

## In Search of Man. In the Footsteps of Derrida and Lacan

### Summary

The article is dedicated to the discussion of the notions of limit / delimitation and trace suggested by Jacques Derrida, and in this context to outlining the human figure dimensions, which correspond to the logic of the thinker. The article is based on the premise that Derrida's perspective relied on the paradigmatic opposition between continuity and discontinuity, which critically assessed the idea of a continuous human consciousness identical to self. For the sake of comparison, the concepts used by Jacques Lacan and Michel Foucault are briefly highlighted. These concepts in their own right were an attack on the traditional anthropological notions reinforced by the principles of

continuity. Based on the traces of Derrida's thought, partly by reconstructing and partly by interpreting, the article seeks to discover the concealed human in his texts, who, admittedly, was rarely mentioned by the thinker in his writings. The human structure based on the dividing distinction or a leap from the subconscious to the conscious is highlighted, where the evolving conscious identity is always secondary with respect to the elusive source. This concept lifts the man in the form of a fragmented, asymmetrical structure, based not on continuity but on difference, which undermines the possibility of any exchange between consciousness and subconsciousness.

**Keywords:** Derrida, Lacan, Foucault, the concept of man, difference *versus* continuity, trace, presence, death as limit experience.