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978-0-521-09987-5 - Hegel's Political Philosophy: Problems and Perspectives

Edited by Z. A. Pelczynski

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# *Hegel's Political Philosophy*

## *problems and perspectives*

A COLLECTION OF NEW ESSAYS

EDITED BY

**Z. A. PELCZYNSKI**

*Fellow of Pembroke College, Oxford*

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## *Preface*

Hegel was born on 27 August 1770, and the present volume was originally planned to appear in 1970 to commemorate the bicentenary of his birth. It appears a year later owing to the unforeseen and probably unavoidable difficulties of collecting and editing original essays by contributors scattered over two continents. Among the many thankless tasks of an editor of such a volume is to have to refuse, on various grounds, many attractive offers of contributions or to solicit contributions from unwilling or very busy authors. I would like once more to apologize to the former and to thank those of the latter who yielded to my entreaties.

I was very fortunate to have had the assistance of Professor John Plamenatz, Mr W. L. Weinstein and Dr Shlomo Avineri in the early stages of the project; the first two gave me valuable editorial help also in its later stages. I am indebted to John Havard for his meticulous editorial assistance, and to Roger Hausheer for translating two of the essays into English, and also helping me with the editorial work. The help of Pembroke College secretarial staff, especially Lady Alison Sinclair and Miss Elizabeth Stokes, must also be gratefully acknowledged. My own contribution benefited greatly from the critical comments of Mr J. R. Torrance, whom I would like to thank cordially.

The essays included in this volume cover all the major political works of Hegel, and the topics chosen by the contributors deal with central or particularly controversial issues in Hegel's political philosophy. A wide spectrum of approaches is combined with a sympathetic, though by no means uncritical, attitude to Hegel's works and ideas. What inspired the editor and the contributors alike was a common belief that Hegel's political philosophy is exciting, significant and impressive, and that its study amply repays the effort needed to understand it. We hope that we have succeeded in communicating this belief to our readers.

*Oxford, August 1970*

Z. A. PELCZYNSKI

# Abbreviations

The titles of Hegel's works most frequently referred to in this volume, published in German or in an English translation, are abbreviated as follows:

<i>Phänomenologie</i>	<i>Phänomenologie des Geistes</i>
<i>Phenomenology</i>	<i>The Phenomenology of Mind</i> , trans. J. B. Baillie
<i>Philosophie des Rechts</i>	<i>Grundlinien der Philosophie des Rechts oder Naturrecht und Staatswissenschaft im Grundrisse</i>
<i>Philosophy of Right</i>	<i>Hegel's Philosophy of Right</i> , trans. T. M. Knox
<i>Philosophie der Geschichte</i>	<i>Vorlesungen über die Philosophie der Geschichte</i> (The title of G. Lasson's edition (Leipzig, 1917–20) has <i>Weltgeschichte</i> instead of <i>Geschichte</i> , but is the same work.)
<i>Philosophy of History</i>	<i>Lectures on the Philosophy of History</i> , trans. J. Sibree
<i>Political Writings</i>	<i>Hegel's Political Writings</i> , trans. T. M. Knox

The German works have had different editions and have been reprinted in various years. The English translations have also been printed more than once. The edition used and/or the year of reprint is stated by each contributor in his essay.