EDITORIAL EJAFB (17) EMERGENT TECHNOLOGIES AND THE NEED FOR A NEW CURRICULUM

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When the concept of modern world is mentioned, we tend to immediately think about a world where technology is present everywhere, guiding and helping people at every step. We believe this modern world is finally within our grasp, moreover, some people might already be living in such a world without knowing. The key drive of modern world is the process we call digital transformation, which is regarded as being a logical step in the development and evolution of society. In the field of economics this concept is known as Industry 4.0.

Industry 4.0 is seen as an integration of emergent technologies in all spheres of business environment, that is, a fundamental change in the way economic entities carry out their daily activity, bringing value to stakeholders. Moreover, this process can also be seen as a cultural change that forces economic entities to challenge the traditional way of doing business, by experiencing uncertainty and feeling comfortable within an ever-changing environment, one in which success is closely linked to the ability to innovate, i.e., the ability to come up with new ideas and solutions for any problems that may arise in such a volatile environment.

Blockchain is one of those emergent technologies that pushes the process of digital

transformation forward, and in time, it will revolutionize the transmission, processing, and protection of data, which is important for all stakeholders.

Truly, a revolutionary technology, maybe as revolutionary as the internet itself, which is why we expect in the coming decades the entire process of logistics for any entity, to be transformed. This technology also promises to transform the economic sphere into a model which is more sustainable, being an answer to the alarming challenges some of of globalization, by reducing the cost of transactions, processing, while increasing transparency and trust.

However, blockchain is just one of many technologies with potential to revolutionize society. In near future, technology will govern almost all our daily activities and can be summed into 5 distinct ones: internet of things (IoT), big data, machine learning, machine to machine (M2M) and artificial intelligence (AI).

Therefore, it is of utmost importance to adapt school and universities curriculum, motivating young people to pursue a profession and a skillset which will be valuable in the near future, which will prepare them to enter the modern world, where digital medium is king.