

Humboldt Kolleg

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### *Global Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

- 1) Technological development and human health/ quality of life*
- 2) Climate change and environmental sustainability*
- 3) Democracy and cohesion in Europe*

### *Achieving Suprapersonal Moral Status as a Result of Cognitive Enhancement: Are We Justified to Believe It?*

Given recent innovations in the biotechnologies aimed at cognitive and physical enhancement, the technological possibility of achieving suprapersonal moral status (post-personhood) appears to be plausible. Beings endowed with suprapersonal moral status, post-persons might claim a broader set of rights than mere persons, thereby reducing their immunity to permissible harm. Drawing some lessons from the literature on epistemology of modality, I will argue that we are not justified in believing that post-persons are technologically possible.

**Alexandru Dragomir** is an Assistant Professor at the University of Bucharest, Faculty of Mathematics, and part-time referent at the Direction of Strategic Orientation and Public Policy of the same university. Alexandru finished his PhD studies in Philosophy with a thesis on Logic and Formal Epistemology (defended and published in 2015). His current teaching interests include Critical Thinking for Computer Science students and Mathematical Logic. His current research interests include epistemic logic, modal epistemology and applied ethics.