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THE CONCEPTUAL AND GENERIC BORDERLINES OF UTOPIA

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Abstract: *The paper focuses on the early-modern work of Th. More and is projected as a revisitation of the elements which originate and participate in the construction of the humanist utopia. It explores the contemporary socio-cultural context framing the emergence of Utopia and its historical-cultural lineage. The new-historicist approach and the correlative analysis of the historical and cultural (con)texts enable the disambiguation of the distinctions between the utopian vision and other imaginary, fantastic projections of the ideal. The intertextual approach unearths the paradoxes underlying Utopia, its divergence from its precursors as well as from the subsequent utopian writing which implies the lack of self-coextensiveness of the utopian text and further raises the question of the status of the humanist work as an exemplar of the utopian genre.*