Il reddito d'esistenza come remunerazione della "vita activa"

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Abstract: The paper considers the proposal to establish a basic income in the light of the distinctive features of post-Fordist economy. The Author argues that cognitive capitalism involves the disappearance of some of the distinguishing characteristics of the economy in the phase that preceded it, including the distinction between work time and leisure. As a consequence of this fact, many value-generating activities are currently performed outside the context of employment relationships and are not remunerated. In such a context, the introduction of a basic income would be a measure of income distribution and not a measure of redistribution. To fulfil this function, the basic income, according to the Author, should have the following features: it should be given to every individual (individuality) residing on a given territory regardless of his/her nationality (residentiality) and unconditionally; furthermore, it should be funded through progressive taxation. The paper provides some estimates of the costs that the introduction of a basic income could have, in order to demonstrate its practicability.

Keywords: Basic income, Post-fordist economy, Cognitive capitalism, Distribution, Work.