



The Anthropocene in question

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Abstract

This contribution intends to question the foundation of the concept of *Anthropocene*, underlining its value as a “word of power” which, having easily entered the common lexicon, even though it does not belong to us, is an expression of the *logos* of the world-system of contemporary Capitalism. This definition claims to represent the complex and extremely critical reality of our time by finding in the *àntropos* (in the human being) the scapegoat to which to attribute all responsibility. Far from ignoring the original and even current responsibilities, we must not forget that human work falls within the much broader and more complex framework of the action of the world-system of global capitalism which, without encountering any minimum resistance, draws with extreme greed from vital energy and every resource existing on Earth, compromising more than seriously the continuation of life in all its forms.

On the basis of this premise, and after having disavowed the presuppositions of the systemic subjugation of men to the global world-system of contemporary Capitalism (the alleged “human stupidity” as well as “the irreversibility of processes”) we try to demonstrate, drawing inspiration from the experience of the global pandemic of COVID-19, far beyond the unsustainability of the system, the possibility of an urgent and urgent intervention that can to some extent be avoided the ecological catastrophe that threatens us all. In this sense, the final reasoning develops a hypothesis of action of political ecology which, taking its cue from the analyzes and proposals of Bruno Latour, can give rise to a true emancipation of human beings by orienting them to an action that does not constitute a threat to the whole planet but, on the contrary, that can contribute to the development of a bio-coexistence that ignores the distortions of modernity, starting from the artificiality of the fracture between nature and culture and the human / non-human dichotomy that ideologically justified the catastrophe of the *Anthropocene - Capitalocene*. The hope is that a system may have originated that is centered on a community of the human / non-human in which human beings undertake responsibly to give impetus, nourish and care for ecological reciprocity and co-habitation with all other forms of life at risk.

Keywords: Ecosystem, Capitalism, COVID-19, Chthulucene, Earthbound

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