

Objective Spirit. Beyond recognition?

A conference of the NNGI (Nordic Network for German idealism)

Helsinki, 30/10/2009 – 1/11/2009

Department of philosophy, University of Helsinki

One of the most important areas of interest of German idealist thinkers - and in particular of Hegel and Fichte - was the objective spirit, encompassing social and political philosophy and the philosophy of history. Some of the most important debates in social and political philosophy at the 20th century can be traced back to the question whether the objective spirit should be interpreted in a social or in a political framework. Is it enough to define the "social" through recognition? Or are there social phenomena (or phenomena of being-in-common) that recognition cannot seize, and that lay "beyond recognition"? If it is so, is this an accidental injustice that can be abolished, or an irreducible factor of human coexistence? And should the "political" be defined as the irruption of something that is denied recognition? Is it better to think politics as conflict or as consensus? What are the sources of the political in today's world? These are some of the themes that motivate the conference "The Objective Spirit. Beyond Recognition?"

The Nordic Network for German Idealism (NNGI) is a three-year research project funded by *Nordforsk* (the *Nordic Research Board* operating under the *Nordic Council of Ministers*). The project organizes international conferences aiming at top-level research exchange and at research training for doctoral students from all of the five Nordic countries. The project welcomes all research on German idealist philosophy, not only on Hegel, Fichte and Schelling but also on their heritage from Kierkegaard until today's philosophy. The project's more specific focus is to evaluate a central idea of German idealism, "*die Geisteswissenschaften*", in today's context.

The conference is free and open to all. No registration is required.

Program plan (subject to change)

Friday 30 th oct. 2009	Saturday 31 st oct. 2009	Sunday 1 st nov. 2009
9		
10	Italo Testa: "Embodiment and Fragmentation. From Recognition to Second Nature"	Constantine Sandis and Arto Laitinen : Hegel on purpose
11	Marcia Sá Cavalcante Schuback TBA (The relation between the phenomenology of spirit and the spirit of phenomenology)	Stephen Houlgate: Action, Right and Morality in Hegel's <i>Philosophy of Right</i>
12	*****lunch	*****lunch
13 Conference opening		
13.30 Karin de Boer: The Narrow Limits of Recognition in Hegel's Philosophy of Right	Morten Raffnsøe-Moller TBA (The political as conflictual common space in Taylor, Honneth and Hegel. Why objective spirit is irreducible to either interpretation, recognition or subjectivity)	
14.30 Estelle Ferrarese: Recognition, Struggle and the Political. What changes when the mode of acquiring recognition changes?	Katerina Deligiorgi : Wounds Healing: Form and Existence in Hegel's Objective Spirit	
15.30 *****pause	*****pause	
16 Sari Roman-Lagerspetz: Can the political be understood in terms of recognition?	Jørgen Huggler: Institutions or reconciliation. Conscience, Religion and the State in Hegel	
17 Tuija Pulkkinen TBA	Heikki Ikäheimo: Recognition in subjective and objective spirit	
18 TBA		

Venue: Helsinki University Main Building, Fabianinkatu 33, lecture room 10.

For more information on the Helsinki conference please contact

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