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Does the world belong to women? A political and legal sociology of freedom. Alain Touraine (1925-2023)

«The reversal directing us from a society of world conquerors to one centred on self-construction has led to the replacement of the society of men with a society of women (...). For a long time, it was men who determined the course of history and manifested a strong self-consciousness. But for several decades now, and for an indefinite time (perhaps with no foreseeable end), we have entered a society and live individual lives whose “meaning” is increasingly in the hands, head and sex of women, and less and less in the hands, head and sex of men» (A. TOURAINE, *Le monde des femmes*, Fayard, Paris 2006, p. 224).

«While economic globalisation, which is compatible with a wide variety of cultures, takes hold, an increasingly insurmountable barrier is erected between countries that are willing to question the traditional status of women and accept their entry into the public arena and those that force them into a status of dependence and inferiority, or at least attempt to do so» (ibid., p. 184).

«One could easily imagine the emergence of new great powers rejecting the idea of human rights and managing to conquer the world with their economic and military might, but this does not detract from the unique capacity of modern societies to speak and act in the name of universal rights» (ibid., pp. 210-211).

How do the main thesis, enunciated by Alain Touraine on the basis of a detailed sociological investigation from which the world of women emerged as a new cultural paradigm, and his remarks above go together? Sociology in general, and social, political and legal theory in particular, are invited to measure themselves against some of the most demanding challenges posed by the recently deceased theorist of the «post-social» society.

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The final draft should be submitted to redazione.rivistapolitica@gmail.com

by **December 31, 2023**.

Languages: Italian, French, English