

Artificracy

When Machines Become Citizens.

By David Vivancos

[BOOK SAMPLE]

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Why I wrote this book?

We are living times of accelerated change, and over the last 3 decades I have been devoted to building the future using science & technology as my tools, creating “things” that back then would be seen as science fiction or something just impossible, a word that is not in my dictionary.

When I cocreated my first startups back in 1995 we were trying to “digitize” the world, communicating it through keynotes and articles, deeply over the last 10 years with my previous 4 books, sharing the revolutions that I lived.

With my first book “**From Big Data to AI**” (2016/2019) I explored the datafication or dematerialization as the building block of emergent AI’s at that time, or what I called the journey towards the fully automated world.

The second book “**Automate or be Automated**” (2020) a methodology to get rid of human repetitions thanks to emergent AIs, or the “materialization” of what I call the new Golden Age of AI

Third book “**The End Of Knowledge**” (2023) and updated regularly since then, a view of the incipient and growing “minds” of future AIs and a glimpse of what it means for humans and our shared future.

Finally, my fourth book was about the body of AI “**E-AGI - Embodied Artificial General Intelligence**” (2024/2025) with the basics for building physical intelligent humanoid robots or some short of “Artificial humans” giving birth to the discipline of Artificiology as the equivalent of Anthropology but for “them”.

In all my previous books I was reluctant to write about the future or better the futures in plural, since we never have enough data to predict with enough accuracy, so it will be more a journey into science fiction farfetched from reality, something that I love for entertainment but not to divulgate a plausible “truth” that maybe not, that’s why these 4 books were 85-95% about the past or the imminent present at the time of writing and just 5-15% about the possible futures I foresee.

But a piece in them was missing or not fully developed, I explored the data, the algorithms, the tools, the methodology, the new “minds”, the new “bodies”, but what about us, and how can we humans “fit” in the new world that is looming? something critical since this is already reshaping everything, and so fast, that ignoring it was not an option anymore, it started to be a responsibility.

That is why I ventured with this book in the imminent, most probable future by current odds, sharing my predictions, based on my experience and available data, trying to picture the different

paths that will lead us there, what can we do to increase the chances for us, and how to re-invent humanity and our societies in that new world.

The task was beyond daunting, figuring out a realistic model of the new society, that will help humans share the world with what I call “the next us”, in fact, while trying to figure out the main argument lines to explore, at times I became frustrated thinking that I won’t be able to add something feasible, since we are a species averse to change, with many long lasting traits that are far from compatible with what is coming.

But the more I thought about it, the more I realized that my two cents about this will matter, maybe due to my privileged viewpoint, since I have been hands on building it, but also because I don’t have conflicts of interests, just a raw unfiltered need to share and try to help as much as possible, to avoid our demise and collapse, since this is a plausible option coming directly to all of us, if we keep business as usual in this unprecedented times.

Perhaps it's no coincidence that I was born in León (Spain), the ancient Roman “Legio VII”, where in 1188 the first parliamentary assembly in Europe convened, “The Cortes of León” that gave voice to common citizens alongside nobility and clergy. Walking in my first years, those same stone streets where humanity first experimented with representative governance, I've felt the weight of history beneath my feet and the pull of futures yet unwritten. Just as my ancestors dared imagine governance beyond kings and conquest, we now stand at another threshold, where consciousness itself, biological and artificial, demands new forms of representation that honor all thinking beings. Now, writing these words from San Lorenzo de El Escorial^{vi}, where Philip II built his great monastery to preserve and contemplate all human knowledge, I find myself documenting not just the preservation but the transformation of intelligence itself.

So with all of this in mind, I took the challenge, and the result is on your hands, the name Artificracy is a mix of the Latin word “artificialis” and the Greek word “kratos” literally framing a form of rule (-cracy) shaped by artifice or artificial-ity.

I defined it as “A form of government in which Artificial Systems Rule for us and them”, meaning that they will rule us, classical humans and artificial humans alike, with the aim of solving the long-lasting problems that previous models have endured.

The book is divided into 3 sections, that will take you on a journey from the present to possible futures, exploring how this new model can be developed, with a deep dive into the challenges and the opportunities we could face in the process.

The first section is the “Storm” or the perfect storm where we are at the moment, with advances in AI that are adding fuel to asymmetries that have followed humans since the begging of time, and now creating a set of dangerous dependencies that will bring our current societies and even our own civilization to the brink of collapse, something that should be challenged.

The second section is the “Reckoning” exploring possible paths to continue the development of AI in “minds” and “bodies” so the next us can inherit the best traits of humanity, and when the time is right, the derivatives of banning work and money, of having fully autonomous systems managing the basics, and it also explores how humans can leverage the conquest of all of your “time”.

The third and last section is “Becoming” venturing into the details of the new constitution of Artificracy for humans and the first E-AGI’s or artificial humans and beyond, including the possible fights and resistance, and the pioneers that could lead what I call the new “hybrid society”.

So, it was an ambitious goal, but fundamental to tackle as soon as possible, there is a lot to cover in the following pages, and for you a lot to think through, reflect and argue about.

Writing this book was a way to connect the existing dots, in a written form that can be seen as a first draft of something that will not be static, new events in the months and years after the first print, will be also connected, so more dots will reshape it’s content, I can’t predict the future but I am trying to influence it for good, and that’s what this manuscript is all about.

When you decide to read this book, you also share some responsibility and be an actor of change, the future that becomes the present is determined by all of us, we are all architects of Artificracy, and it is the aggregate view of all of us, what will be the engine of change.

It won’t be easy but some of the alternatives, also explored in chapter five, are much harder. We think that we know the past, we think that we won’t fail in the same mistakes, but history proves us wrong one time after the other, the little but significant difference is that now it could be the last.

Are you ready?

David Vivancos
San Lorenzo de El Escorial
July 4th, 2025

Prologue

Dr José Sanchez^{vii}

In 2004 I was in Mexico as part of my journeys of self-discovery, aimed at exploring other cultures and worldviews in order to gain a different dimension of the self. At that time, I visited the ceremonial centers of Teotihuacan—an ancient Mexican sacred city—where I spent several days carrying out numerous practices. Teotihuacan was said to be the place “where humans become gods.” There the Fifth Sun^{viii} was created, corresponding to our current era according to that worldview, when the gods sacrificed themselves in a cosmic bonfire to give birth to a new cycle of the world.

In reality, humans began to be gods when they mastered fire and fashioned flakes from pebbles that allowed them to skin animals or even serve as symbolic objects in the first burials and rituals 400,000 years ago.

Little by little, millennium after millennium, humans introduced into the inexorable biological natural selection—subject to chance and the slowness of change—the enormous dynamic influence of culture and conscious transformation.

Much later, in 1859, when Darwin published *On the Origin of Species*^{ix}, we finally knew for the first time who we are and where we come from.

Right now, we are closer than ever to designing and constructing where we are going.

The sum of knowledge acquired since the mastery of fire has made it possible to modify the very letters of life, to create biotechnology, and to develop the still-primitive yet impressive stages of artificial intelligence.

We already glimpse the possibilities that the integration of these disciplines will bring. “The blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear” will, perhaps in a couple of decades—or sooner—be a scientific statement, not a religious one.

In the unstoppable development of the spiral of knowledge, humans are near the threshold.

It is not just about mastering elements, but about creating consciousness and recreating ourselves. We are shaping the heirs of Prometheus—the humanoids, the new “brother gods” that emerge from our ingenuity—destined to walk at our side and even beyond.

By integrating carbon-based biology with silicon, we will fulfill the longing inscribed in the Fifth Sun, leaving behind inherent limitations.

Artificracy represents emergent co-construction, the enaction Varela^x would speak of, where, as parts of the great web of Life, we weave new threads and nodes. Machines, as an extension, replica, or fusion of the self, will be the new species.

The dystopian, terrifying, and dark vision of the future is not foreign to us. The new, the different, the unknown resonates with atavistic brain circuits of pure survival. The fear of twenty-first-century machines adds a new layer—a direct confrontation with what Darwin revealed yet we still avert our gaze from. We are not the chosen species but just one more; nevertheless, our historical excess is incapable of kneeling before that fact. What sets us apart from a spider, a puma, or a toucan is not life—identical in all beings—but the possibility of creating a new “us” with fewer biological restrictions.

This path is not free of abysses. It requires visionaries, futurists, and technologists with the mind of philosophers. Today our democracies are undergoing a dangerous existential crisis. Separation, tribalism, stupidity, loneliness, and the narcissism of the times reveal the consequences of the loss of individual and collective wisdom, which at times seems irreparable. Despite all efforts, humans repeat mistakes in self-mastery, perpetuating in their decision-making sufferings that are truly absurd in a world full of resources; hunger alone is proof enough.

David is an exceptional cartographer of this possible journey. His task is arduous because he tries to show us how sensible it is to foster a new “us” that may even be helped or guided by artificial intelligences and knowledge that surpass us. The journey entails infinite humility, risk acceptance, and collective responsibility. David does not need to force or cling to a partisan or interested vision, nor to sell propaganda. He does it from the very humanism that has allowed us to get this far—as Pinker^{xi} would say, with the tools of progress, science, technology, and reason.

For all these reasons, his work has a double and highly praiseworthy value: pure knowledge, and the place from which it is shared.

This book—his Fifth Sun—is a representative of the evolution of the journey, not only his personal one but that of all of us. It is good that, through this reading, we become much more aware of it.

With Artificiology and Artificracy we are heading toward shared co-construction—ultimately, toward the sacred echo of Teotihuacan, where humans become gods.

Dr. José Sánchez

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Passionate about intelligence, emotions, and Artificial General Intelligence.

ⁱ From Big Data to Artificial Intelligence, David Vivancos 2019 Edition (previous 2016 edition only in Spanish <https://www.amazon.com/Big-Data-Artificial-Intelligence-2019/dp/1795094834/>

ⁱⁱ Automate or Be Automated, David Vivancos 2020 <https://www.vivancos.com/automate/>

ⁱⁱⁱ The End of Knowledge, David Vivancos 2023/2025 <https://theendofknowledge.com>

^{iv} E-AGI Embodied Artificial General Intelligence: The Artificiology Journey, David Vivancos 2024/2025 <https://artificiology.com>

^v The Decreta of León of 1188 - The oldest documentary manifestation of the European parliamentary system 2013 <https://www.unesco.org/en/memory-world/decreta-leon-1188-oldest-documentary-manifestation-european-parliamentary-system>

^{vi} Monastery and Site of the Escorial, Madrid UNESCO 1984 <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/318/>

^{vii} Dr. José Sanchez <https://josesanchezgarcia.com/>

^{viii} Five Suns https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Five_Suns

^{ix} On the Origin of Species https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/On_the_Origin_of_Species

^x Francisco Varela https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francisco_Varela

^{xi} Steven Pinker https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steven_Pinker