Through automation and robotization, factories are trying to eliminate the participation of human labour in their production, with goal to have efficient production and higher profits. The thesis focuses mainly on the consequences of automation. The first part of the thesis characterizes the process of automation itself and its historical development. It shows the advantages and problems of automation. The second part focuses on the process from a sociological point of view, i.e., the implications for the lives of workers. The main part is an examination of the process from an ethical point of view. I focus primarily on the dignity of work, the meaning of work, business ethics, corporate codes of ethics and ethical values.