Netizenship? The transformation of the notion of citizenship in view of the development of the new media

Transformations of political and social systems, related to the development of new communication technologies and heading toward the new type of civic society being born, have resulted in the articulation of a new conceptual category in political science, which may be referred to as netizenship. The net offers a significant catalogue of resources, making it possible to exercise citizenship in a new, yet comparably efficient manner. At the same time, it does not deprive those who do not identify fully with the prevalent cultural identity of the opportunity to pursue citizen status; they may become members of the community, enjoying their full rights. The new netizenship is a continuation of the traditional notion of citizenship, offering new opportunities to act, rather than an alternative.