Annexe 2

Schéma de la structure d’un texte

Réf : Pfizer Forum (The Economist February 20, 1999 : 28) « The ‘End of Work’ Fallacy » by Mauricio Rojas

General positive idea: we are living in a wonderful period. Evidence: a dramatic improvement in our standards of living in the past 20 years

Paradox: Yet, the end-of-work thesis is gaining ground, assuming alarming proportions

Risk: rise of illiberal political movements

Reason for analysis: what is this thesis based on?

1. Growth is destroying more jobs than it creates
2. Technological transformation is responsible for this
3. The new jobs are low-skilled, low-paid service jobs
4. Capital and enterprise are migrating to countries where labour is cheap

What is the substance behind these allegations?

1a. Over the last 25 years, global job creation has been very high: in the USA, Canada, Australia and Japan, over 65 million jobs have been created; Asia has enjoyed a startling expansion.
2a. In the USA and Japan - the two countries dominating IT development - more jobs were created between 1975 and 1995 than in the two previous decades.
3a. Since 1983, about 50% of the new net jobs created in the U.S.economy were in the managerial and professional sector; around 70% of the new net jobs were paid above the median income for all full-time employees.
4a. If it were true, there should have been a dramatic fall in the industrialized countries’ share of world exports over the past fifteen years.
Conclusions

1b. The job crisis in highly-regulated Western Europe is home-made!

2b. The IT period has seen a substantial increase in the job creation effect of growth!

3b. We are told quite a different story from the working-poor litany!

4b. What we instead can observe is an increase in this share!

General conclusion

All these assertions are based on fallacies

Yet

The doomsayers seem to magnetise more and more people

HOW?

By exploiting European mass unemployment

By exploiting natural fears in a period of change