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Abstract

This chapter endeavours to outline one particular model of change. This model is the creation of a radical and co-operative higher education institution – what I will refer to as a "digital communist" university. This proposal aims to break out of the closed, path-dependent thinking, which exists around how intellectual labour can be socially constructed and situated in our present social and political context. This should be seen as a catalyst to provoke debate about how concrete alternatives to the neo-liberal regime in higher education can be achieved. As such my proposal should not be viewed in some vulgar determinist fashion, as "the" correct way, implicitly or explicitly excluding any other way. This approach has been the unfortunate tendency traditionally adopted by the left. Indeed in seeking to present a concrete radical alternative to the current system a number of deep structural challenges to the task of social design will need to come into clear focus – such as how to

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deal with financing, remuneration, and collective decision-making. There are no easy answers here but any credible attempt to go beyond the rhetoric of neo-liberal critique needs to grapple with these perennial issues. I therefore present my proposal as "probably a goer", something to "bet on" in recognition that the future is a chaotic complex system where rational analysis while essential is always confined within the realm of probability. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)

Signature

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