



THE INDIVIDUAL, SOCIETY, AND THE STATE IN AN INFORMATION SOCIETY

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Abstract

This article analyzes the transformation of social relations among the individual, society, and the state, as well as emerging social paradigms, within the context of the formation of an information society. It highlights how the development of digital technologies, artificial intelligence, big data, e-government, digital education, and social networks is deeply permeating almost every aspect of human life. While the information society creates new opportunities for individuals regarding learning, communication, creativity, and social engagement, it also gives rise to challenges such as information security issues, digital inequality, personal data protection, information manipulation, and digital dependency. The study examines the individual's new status within the information environment, changes in the communicative structure of society, and the digital transformation of public administration as interconnected processes. It also highlights the impact of digital transformation on human interests, social justice, and state-society relations. The article substantiates digital literacy, information culture, openness, responsibility, and the safeguarding of human rights as crucial factors for the sustainable development of the information society.

Keywords: Information society, digital transformation, individual, society, state, digital culture, information security, digital inequality, e-government, artificial intelligence, social paradigm.

Introduction

AXBOROTLASHGAN JAMIYATDA SHAXS, JAMIYAT VA DAVLAT

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Annotatsiya

Mazkur maqolada axborotlashgan jamiyatning shakllanishi jarayonida shaxs, jamiyat va davlat o’rtasidagi ijtimoiy munosabatlarning transformatsiyasi hamda yangi ijtimoiy paradigmlar tahlil qilinadi. Raqamli texnologiyalar, sun’iy intellekt, katta ma’lumotlar, elektron hukumat, raqamli ta’lim va ijtimoiy tarmoqlarning rivojlanishi inson hayotining deyarli barcha sohalariga chuqur kirib borayotgani ta’kidlanadi. Axborotlashgan jamiyat shaxsga bilim olish, muloqot qilish, ijodkorlik va ijtimoiy faollik uchun yangi imkoniyatlar yaratishi bilan birga, axborot xavfsizligi, raqamli tengsizlik, shaxsiy ma’lumotlarni himoya qilish, axborot manipulyatsiyasi va raqamli qaramlik kabi muammolarni ham yuzaga keltirmoqda. Tadqiqotda shaxsning axborot muhitidagi yangi maqomi, jamiyatning kommunikativ tuzilmasidagi o’zgarishlar hamda davlat boshqaruvining raqamli transformatsiyasi o’zaro bog’liq jarayon sifatida ko’rib chiqiladi. Shuningdek, raqamli transformatsiyaning inson manfaatlari, ijtimoiy adolat va davlat-jamiyat munosabatlariga ta’siri yoritiladi. Maqolada axborotlashgan jamiyatning barqaror rivojlanishi uchun raqamli savodxonlik, axborot madaniyati, ochiqlik, mas’uliyat va inson huquqlarini ta’minlash muhim omillar sifatida asoslanadi.

Kalit so’zlar: axborotlashgan jamiyat, raqamli transformatsiya, shaxs, jamiyat, davlat, raqamli madaniyat, axborot xavfsizligi, raqamli tengsizlik, elektron hukumat, sun’iy intellekt, ijtimoiy paradigma.

Introduction

The 21st century is emerging as an era in which the importance of information and knowledge as strategic resources for human progress is increasing dramatically. While material production, natural resources, and physical labor played pivotal roles

in earlier stages of social development, today information, knowledge, digital technologies, and human capital are becoming key drivers of societal advancement. In this sense, an information society is not merely defined by a proliferation of technical tools; it is a complex social process that transforms how individuals perceive the world, as well as the nature of social interactions, labor relations, education, public administration, and civic engagement.

A defining characteristic of the information society is that the production, processing, storage, transmission, and utilization of information directly impact every sphere of societal life. The widespread adoption of the Internet and mobile technologies has significantly expanded the opportunities for individuals to access information. According to data from the International Telecommunication Union's 2026 ICT Development Index, the world is making positive strides toward universal and meaningful digital connectivity; however, significant disparities persist regarding internet usage, connection quality, and the affordability of services.

This situation demonstrates that digitalization alone does not automatically ensure social equality. On the contrary, if gaps exist in access to technology, digital skills, and information resources, new forms of digital inequality can emerge within society. In an information-driven society, an individual's social status is also evolving. People are transforming from mere consumers of information into active participants who create, disseminate, and evaluate it. Social networks, electronic platforms, remote education, and digital services are reshaping how individuals participate in social life. At the same time, distinguishing between reliable and unreliable information amidst vast data flows, protecting personal data, and fostering responsible behavior in the digital space are becoming critical challenges. At the societal level, the operational forms of traditional social institutions are evolving. The influence of digital technologies is intensifying across education, culture, mass communication, the economy, and the labor market. Public administration is also not exempt from this process; mechanisms such as e-government, digital public services, open data, and digital identification are giving rise to new forms of interaction between the state and its citizens.

This article aims to analyze the emerging social paradigms governing the relationships between the individual, society, and the state within an information society, as well as to identify the social opportunities and challenges associated with digital transformation.

The main objectives of the research are as follows:

1. to analyze the concept of the information society and its key characteristics;
2. to determine the changing social status of the individual in the digital environment;
3. to examine changes in the communicative and institutional structures of society;
4. to highlight the significance of digital transformation in public administration;
5. to analyze issues regarding digital inequality, information security, and personal data protection;
6. to formulate conclusions regarding the shaping of a new model of relationships between the individual, society, and the state.

The scientific significance of the research lies in its interpretation of the information society not merely as a technological process, but as a social phenomenon that alters the nature of the relationships between the individual, society, and the state.

Research Methodology (Methods)

This research is theoretical-analytical in nature, involving an analysis of scientific perspectives on the information society and digital transformation, data from international organizations, and contemporary scholarly literature.

The study employed methods such as the systems approach, comparative analysis, content analysis, generalization, logical analysis, and a socio-philosophical approach. A systems approach was employed to examine the individual, society, and the state as interconnected components of a social system, taking into account how changes affecting one entity within the digital environment impact the activities of others.

Comparative analysis was used to contrast specific characteristics of social relations in traditional society with those in an information society.

Content analysis was applied to identify key concepts within academic literature and materials from international organizations regarding digital development.

The theoretical framework of the study was grounded in scholarly perspectives on the information society, post-industrial society, digital transformation, the network society, digital citizenship, and information culture.

The conceptual model of the study was based on examining the interconnected digital relationships among three key entities: the individual, society, and the state. In this model, information is interpreted as a primary communicative and social resource.

Results

1. The information society as a new social paradigm

The study results indicate that defining the information society solely by the widespread adoption of computers, the Internet, or other technical tools is insufficient. The information society is a social system that fundamentally enhances the role of information and knowledge in production, management, education, culture, the economy, and daily life.

In this society, the value of information is determined not merely by its volume, but by its quality, timeliness, reliability, and the potential for its effective use.

From this perspective, three important paradigms are emerging within the information society:

The first paradigm is the shift from information to knowledge. Possessing a vast amount of data does not necessarily equate to being knowledgeable. A modern individual must possess the ability to search for, filter, verify, and analyze information, as well as apply it in practical activities.

The second paradigm is the shift from consumer to active participant. Digital technologies are transforming the individual from a mere recipient of ready-made information into a content creator, an opinion-sharer, a collaborator, and an active participant in social processes.

The third paradigm involves a shift from centralized to networked communication. While information in traditional mass media primarily flowed from a central source to the public, communication in digital networks is becoming multidirectional.

As a result, the communicative distance between the individual, society, and the state is narrowing.

2. The individual's new status in the digital environment

One of the most significant outcomes of the information society is the emergence of new opportunities for individual social engagement. The Internet enables people—regardless of geographical boundaries—to pursue education, seek information, interact with diverse groups, and showcase their creative potential.

However, new opportunities bring new responsibilities. In the digital space, individuals must take responsibility for their personal data, their digital footprint, and their culture of handling information.

Digital literacy entails more than just knowing how to use a computer or a smartphone. It also encompasses the following skills:

- evaluating the reliability of information sources;
- identifying false or misleading information;
- protecting personal data;
- adhering to digital communication etiquette;
- respecting copyright;
- using digital services safely;
- using artificial intelligence tools responsibly.

Consequently, the mission of the modern education system is shifting from merely imparting knowledge to preparing individuals to operate independently and responsibly within the digital environment.

3. Changes in the communicative structure of society

Digital technologies are significantly transforming forms of communication within society. Social networks and digital platforms have accelerated the pace of human interaction. People living in different regions can exchange information in real time. This process creates new opportunities for social cohesion within society. Various social groups are gaining the ability to convey their concerns to the general public, exchange ideas, and collaborate.

However, digital communication also has certain negative aspects. An information overload can fragment a person's attention, lead to the rapid spread of unverified information, and exacerbate social divisions.

For this reason, information literacy—or "information culture"—assumes particular importance in an information society. This concept encompasses an individual's ability to search for, select, comprehend, evaluate, and responsibly use information.

4. Digital transformation of public administration

The nature of government operations is also evolving in the information society. E-government, online public services, open data, and digital inquiry systems are elevating the relationship between citizens and government bodies to a new level.

One of the key advantages of a digital state is the simplification of access to public services. Instead of visiting a government office in person, citizens can utilize electronic platforms to access certain services. Such a transformation enables greater

speed and convenience in public administration. At the same time, digital public administration brings issues such as personal data protection, cybersecurity, technical infrastructure, and digital equity to the forefront.

For the state's digital transformation to serve the interests of the people, principles of openness, legality, accountability, and the protection of citizens' rights must be upheld alongside technological efficiency.

5. The issue of digital inequality

One of the significant issues identified during the research is digital inequality.

Digital inequality refers to disparities in people's access to the internet, digital devices, digital services, and the relevant skills to use them.

This disparity can manifest in several forms:

1. differences in access to internet infrastructure;
2. differences regarding the availability of digital devices;
3. differences in levels of digital literacy;
4. differences in opportunities to use digital services;
5. differences in access to high-quality and reliable sources of information.

Data from the International Telecommunication Union indicates that, alongside positive growth in digital development, disparities persist regarding connection quality, usage, and the affordability of services.

Therefore, in the process of digital transformation, it is necessary to complement the principle of "technology for all" with the principle of "meaningful and beneficial digital opportunities for all."

Discussion

The results indicate that the information society necessitates a re-evaluation of traditional forms of interaction between the individual, society, and the state.

First, the role of the individual is changing. While in traditional society the individual primarily appeared as a subject utilizing opportunity provided by existing social institutions, in the digital environment, they have the capacity to shape their own information space, create content, and participate in collective processes.

Secondly, the structure of society is taking on a networked character. Network-based communication diminishes the significance of geographical boundaries and enables the formation of groups united by shared interests or goals.

Thirdly, the functions of the state are expanding. The state must now operate not merely as an institution providing traditional services, but also as an entity that develops digital infrastructure, ensures information security, protects digital rights, and mitigates digital inequality.

In this context, the new social paradigm rests on the following triad:

The Individual — a bearer of digital rights and responsibilities.

Society — a space for networked collaboration and information exchange.

The State — an institution ensuring digital infrastructure, security, and social justice.

In this model, these three entities operate not in isolation, but through mutual cooperation. Artificial Intelligence and New Social Relations

The rapid development of artificial intelligence is adding complexity to the paradigm of the information society. Artificial intelligence is being utilized to perform various tasks across education, healthcare, the economy, public administration, science, and daily life.

However, the human factor remains crucial in the use of artificial intelligence. It is essential to critically evaluate the outputs generated by technology, identify errors, and accept responsibility for final decisions.

Therefore, it is appropriate for the future social paradigm to be based not on a "human versus technology" dichotomy, but rather on the principle of "responsible collaboration between humans and technology."

Information Security and Personal Data

Protecting individual rights in the digital environment is of particular importance.

Personal data may be processed during the use of various digital services.

Consequently, issues regarding personal data protection, digital identity security, and cybersecurity are becoming a shared responsibility for the state, business, and civil society.

The state's role here extends beyond merely implementing technical security measures; raising citizens' awareness of their digital rights and obligations is also crucial.

The Evolving Role of Education

In an information society, the education system holds strategic importance. This is because, in the context of the digital economy and digital governance, an individual's digital competence can directly impact their social and professional opportunities.

It is important to develop the following competencies within the educational process:

- critical thinking;
- media and information literacy;
- digital communication;
- independent information seeking;
- data analysis;
- adherence to digital ethics;
- responsible use of artificial intelligence. Therefore, modern education must shift from a model of "memorizing information" to one of "working with information and creating new knowledge."

The principle of human-centricity in an information society

The most important criterion for digital transformation is not the complexity of the technologies themselves, but the extent to which they improve human lives.

In a human-centric digital society, technologies must:

- protect human rights and freedoms;
- expand access to education and knowledge;
- facilitate the use of public services;
- help reduce social inequality;
- expand opportunities for persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups;
- foster open and responsible dialogue within society.

International approaches to digital transformation also place special emphasis on human-centric and inclusive digital development.

From this perspective, the primary goal of an information society should not be to adapt society to technology, but rather to develop technologies in a way that aligns with the needs of individuals and society.

Conclusion

The information society represents a crucial stage in modern social progress, significantly transforming the nature of relationships between the individual, society, and the state. As a result of the development of digital technologies, the importance of information as a social resource is growing, creating new opportunities for individual engagement within society.

Based on the research findings, the following conclusions can be drawn:

First, the information society cannot be defined solely by technological advancement. It is a complex process that encompasses changes in social relations, communication, education, labor, and public administration.

Second, in the digital environment, the individual is evolving from a mere consumer of information into a creator and disseminator of it. Consequently, digital literacy, critical thinking, and information culture are becoming essential competencies for the modern individual.

Third, the communicative structure of society is taking on a networked character. While this can strengthen cooperation among various social groups, it may also give rise to risks associated with misinformation and social manipulation.

Fourth, the digital transformation of public administration can expand citizens' access to services. However, the process of building a digital state requires special attention to issues such as personal data protection, cybersecurity, transparency, and digital equity.

Fifth, reducing the digital divide is a crucial prerequisite for the sustainable development of an information society. Unless economic, regional, and educational disparities in access to digital opportunities are reduced, the social impact of digital transformation will not be fully realized.

Overall, the new social paradigm in an information society must be grounded in balanced and responsible relationships among the individual, society, the state, and technology. In such a society, technological progress must align with human interests, social justice, knowledge, freedom, security, and civic responsibility. The primary task for the future is not merely to implement technologies, but to wisely harness their social potential, bridge the digital divide, and place human dignity at the heart of digital transformation.

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