

## **Introduction: Contemporary Philosophy from Eastern Europe**

When we read, think or work within the philosophical area we primarily deal with philosophers of Western Europe (Occidental Philosophy). Even lexica about the history of philosophy present, and this includes recent publications, mostly the history of Western European thinking. Yet, this matter is one of the most criticised within the area of intercultural philosophy. Since the world is world people think and deal with philosophical topics and all around the world they created various thinking traditions. Yet, during the new emergence of African, Latin American, etc., philosophical traditions, the philosophical dialogue within Europe is still weighted to one side. Only very few thinkers such are recognised; but even then still not used in daily philosophical discourse. In this case, can we claim that Europe is not Europe everywhere, and that the thinkers from either side, east and west, are still not equally recognised or scientifically utilised? The topic and the commitment of this journal is to present a few philosophers from different European countries, as well as give an overview of the historic philosophical development there, mainly, since the 1920s. The focus is on modern or contemporary philosophical development in the presented countries and also on the presentation of thinkers and themes, en vogue in these countries nowadays.

The title might be ambivalent, as the presentation spans from the beginning of 1900 till now. But along with the care taken to avoid the word “modern” with its connotations, it is the fact that some of the philosophers presented worked until recently or are still working presently that lead to this title. The articles are presented in alphabetical order of the originating countries; Armenia being first, followed by Bulgaria, Romania and Russia. Within the presentation of the countries, historical articles stand at the beginning and are followed by an intercultural or cultural presentation of a thinker or a theme.

The selection of countries is not arbitrary, yet might seem insufficient and is partly due to the impossibility to gain sufficient information about new developments in countries such as Georgia, Belarus, etc.<sup>1</sup> This journal aspires to present some, though not all Eastern-European thinkers and seeks to enrich the philosophical landscape with their creativity, deep knowledge and reception of the Occidental philosophy. The main question we want to ask is: What can we learn from Eastern-European thinkers and from a dialogue within Europe?

Vienna, October 2017

Bianca Boteva-Richter

---

<sup>1</sup> The next issue is dedicated to Poland.