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European Cultural Identity and the Emergence of Scientific Imaginary

Abstract: The present paper intends to emphasize the relation between the European cultural identity and the emergence of scientific imaginary in this space. In fact, we are interested to emphasize the link between some features of European culture and the birth of modern natural science within European space. Social, geographical and even some cultural factors, including religion, seem to be in favor of the emergence of science in Europe, especially in Renaissance times and afterwards, while later on, the cultural influence of scientific theories seemed to prevail. Nowadays European cultural identity benefited enormously from the development of natural science, which played a major role in spreading through technology the European culture in the whole world, but was also placed at the origin of some spectacular philosophical developments regarding the rational descriptive perspective upon the world which individualize Europe among other cultural spaces.

Keywords: scientific imaginary, conceptual developments, European cultural identity, history of science