic speed of innovation has come. Today, humanity suffers from an overabundance of information and a lack of time. The abundance of opportunities has led to the isolation and confusion of many people. It has become a profound psychological and philosophical challenge of our century.

There are several conceptual issues in contemporary philosophy which will be highlighted, namely:

– *Eclectic issues.* Modern philosophy refuses to search for truth. It interprets tradition and examines specific situations. Her image is not a metanarrative, as in classical philosophy, but a museum. This is an accidental unity of essentially different phenomena.

– *Meaning of ideas and judgments.* The truth or importance of a certain knowledge or technical tool is recognized if it can be applied in practice.

– *Issues are beyond the reach of the human mind.* They concern the identification of all philosophical problems as linguistic. According to modern philosophy, all things and phenomena exist in the linguistic sphere. Analytical philosophy in general gained particular popularity in connection with the solution of this problem.

– *Political issues.* They concern the identification of all philosophical problems as linguistic. According to modern philosophy, all things and phenomena exist in the linguistic sphere.

Analytical philosophy in general gained particular popularity in connection with the solution of this problem.

For modern philosophy, the classical concepts are chaos, deconstruction, decentering, subtle mockery, passage, etc.

No modern concept can develop the project of systemic philosophy. On the contrary, each of them believed that it was unacceptable. The reason lies in the relativistic orientation of philosophy and the fragmentation of its research topics. In this respect, analytical philosophy is the closest to the classical type of philosophy.

Let us now address the challenges of philosophical concepts and postulates in the present-day world.

– *The First Challenge*. Firstly, considering the seriousness of the consequences for civilization and life on planet Earth, there is undoubtedly an ecological imbalance between society and the environment. The scale of this imbalance has become catastrophic due to humanity's multifaceted destructive and polluting activities. These activities are carried out to meet human needs for a sustainable life and the accumulation of "human" material goods. Furthermore, if civilization continues to adhere to resource consumption patterns of 12 to 15% of the Earth's population, primarily residing in North America and Europe, the human population will require four Earth-like planets within the next decade. In reality, one can confidently predict the increase of different natural disasters in the coming years because the living systems on Earth (lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and the so-called noosphere, which is human civilization) have shifted from a state of balance and the ability to compensate for inevitable disturbances to a state of deep imbalance and severe disorder.

– *The Second Challenge*. Secondly, in the role negative consequences that threaten the future of civilization, there is the exacerbation of poverty for the majority of the population. According to various data, around 1.5 billion people out of the 7 billion currently living on this planet survive on less than one dollar daily. Approximately the same number of people lack access to clean drinking water, and an equal number are illiterate. However, the ongoing demographic explosion is causing harm to the poorest countries and nations. Thus, the demographic imbalance in the developed world is increasing. This fact illustrates acts on biological laws on population dynamics and explains many other phenomena. For various reasons, these poor and illiterate population strata destroyed nature, grew narcotic plants, and joined the forces of criminals and terrorists. So, they became tools for the enrichment of elites, whether in the Muslim or Western world.

– *The Third Challenge*. Thirdly, as a factor that creates tension across the entire planet, there is cultural imbalance. For several decades, a wave of globalization processes has been growing. They resulted in unfamiliar global information, financial-economic, and transport networks that span the world. There is a process of formation of the so-called global culture. Analyzing, it causes tension and opposition from regional and local cultures that have been formed over centuries based on different principles and values.

Humanity urgently needs a truly scientific, holistic, systemic, and strategic analysis (i.e., philosophical analysis) to find the right solutions for a compelling, rational, and genuinely humanistic policy. It is important at the international and supranational levels in the system of international relations. Modern post-classical science and contemporary high art have provided many ideas for the formation of such a philosophy. Regardless of whether it is national or common, it will always express a comprehensive, universal human attitude toward the world and oneself as a higher stage of the universe's general evolution. It would help to assess and implement a strategy for its salvation and cultural progress. Moreover, it will allow understanding of its ultimate goal in the universal evolution, which is the freedom to create, as well as responsibility and duty towards it.

Philosophy, by definition, is a form of reflexive thinking. It is constructed exclusively on abstract concepts with a reflexive nature. In ordinary circumstances, the infinite variety of individual phenomena is realized by humans visually and in concrete forms. The reflection of actual reality occurs through feelings and rational concepts. Since this observation of the society is unstable and is expressed in an infinite number of private judgments, philosophy, to preserve thinking, translates diverse knowledge into universal and permanent concepts that have the property of stability concerning all changes.

Philosophy abstractly reflects the world as a whole and its components. The universalization of philosophical thinking makes it possible to resort to such abstract methods when a person is thought of as a general and the general as a single. The efficiency to philosophize is precisely the cognition of the one in the multitude and the multitude in the one.

Philosophical reflection is critical and purely abstract. It can reveal connections and relationships between things that go beyond everyday experience, associated stereotypes, and archetypes of ordinary consciousness, aiming to grasp the truth. It is an essential factor in the systematization of mental activity. Philosophy becomes self-awareness of a specific historical era by making consciousness its subject in all its diverse richness.

Philosophy cannot lose relevance as a means of reflecting human activity, thought, and society. Artificial intelligence cannot replace philosophy for humans. Even in the most fantastical scenario where artificial intelligence gains the efficiency to reflect, it will be a reflection of its mental activity.

In a world where artificial intelligence is beginning to claim the place of humans, philosophical reflection and philosophy will become vital for the survival of humanity as a species. As such, nothing can replace philosophy as a thoughts of meaning and values for people.

Philosophical concepts and postulates play a significant role in solving global issues. Their main function is to shape the worldview and, thereby, influence the course of developing practical solutions indirectly.

1. Philosophical concepts and postulates form the worldview. They set the system of values that determine the direction of human activity.

2. Philosophical generalizing theories are fundamentally necessary because they contribute to the integration of scientific knowledge.

3. They form the most general patterns of natural society development.

4. To see the general trends in the development of global problems, the dynamics of their interaction and interdependence

5. Philosophical postulates enable the development of a culture of theoretical thinking.

6. As a result of the vision and interpretation of historical processes, it is possible to more accurately navigate the flow of scientific information on global problems.

7. Philosophy asks questions about the meaning of human life, death and immortality.

Finally, human life as a whole becomes more and more philosophically enriched. The more there is innovation and creativity in the world, the more philosophy is needed. True philosophy is deeply rooted in the needs and demands of human existence. This is where its vital importance and relevance come from.

Philosophical concepts and postulates should be viewed as social and historical knowledge that is closely related to life or constantly evolves with it.

Philosophy deals with the problems and issues of human existence, the essence of this existence, analysis, and evaluation of biased phenomena and events in a multifaceted way. The general concepts and postulates of philosophy have passed from one era to another. They have been considered an example of the spirit's perfection, the harmony of mind and body. Philosophical concepts such as postmodernism, post-Marxism, gender philosophy, and globalism have all the features that combine trends in human development and changes in views, principles,

and priorities for their well-being. Some researchers even talk about a kind of "forgetting presence." It is a syndrome of the modern state of the thinking subject. In this sense, the diversity of philosophical movements of our time can only hinder the search for human uniqueness and identity.

In the XXI century, the market philosophy dominates over other philosophies due to global economic development, which periodically turns into a crisis. The famous American dystopian writer Ray Bradbury said that all dreams end when the dollar falls on the stock exchange. The concepts of devaluation, growth, denomination, and crisis occasionally disrupt people. Focusing on controlling their financial situation, people forget that spiritual development is equally important. Philosophy faces the demoralization of people against the backdrop of an information war and a blockade. It aims to clash interests and ideologies, as well as to exterminate viewpoints that are unfavorable to the global community.

The generalizing philosophical concepts and postulates are fundamentally necessary since they contribute to the integration of scientific knowledge. They form the most general patterns of development of society and nature. So, modern society uses philosophical postulates everywhere and in all spheres of life. As a result, it becomes possible to see the general trends in the development of global problems, the dynamics of their interaction and interdependence.

Philosophical concepts and postulates contribute to the development of a culture of theoretical thinking. Thanks to their vision and interpretation of historical processes, they make it possible to more accurately navigate the flow of scientific information on global issues. By considering the cyclical nature of history, the interconnectedness of events, the importance of people, and their responsibility to society, philosophy helps protect humanity from repeating mistakes.

Philosophy contributes to solving questions about the essence of a person's life, his death or immortality. Moreover, these questions will always retain their relevance. After all, each historical era, social system, religion, and person tries to find answers to these questions.

5. Conclusions

The philosophical issues of the XXI century against the backdrop of human development in technical, scientific, and economic terms are related mainly to the following aspects:

- psychological and mental state and general mood of the world community;
- excessive demands on a person;

- the difficulty of choosing and achieving goals against the background of information overload;
- redundancy of goods and services aimed at people as consumers and sources of financial resources.

The philosophy is being updated within the framework of the rights and freedoms that people have today. The new philosophy of the XXI century should seek to solve the problem of human psychological discomfort, return to its natural roots, and put aside the classical style of urban life that people hide from their own destinies. Society must create such living conditions where the balance of the spiritual and material is maintained. In addition, everything intangible will be considered part of the human personality, will have equal importance, and will be supported and encouraged by the philosophical teachings of the XXI century.

We are deeply convinced that philosophy should not offer itself to everyone, but it should always try to attract those who are eager for it. There is no need to try to light a fire everywhere in the name of love for wisdom. However, it is necessary to support the already burning flame by giving it power. A person's desire for knowledge is boundless, but it is essential to recognize and direct it at the right time.

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