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A History of Political Philosophy

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About the Book

A History of Political Philosophy: From Thucydides to Locke is an engaged and lucid account of the major political theorists and philosophers of the ancient Greek, Roman, medieval, renaissance, and early modern periods. The author demonstrates the continuing significance of some political debates and problems that originated in the history of Western political thought. Recurring themes include discussions concerning human nature, different views of justice, the origin of government and law, the rise and development of various forms of government, idealism and realism in international relations, the distinction between just and unjust war, and the sources of public authority and the nature of legitimate sovereignty. The organizing principle of the book is the idea that the great political thinkers were searching for the best political order and a criterion for human conduct in both domestic and international politics. The book presupposes no previous knowledge of the subject. It is therefore a valuable introductory book for students of philosophy, politics, and international relations. As it opens eyes to the perceptions that historical knowledge may convey, it is also an illuminating and engaging reading for a general reader.

“This is an engaging account of central themes of political philosophy in the West. Highly readable, it is an admirable introductory text for students that can also stimulate thoughts of scholars. In serving to put primary texts into historical contexts, it adds a human dimension to abstract theory.”

” Thomas Magnell, Drew University

About the Author

W. Julian Korab-Karpowicz is Associate Professor of Philosophy at the Anglo-American University of

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