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*Social Security and the New Digital Work Relationships: A Contribution to New Forms of Sustainability for the Social Security System**

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ABSTRACT The sustainability of social security is an (almost) embryonic concern in social-security law. Talking about social security leads us, without much delay, to consider the concern that societies have about the financial sustainability of their social-security systems. And to the problems that already exist, a new ingredient has been added that puts the current system in crisis and leads us to rethink the forms of financing and the measures that should be adopted to respond to these new realities that derive from digitalization and the automation of procedures. Especially when they lead to a reduction in jobs and, consequently, a reduction in the revenue derived from the contributions that workers and employers pay into the social-security system.

KEYWORDS: Tax – Contributions to social security – Sustainability – Digitalization –Work automation

1. *Introduction*

Bearing in mind that the initial purpose of this text calls for a reflection on the forms (and problems) of sustainability of social security, particularly with regard to the new problems arising from the automation of labour procedures and the consequent extinction of jobs, we cannot fail to characterise the Portuguese social-security system. As such, this implies pronouncing on the concept and functioning of social security in the Portuguese legal system, as well as on its constitutional and normative framework.

2. *The idea of social security*

It is clear that the right to social security is today one of the fundamental pillars of contemporary society. The anxiety to meet a need for security in the face of uncertainties and misfortunes that can cause arrhythmias and anomalies in people's lives has brought with it the need for the law to intervene to regulate these situations. We see, here, social security as a social right that seeks to attribute security and rights to the working class.

Today, however, the term social security is a polysemous concept, the scope of which is often seen in an almost heterogeneous way and with little precision. It is not uncommon to find that the concept has been used to encompass, within its conceptual framework, the social-security system itself, social action and social protection and solidarity measures.

It will not be difficult to understand that its origin, albeit in a different form, goes back centuries. In a more rudimentary and primitive form, the only help that a state provided to citizens was developed through resources of charity, mercy and even gifts that representatives of religions and the sovereign gave to the most needy, i.e. through the so-called 'Misericórdias'. We are talking about a time when measures of solidarity and support for the most disadvantaged were individual, anarchic and seen as a voluntary movement, i.e. the existing movements had no connection with the security and predictability that is understood as necessary in a socially developed society and is considered to be organised around the dignity of the human being.

An idea that, therefore, translates into the current right to social security, as the right,

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recognised by the legal system, to demand benefits from the State, in money or in kind, as a response to situations or eventualities resulting in the interruption, reduction or cessation of work income, the occurrence of certain burdens. For this reason, the right to social security is now a truly fundamental right, the result of the humanisation of society and of the State itself. The dignity of the human person, the hierarchisation of society around the human being and the need to create social measures to provide people with predictability and security in case of need have led to the creation of a system that is organised, systematised and modelled around the attribution of monetary measures, or measures in kind, that function as real substitutes for income, benefits, salaries or rents. Moreover, its solidarity dimension entails a non-synallagmatic path that seeks to implement a true redistributive dimension, because through the Social Security system it is possible to combat (or mitigate) the situations of poverty and economic deprivation that exist in society.

This is why we cannot but consider the right to social security as a true second-generation right within the economic, social and cultural dimension. As such, it requires the State to adopt positive measures to make it effective. Its constitutional enshrinement is not enough, as the state is obliged to adopt a positive behaviour that translates, on the one hand, into the creation of its own organised system and, on the other hand, into the conception of rights to cash benefits in lieu of income. This social-provision function therefore obliges public authorities to develop and implement public measures aimed at the realisation of this fundamental right.

However, as mentioned, its scope is broader. To consider social security only as a social-security system purely based on the umbilical duality between 'contributions and pensions' is to have a restrictive conception of this fundamental right. Article 63 of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic enshrines 'Social Security and Solidarity'.[1] Therefore, the call for attention should be directed to state intervention in social-security measures, but also in social support and solidarity measures that seek to fulfil the redistributive function that Beveridge understood to be necessary in his post-war vision, and which is sought to be carried out through the extra-fiscal function of taxation.[2] Thus, social security measures coexist according to the amount of employment benefits actually provided, i.e. invalidity pensions, old-age pensions, unemployment benefits, sickness benefits, and so on. But also social-support measures, such as family allowances, or social solidarity measures, such as the social integration income. All these measures, which are part of a denser and more complex regulatory framework, require the state to be called upon to support a heterogeneity of situations that are not limited to the aforementioned binomial of a social security system based on the result of the payment of contributions to a social security fund. Social support and solidarity measures do not require the existence of their own signal and are therefore characterised by the fact that they are genuine measures subsidised by other sources of funding beyond mere contributions.

It is therefore through redistributive measures that the true desideratum of solidarity proper to a society based on the dignity of the human person is achieved, i.e. through national, intergenerational and occupational solidarity.[3]

3. *The sustainability of social security*

The debate on a universal right to social security, aimed at reaching the majority of people, presents a complex consensus challenge related to the sustainability of the social-security system. This is because, as a fund (of a public nature) that seeks to reach the majority of people through monetary (and compensatory) benefits, the arithmetical premise that 'the cost must be identical to (or less than) the income obtained' is under analysis.

This premise, in a purely social-security system, would not be difficult if it were considered in a unitary dimension of direct synagogue between contributions and

[1] Cfr. J.S. Nabais and M. Lavouras, *La financiación de la Seguridad Social*, in *Seguridad Social: sistema, protección, solidaridad y estabilidad*, Lisbon, AAFDL - Editora, 2020, 169-205.

[2] G. Teixeira and J.F. Nogueira, *Segurança Social – Uma Perspectiva Fiscal*, in *Nos vinte anos do Código das Sociedades Comercials, Homenagem aos Prof. A. Ferrer Correia, Orlando de Carvalho e Vasco Lobo Xavier*, Vol. II, 2007, available at https://ssrn.com/abstract=3642666.

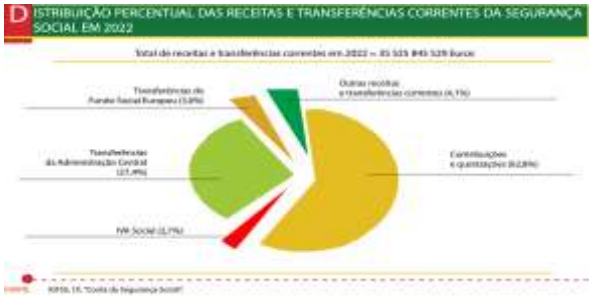
[3] P.T. Pereira, *La reforma de la seguridad social: aportes a la reflexión*, Lisbon, Celta Editora, 1998.

compensatory measures. However, we cannot forget that, as a fundamental right that is characterised by the attribution of real public subjective rights to subjects who are in a position to demand pecuniary measures (according to some scholarship, compensatory and beyond mere contributions[4]). The idea of a social-security system is reductive and it is therefore necessary to finance a system that is based on a broader and more comprehensive vision.

The idea of solidarity that underlies the fundamental right to social security, enshrined in article 63 of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic, requires that the social-security system legitimises the adoption of social and solidarity measures that have a redistributive desideratum to combat situations of poverty, unfavourable situations of impediment or reduction of the working capacity of individuals, or similar situations that require state intervention. Likewise, the attribution of pecuniary measures to people who have contributed little (or nothing) to the current social-security system ends up distorting the synallagmatic vision of a social-security system based on social security.

Consequently, the vision of a system based exclusively on contributions and levies imposed on labour relations is inefficient and completely impossible in the face of measures that have no synallagmatic basis. Therefore, financing based solely on existing employment relationships is limited and financing is achieved through taxation and other fiscal measures by states.

See, for example, the breakdown chart of the sources of social-security revenue in 2022:



From a certain perspective, it can be understood that part of the income comes from the labour relations and economic activities of the workers, thus configuring the social-security system with a synallagmatic base. However, not all income derives from this labour-based source, as there is income from central-government transfers, community support or other basic, non-synallagmatic sources. This is produced, as it has been said, by the need to finance the burdens that the social-security system has on those beneficiaries who meet the legal requirements for the allocation of pecuniary amounts on a purely social and solidarity basis.

Hence, it is now commonplace to rethink the social-security system, its sustainability, as there are problems (or 'growing pains') inherent to a system that had its (social) mutation at a time of solidarity and mutual aid between states, but which, at present, faces great challenges due to the ageing of the population and the increase in the average life expectancy of the beneficiaries of the pensions that are paid out, the reduction of the active labour that contributes to the capitalisation of the Social-Security system, the increase in the social and solidarity needs of States, and, more recently, the crisis in the labour sector resulting from the automation of work procedures due to the replacement of many workers by artificial intelligence and robotic systems.

4. *The (new) problems and challenges of social-security sustainability*

4.1. *Introduction*

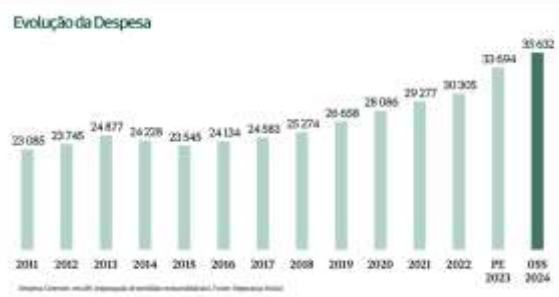
The sustainability of the social-security system is one of the main points of debate in society today. The importance of the right to social security, as a social right of modern states, has given rise to a great debate about its sustainability in the short and medium term, since there is a tendency towards an increase in the amounts allocated to expenditure, together with a reduction in the sources of income. And, many times, lawmakers, scholarship and case law have put the emphasis on the revenue side. However, they forget the expenditure side. This, configured as an administrative act (or set of acts) aimed at applying public revenue to the collective needs pursued by a public agent (or private agent invested with public-interest functions), always presupposes the need for credit that underlies the achievement of the desideratum

[4] A.J.B. Conceição, *Ingresos de sustitución en la gestión del tiempo de trabajo*, in *Revista Internacional de Derecho del Trabajo*, II, no 3, 2022, 156.

to be reached.[5] And such an understanding ends up being assumed in the Social Security Act as well. As J.J. Gomes Canotilho and Vital Moreira[6] expressly state, "the recognition of a right should not be confused with the fixed guarantee of a standard of living compatible with the dignity of the human person, since this depends, of course, on the actual social conditions (economic, technological, cultural) of each country".[7] This means that the state is obliged to adopt positive measures that provide such social security and solidarity measures and social action, but according to its financial capacity, so that the criterion of sustainability ends up imposing itself on the unlimited and unfounded adoption of social and social-security measures.

Therefore, given the need to achieve a right to social security that is as universal as possible, which guarantees coverage for the eventualities of people's lives, the need for income is an indisputable certainty. This is because the more social security, social action and solidarity measures are implemented, the greater the financial needs to sustain the costs of the social-security system. We are referring specifically to situations of inclusion and poverty eradication, social security and family support measures. And such measures imply a huge volume of expenditure for the state.

As an example, see the evolution of expenditure in recent years:



The level of expenditure tends to increase, demonstrating the need for a proportional volume of revenue. Hence, the problems of economic sustainability of social security have been constant during the development of the system and of public social-protection measures, motivating most of the reforms and legislative changes experienced so far. And, as mentioned above, this growing problem in the financing of social security currently has two fundamental factors, which are increasingly at the centre of the social, academic and political debate. They are, on the one hand, the effects of the latest international economic crisis (which began in 2008). And, on the other hand, the demographic evolution of our country, marked by a progressive ageing of the population, derived from the increase in life expectancy and a drastic decrease in the birth rate, which will be significantly accentuated in the next 10-15 years with the progressive ageing of the population and the retirement of the baby-boom generation (born between 1958-1977).

However, there is now a third factor that will have a major impact on the financing of social security that has not yet been explored and studied in depth. This factor is the transformation of the labour market as a result of the 'fourth industrial revolution' or 'Revolution 4.0'.[8] The productive transformation driven by technological advances will lead to the disappearance of a large number of current jobs and, consequently, to a significant decrease in the number of contributors to the social-security system.[9]

However, one cannot fail to foresee an undeniable premise: the structure of the tax system and the unequal tax burden resulting in different sources of tax revenue, namely on labour and capital income, represent a

[5] J.F. Rocha, *Direito Financeiro Público,* Coimbra, Almedina, 2019.

[6] J.J. Gomes Canotilho and Vital Moreira, *Constituição da República Portuguesa – Vol.I,* IV ed., Coimbra, Coimbra Editora, 2007, 814.

[7] J.C. Nabais and M. Lavouras, *La financiación de la Seguridad Social*, in *Seguridad Social: sistema, protección, solidaridad y sostenibilidad*, Lisbon, AAFDL Editora, 2020, 169-205.

[8] When talking about the impact of the digital transformation on the financing of social security, it should be borne in mind that we are not referring to a specific technology. On the contrary, we are referring to a whole set of technologies that are part of the fourth industrial revolution and that bring with them a reform of the fabric of existing working procedures.

[9] OCDE, *Poner rostros a los empleos en riesgo de automatización*, 2018, available at www.oecd.org/employment/Automation-policy-brief-2018.pdf; M. Arntzi, T. Gregoryi and U. Zierahn, *The Risk of Automation for Jobs in OECD Countries: A Comparative Analysis,* OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Papers, Paris, OECD Publishing, No. 189, 2016, available at http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/5jlz9h56dvq7-en; OCDE, *Perspectives de l'emploi de l'OECD 2012*, Paris, OECD Publishing, 2012, available at https://doi.org/10.1787/empl_outlook-2012-f; Rapport mondial sur les salaires 2016/17: OIT, *les inégalités salariales au travail Bureau international du Travail,* Geneva, TBI, 2017, available at: www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public@dgreports/@dcomm/@publ/documents/publication/wcms_545416.pdf.

significant burden for taxpayers. Therefore, the imposition of a new (or aggravated) tax levy on these incomes may give rise to risks leading to undesirable shocks. It is therefore important to (re)think the current social-security model and the way it works.

In a first approach, two solutions can be identified: i) in a structural dimension, the reformulation of social security, solidarity and social-action measures, as well as the conditions of access to these measures; ii) in an economic dimension, the rethinking of the sources of financing and capitalisation of the social-security system.

Therefore, let us look at some of the proposed measures.

4.2. *Measures for Social Security and its sustainability*

As we have had the opportunity to mention, there are three reasons why the sustainability of social security is in crisis: (i) the increase in average life expectancy, combined with a low birth rate and an ageing population; (ii) the social-security systems of the vast majority of states, based on a Bismarckian model of income sharing and voluntary insurance, lead to the existence of measures that are not based on a pure 'benefit-benefit' synallagma system; iii) the third cause arises through the automation of labour procedures, which may lead to a sharp decline in the labour force and, consequently, to a reduction in the legal-contributory relationships that constitute the main source of financing of the social-security system.[10]

In fact, we find that the first and third grounds of appeal show that the active workers of the population is being increasingly reduced, resulting in a significant reduction in the direct sources of funding derived from contributions and social-security contributions. Consequently, the increase in average life expectancy extends the benefits attributed by the effects of old age and survival, constituting acts of expenditure over an increasingly longer chronological space. Moreover, the model of distribution and social and solidarity-based action brings with it an increase in expenditure that has no correlation with the sources of financing derived from income, work and capital.

Now, all this, in purely financial terms, constitutes a reduction in income and an increase in expenditure, causing a disruption in the social-security system, so it is necessary to create measures that allow an increase in the sources of income, combined with the need to protect the positions of workers who see, for technological reasons and the evolution of labour procedures, their working position unprotected. In other words, we are not only talking about measures to protect the social-security system and its sustainability, but also and above all about measures to provide real security and predictability in the security and social rights of workers who are affected by the substitution of 'machines' in their professional activity.

If we consider measures to protect workers in the field of social security, we can identify the following measures, which mainly focus on financing through contributions:

4.2.1. *Measures to increase social-security contributions in the event of job losses due to the digital transformation of companies*

Given that our system has a contributory basis and a strong Bismarckian influence,[11] social-security contributions are the first and most important source of social-security financing. This makes it necessary that the loss of income from job losses due to the digital transformation of companies be accompanied by measures to compensate for the aforementioned deficit.

In fact, the first measure that can be put forward is to oblige companies and employers to sign a certain agreement or covenant with the Social Security, with the aim of obliging companies, which lay off workers because of automating procedures, to pay tax contributions to the amount of unemployment benefit, until the end of this period, as already occurs in situations of early retirement.[12]

The safeguard clause is generally

[10] I. das Neves, *Crisis y reforma de la seguridad social: equívocos y realidades*, Lisbon, Edições Chambel, 1998, 77.

[11] G. Teixeira and J. F. Nogueira, *Segurança Social – Uma Perspectiva Fiscal*, in *Nos vinte anos do Código das Sociedades Comercials, Homenagem aos Prof. A. Ferrer Correia, Orlando de Carvalho e Vasco Lobo Xavier*, Vol. II, 2007, available at https://ssrn.com/abstract=3642666.

[12] Cfr. A.C. Carvalho, F. Cassiano dos Santos, J. Campino, L. Lopes Martins, M. Lavouras, M. Coelho, M. L. Pires, N. Monteiro Amaro and S. Fernandes da Costa, *Código de Regímenes Contributivos del Sistema de Seguridad Social - Anotado y Comentado*, Coimbra, Almedina, 2022.

established on a voluntary basis for the worker, but in the proposed case it would become mandatory, by legal imperative, for the employer, while safeguarding the minimum guarantee period for workers who do not have a minimum length of service in the company, such as, for example, those who have worked for the entity for less than six months.

This measure denotes its coerciveness only when the worker(s) were dismissed due to automation and modernisation of labour procedures, and only when, subjectively, they met a minimum-guarantee period criterion. The economic savings obtained through automation, and the possible profitability obtained by automation, would make it possible to create a contribution that would tax the amount of unemployment benefit granted to the worker affected by the dismissal, thus achieving their social protection and the maintenance of a fairer and more universal social-security system.

Hence the following advantages:

- The worker would continue to be protected against any eventuality that might arise;
- it would be possible to maintain the level of sustainability of social security by monitoring the technological evolution of companies;
- It would be possible to create a financial measure, on a purely conventional basis, which would avoid a deficit in existing social measures in the face of industrial technological reconversion, making business progress and social welfare compatible.

However, it is also noted that this measure has significant disadvantages:

The imposition of this measure could be an obstacle to the automation and evolution of the companies themselves, which could see in these impositions an aggravation and a negative basis for the adoption of evolutionary measures, thus making them negative due to a lack of neutrality and state intervention in the evolutionary and technological capacity of the companies themselves; on the other hand, when considering a conventional measure, and in the light of the principle of legality, the Social Security Institute must have very specific and duly defined competences, in order to avoid agreements or discretionary measures that undermine equality.

Furthermore, such a measure would undermine the principle of the contributory social-security system by basing its financing on a purely fiscal basis.[13]

Secondly, we can identify as a measure of sustainability and protection of workers who are affected by one-off dismissals due to the automation of labour procedures, the imposition of the payment of a fee per worker in the event of dismissal.

This is a real tax, as there is no synallagma or direct consideration (or diffuse interest) associated with its payment. Therefore, and unlike the measure presented above, it would be a tax measure without any direct benefit for the dismissed worker. Moreover, being a purely fiscal (or contributory) measure, its creation would only be admissible through constitutional ontological coerciveness, i.e. its creation would be subject to the popular will represented by the competent sovereign body, in casu, the Assembly of the Republic (cf. Article 165(1)(i) of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic). On the other hand, the taxable amount would be the average amount of salary earned by the worker, over a given period of time, and would be multiplied by the number of years that would be necessary for the worker to reach the legal retirement age. Depending on the worker's seniority, this could be considered as a limit for calculating the amount to be paid, as well as exempting from payment in case of dismissed workers who have failed to reach a certain number of months with the employer (6 months or 1 year). However, this tax levy could also be waived by presenting an economic-impact study that considers that the payment obligation was disruptive and the economic viability of the company was put in crisis, so it could be taken into account for the reduction or exemption of the tax measure.

The main advantage associated with this measure is associated with the sustainability of social security. This is because, although the worker does not obtain a specific social benefit with this contribution, its applicability could have a positive economic impact on the coffers of the social-security system by containing the negative effects of job losses on contribution income.

However, the main disadvantages that can be identified are that, as it is a measure that entails an economic liability for the company, there is also a risk that its imposition may

[13] J.A. Oliveira, *Posición de la Confederación General de Trabajadores Portugueses – Intersindical Nacional (CGTP-IN)*, in *Modelos y desafíos de la seguridad social,* Lisbon, Consejo Económico y Social, 2018, 125.

slow down technological innovation in the company, unless it is not considered excessively costly, taking into account the labour and social costs that could be saved by reducing the workforce. However, it is also true that the fact that, in the calculation of the contribution to be paid, the measure may act as an incentive to terminate the employment contracts of older workers, as they are likely to be the first ones chosen by the company for termination, by taking into account the remaining years of the workers affected by the redundancy before reaching retirement age.

Thirdly, measures can be proposed to capitalise old-age or unemployment benefits as a consequence of the automation and digitalisation of work procedures.[14] In other words, the aim is for companies to bear the costs of benefits resulting from unemployment or early retirement and which have a causal link with the automation of labour procedures. The measure would be presented as follows: 'in the case of retirement pensions and unemployment benefits, when employers have carried out robotisation processes or the incorporation of artificial-intelligence systems in their processes, which have led to the destruction of jobs, the amount of these pensions will be capitalised, and the employers involved are obliged to deposit the corresponding capital costs in the Social-Security coffers, up to the legally established limit'.

The main advantage of this measure is the clear transfer of capitalisation that would be imposed on companies, to the detriment of the social-security system. The cost of benefits resulting from the destruction of jobs due to automation and robotisation processes would thus be transferred to the entity that has replaced and subsequently dismissed or pre-retired the workers, and would consequently allow the maintenance of social benefits with a medium-term relief of this burden for the coffers of the social-security system.

However, we can only consider it as a tax levy, the main disadvantage being the lack of neutrality that this measure entails. Thus, entrepreneurs who digitise their production processes, with the potential risk that this could entail, would see their economic profitability harmed by the imposition of yet another tax measure, which would not always be desirable in an environment of globalised competition. As with any measure that potentially increases the cost of labour, especially less skilled labour, it could have the effect of stimulating the relocation of business activity, either because companies would decide to move their production outside Portugal, or because new business activities would not be installed in the country.

4.2.2. *Long-term measures: special contributions for companies laying off workers as a result of the automation of work processes*

The measures identified are measures that, in the short term, make it possible to respond to some of the problems that will be immediately visible with the dismissal of people as a result of the digitalisation and automation of labour procedures.

Income taxation is the easiest measure to implement in order to continue financing social-security costs. On the other hand, raising the retirement age is another way that is easy to implement.

But both measures cannot be easily and successively implemented by the political bodies in management. This is because, in this context, we are talking about measures aimed at sustaining the social-security system, taking into account a longer-term criterion, and thus aiming to contribute to its sustainability in the medium and long term. This is because rethinking of the social-security system and its sources of financing, with earned income being the main source of social-security financing (contributions), must be the subject of in-depth reflection.

Hence, the first measure that can be identified, and which is relevant for contributing to the medium- and long-term sustainability of the social-security system, is the extension of the subjective substratum of the impact of social security rules. We are essentially talking about including in the subjective substratum the machines and digital systems used by employers who do not need workers, thus extending realities that, until today, were not considered in the subjective impact rule. The right to social content is constantly changing and developing, which is why new, broader and more homogeneous forms of protection must be considered,

[14] S. Lagoa and R. Barradas, *Desafíos del sistema de pensiones en Portugal: reflexiones sobre la sostenibilidad financiera y social, modelos organizativos y formas de financiación*, in *Modelos y desafíos de la seguridad social,* Lisbon, Consejo Económico y Social, 2018, 47.

integrating the new atypical forms of work that are produced with the irruption of the digital transformation.

Secondly, we can identify fiscal measures, i.e. the creation of a tax on robots, digital systems or machines designed to produce the work procedure in an automated way and which act on the economic output of companies or entities. However, the question arises as to whether the taxable person is the company that benefits from the robots, or, in a more futuristic view, whether it is the robots themselves that pay the tax on the wealth they produce. In the first case, the robot or machine will be considered a product, a thing or an artefact at the service of its owner (or entrepreneur), who will be the main taxpayer. We are talking about a tax that is levied on the ownership of the robot or machine, similar to what happens with the current taxes on real estate or motor vehicles. Similarly, the creation of a register of robots or intelligent machines (with the corresponding registration fee, and the subsequent assignment of a tax-identification number) could be considered. In the second case, we are talking about a real, direct, and objective tax on the wealth produced by the robot, or on its estimated production value or market value, which can be passed on to the beneficiary of the work provided by the machine.

5. *Conclusions*

Having made some brief (and always inconclusive) considerations on the content of the Social Security Act, specifically with regard to the sustainability of the social-security system in the face of the new technological realities arising from the automation of labour procedures and the reduction of jobs, we must conclude with a premise that we feel it is important to emphasise: All the solutions presented are nothing more than measures that need further development, and which cannot be understood as peremptory in the sense that they do not admit other measures that allow for greater sustainability to the social-security system.

However, two types of measures stand out: the first are designed to respond in a short period of time, and are directly beneficial to the workers who are affected by the loss of jobs; the second, more holistic and aimed at medium and long-term sustainability, are designed to support the social-security system by creating (or extending) new forms of financing that allow it to respond to social and solidarity-based measures, as it is characteristic of the current social security system.

It is clear that we do not have a 'wand' that will allow to respond to all eventualities, nor will it be only the measures presented that will be essential to solve all problems. The measures presented must be complemented by other measures and support that will enable the development of a universal social-security system that will provide an efficient and adequate response to all those who feel the need to avail themselves of social security and solidarity measures.

Hence, we assume, without reservation, that the work presented will always be incomplete and in need of constant revision, given the evolution of social needs and the strong technological and digital development of society.