

SOME PRINCIPLES FOR A PLURALISTIC APPROACH OF KNOWLEDGE

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Abstract. *As no human knowledge about reality can be perfect, the pluralistic approach, that is using simultaneously more different instruments or theories, instead of a unique one, is a rational choice. The diversity and a rating of human instruments of knowledge are presented. An internal pluralism and an external one can therefore be defined, discussing some of their features, advantages and disadvantages.*

Keywords: knowledge, unic and pluralistic approach, internal, external.

The impossible perfection of knowledge

We will use in this paper the term „reality” and „real world” with the same meaning, even we acknowledge that what we call „real world” is only an image of a reality that remains for us a „black box”, an image made by our senses and instruments. Knowledge is useful because it helps us to work more efficiently toward our values on this „box”.

Much of human knowledge is expressed by truths. For simplicity, we will agree provisionally that *truth* is a sentence or a mathematical expression, that one who uses it has good reason to regard as consistent with reality. Possibly, we associate a truth with a level of trust (between "total" and "null"). Truths (particularly the scientific ones), as well as *general* and concerning the *reality*, though they aspire to be „universal” and „axiological neutral”, are actually components of human models, constructed within particular human cultures and seeking human values.

Any initial knowledge is personal; even then it is transmitted to other entities. Therefore about a certain aspect of reality and in a certain moment we can have a plurality of truths that may be contradictory. A certain truth can be accepted by a smaller or greater group or by all humanity. So there: my truth, your, of us all, but, whatever the scope of acceptance, all truths remain human, fallible and perfectible. Obviously, the truth is more respectable since its scope is larger.

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