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## Life at a crossroads of mankind: basics, breakthroughs and dilemma

Advances in contemporary medicine provide us a unique opportunity to explore life at the border of science and conscience, where magisterial teaching becomes necessary, and theological reflection is vital. From a scientific point of view, life can be viewed as a word of 3.3 billion base pairs, referred to as our DNA molecule, which is made man. However, unless this molecule is placed in the context of filiation through the appropriate shelter (*i.e* the oocyte), it is not able to initiate any program of life. Birth to the vital process of a new life is the result of a tremendously complex process, which fulfills reproduction by fertilization. Performed in a medical setting, reproduction is currently the target of extensive neo-conception.

Such development leads us to the very edge of disregarding the biology of our natural condition, either to self-create ourselves through assisted reproductive technology, editing and even cloning, and/or reach immortality through cryo-conservation and augmented conditions. We will first consider to which extent frailness teaches us who we are. We will also explore how breaking the bolt of technology has paved the way to the creation of a selected variety of humans, resulting in the "neantisation" of mankind in its alterity.

Are these techniques compatible with the respect of life and justice? And in the realm of peace, is the missing key the reflection on the links that tie mankind to its own origin, *i.e* its own Creation, in its most vulnerable stage, which could also be seen as our most promising one?