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978-0-521-43589-5 - Machiavelli and Republicanism

Edited by Gisela Bock, Quentin Skinner and Maurizio Viroli

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IDEAS IN CONTEXT

MACHIAVELLI AND REPUBLICANISM

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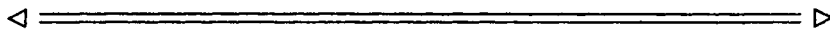
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AND  
REPUBLICANISM

EDITED BY

GISELA BOCK

QUENTIN SKINNER

MAURIZIO VIROLI



**CAMBRIDGE**  
**UNIVERSITY PRESS**

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## LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Black is Lecturer in Modern History in the University of Leeds. He is the author of *Benedetto Accolti and the Florentine Renaissance* (1985) and of articles on humanist historiography, on school and university education in the Renaissance and on Machiavelli's chancery career. He is now completing a book on education, society and humanism in Florentine Tuscany, 1350 to 1500, as well as a register of unpublished documents regarding the University of Arezzo in the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

Gisela Bock is Professor of History at the European University Institute (Florence) and at the University of Bielefeld (Federal Republic of Germany). Between 1987 and 1989 she was Director of the European Culture Research Centre at the European University Institute, in the framework of which the conference 'Machiavelli and Republicanism' took place. Her publications include books and articles on Tommaso Campanella (1974), Niccolò Machiavelli (1986), on women's history in the United States and Italy and on women and racism in National Socialist Germany (1986).

Elena Fasano Guarini is Professor of Modern History at the University of Pisa, Italy. She is the author of *Lo stato mediceo di Cosimo I* (1973) and of many articles on the constitutional history of Tuscany as well as being editor of *Potere e società negli stati regionali italiani del '500 e '600* (1978) and *Prato – storia di una città* (1986).

Martin van Gelderen is Assistant Professor of History at the Technical University of Berlin. He is preparing a volume of texts from the Dutch Revolt for the series 'Cambridge texts in the history of political thought'. A monograph on *The Political Thought of the Dutch Revolt (1555–1590)* is forthcoming from Cambridge University Press.

Eco Haitzma Mulier is Jan Romein Professor of the History of Historiography and Political Ideas at the University of Amsterdam. His publications include *The Myth of Venice and Dutch Republican Thought in the Seventeenth Century* (1980) and numerous articles on the historiography of early modern Europe. *A Dictionary of Dutch Historians (1500–1800)*, written in collaboration with G.A.C. van der Lem, is forthcoming with the Netherlands Historisch Genootschap.

Werner Maihofer is Professor Emeritus of Law at the University of Bielefeld, External Professor of Law and Honorary Principal of the European University Institute at Florence. His publications include *Recht und Sein* (1954), *Vom Sinn menschlicher Ordnung* (1956), *Rechtsstaat und menschliche Würde* (1968), 'Hegels Prinzip des modernen Staates' (1969), 'Rechtsstaat und Sozialstaat' (1972), 'Gesetzgebungswissenschaft' (1981), 'Gesellschaft, Staat, Recht' (1986), 'Die Einheit der Kultur Europas in der Vielfalt der Kulturen Europas' (1987). He is co-author of the *Alternativ-Entwurf eines Strafgesetz-*

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*buches* (1966) and a member of the executive board of the Internationale Vereinigung für Rechts- und Sozialphilosophie.

Michael Mallet is Professor of History at the University of Warwick, and is currently editing vols. 5–7 of the *Carteggio di Lorenzo de' Medici*. Earlier publications include *The Florentine Galleys in the Fifteenth Century* (1967), *The Borgias* (1969), *Mercenaries and their Masters: Warfare in Renaissance Italy* (1974), and, with J.R. Hale, *The Military Organisation of a Renaissance State: Venice, c.1400–1617* (1984).

John M. Najemy is Associate Professor of History at Cornell University. He is author of *Corporatism and Consensus in Florentine Electoral Politics, 1280–1400* (1982) and essays on Florentine history and Machiavelli. He is completing a book on the Machiavelli–Vettori correspondence of 1513–15.

Nicolai Rubinstein is Emeritus Professor of History of the University of London. He is the author of *The Government of Florence under the Medici (1434–1494)* (1966) and of many articles on Italian medieval and Renaissance history and the history of political ideas. He is the general editor of the letters of Lorenzo de' Medici and has edited volumes 3 and 4 (1977, 1981) of the *Lettere*.

Judith Shklar is John Cowles Professor of Government at Harvard University where she teaches political theory. Her most recent books are *Ordinary Vices* (1985) and, in the Past Masters series, *Montesquieu* (1987). A new book, *The Faces of Injustice*, is currently in press.

Giovanni Silvano is Ricercatore in the Department of History of the University of Padua. He is the author of *'Vivere civile' e 'governo misto' a Firenze nel primo Cinquecento* (1985), and the editor of a new critical edition of Donato Giannotti's *Repubblica fiorentina* (1989).

Quentin Skinner is Professor of Political Science in the University of Cambridge and a Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge. He has helped to edit a number of books, including *The Cambridge History of Renaissance Philosophy* (1988) and is the author of *The Foundations of Modern Political Thought* (2 vols., 1978), *Machiavelli* (1981) and *Meaning and Context*, ed. James Tully (1988).

Maurizio Viroli is Assistant Professor of Politics at Princeton University and is currently a member of the School of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study. He has published *L'etica laica di Erminio Juvalta* (1988) and *Jean-Jacques Rousseau and the 'well-ordered society'* (1989).

Blair Worden is a Fellow in Modern History at St Edmund Hall, Oxford. His publications include *The Rump Parliament* (1974) and a series of essays on the politics, religion and literature of seventeenth-century England.



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My own part in editing this volume has mainly been to co-operate with the officers of the Cambridge University Press in seeing the manuscript into print. I welcome the opportunity this gives me of paying tribute to my two co-editors for the much more substantial efforts they have put into our project. Maurizio Viroli conceived the idea of holding a conference on the theme of Renaissance republicanism in the city of Machiavelli's birth. He drew up our original list of prospective contributors, and is thus responsible for the basic plan of this book. Gisela Bock revised and improved the original scheme, in addition to undertaking what proved to be the enormous task of organising the conference itself. This took place at the European University Institute (Florence) in September 1987 under the auspices of the European Culture Research Centre. Professor Bock corresponded with the scholars we wished to invite, persuading virtually all of them to attend. She also took charge of the arrangements in Florence, ensuring that the conference was a source of enjoyment as well as instruction to everyone who took part in it.

I should also like to express our appreciation to those who helped Professor Bock mount the conference. Kathinka Espana provided secretarial assistance well beyond the call of duty. The group named *Interpreti di conferenza* issued simultaneous translations of our discussions, a superbly skilful as well as indispensable service. The Banca d'Italia, the Banca Toscana and the Monte dei Paschi di Siena contributed generous grants towards our expenses. More recently, Valeria E. Russo gave further assistance in helping to put our proceedings into publishable form.

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We also wish to express our gratitude to those who took part in the conference. Some forty scholars attended, all of whom contributed valuably to our three days of debate. Above all, our thanks are due to those who delivered the main papers. Most of these have subsequently been revised – and in some cases entirely rewritten – in the light of the discussions we held. We are greatly indebted to those who undertook such revisions; they were completed in every case with evident cheerfulness and impressive punctuality.

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As our book goes to press, I am delighted to learn that there is still time to express our appreciation to Fiona Barr for compiling the index.

Quentin Skinner

Cambridge, September 1989