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AoT Tech.& Humans Conference

The Coming of the Robosapiens and the Emerging Cyborg Generation: A Socio-Ethical Perspective

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In this lecture, emerging robotics and cyborgs technologies are viewed from a social problems, ethical philosophy, and social theory perspective. We consider critical, precautionary, and technology assessment approaches. In the light of developments in the philosophy and sociology of science from the 1950s on, the ideas that science is a pure, value-free enterprise and that technologies are simply autonomous material artifacts are no longer viable. We can no longer assume that developments in science and technology will automatically promote human progress.