

Horia-Costin CHIRIAC
“Al. I. Cuza” University of Iași (Romania)

The Vicinity Paradigm in Information Society

Abstract: The present paper aims to analyze some of the most important consequences of the superposition between cyberspace and geographical space, taking into account a few social and economical transformations that define the Information Age. In order to improve the accuracy of our endeavour, we decided to introduce the concepts of “vicinity paradigm” and that of “thematic identity”, which are meant to underline the new social geography of our times. The paper aims to explain the increasing vulnerability of the general public in front of manipulative political discourse, starting from the emergence of axiological relativism favored by the new structuring of contemporary society in the “vicinity paradigm”. In the last part of the work, two possible solutions to this problem are briefly discussed.

Keywords: vicinity paradigm, cyberspace, information society, thematic identity.