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Abstract for the Fellow meeting on 15 December

In my previous presentation I put the question about examine the transfer of technologies as a re-creation of the same in a new environment. Now I will try to justify that thesis by resources from the studies of the logic of scientific thinking, using some concepts borrowed from SCOT, Kuhn and a Bulgarian professor, called Deyan Deyanov. (In a way, the proof resembles some notions of ANT, but it was developed independently and is not so radical). The combination between SCOT and “the logic of the practice” is needed to explain how the interpretative flexibility of the user is possible and where are its limitations. By that I’m searching for the point-of-no-return which divide the necessary adjustments that fit the technology in a new environment, from the moment into which all these adjustments finally create something new and unexpected. (This frontier probably is specific for every different case). The struggle of the different meanings of a technology in the transfer process, as in “the real” politics, doesn’t always provide equal chances for the actors to succeed and this is not only because of the unequal distribution of the power. If we take the infrastructure transfer for example, the meanings (or “gestalt”) of the engineers, has been already embedded in a stable, rigid, obdurate way in a techno-social structure, which - being collective - combines and coordinates the efforts of too many actors and elements. So this is a difficult task for the uncoordinated meanings of the users - that haven’t been unified, normalized, standardized and directed in a common education through a common formal education – to struggle with the engineers’ “gestalt” and institutional resources.