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978-0-521-67234-4 - Republicanism: A Shared European Heritage: Volume II: The Values of Republicanism in Early Modern Europe

Edited by Martin Van Gelderen and Quentin Skinner

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Republicanism

These volumes are the fruits of a major European Science Foundation project and offer the first comprehensive study of republicanism as a shared European heritage. Whilst previous research has mainly focused on Atlantic traditions of republicanism, Professors Skinner and van Gelderen have assembled an internationally distinguished set of contributors whose studies highlight the richness and diversity of European traditions. Volume I focuses on the importance of anti-monarchism in Europe and analyses the relationship between citizenship and civic humanism, concluding with studies of the relationship between constitutionalism and republicanism in the period between 1500 and 1800. Volume II is devoted to the study of key republican values such as liberty, virtue, politeness and toleration. This volume also addresses the role of women in European republican traditions, and contains a number of in-depth studies of the relationship between republicanism and the rise of commercial society in early modern Europe.

MARTIN VAN GELDEREN studied at the European University Institute and taught at the Technische Universität in Berlin prior to his appointment as Professor of Intellectual History at the University of Sussex in 1995. His publications include *The Political Thought of the Dutch Revolt* (Cambridge, 1992) and *The Dutch Revolt* (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought, 1993), and he is currently preparing (also for the Cambridge Texts series) a new English rendition of *De iure belli ac pacis* by Hugo Grotius.

QUENTIN SKINNER is Regius Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge. A Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, he is also a fellow of numerous academic bodies and the recipient of several honorary degrees. His many publications include *The Foundations of Modern Political Thought* (Cambridge, 1978; two volumes), *Machiavelli* (1981), *Reason and Rhetoric in the Philosophy of Hobbes* (Cambridge, 1996), *Liberty before Liberalism* (Cambridge, 1998) and three volumes of *Visions of Politics* (Cambridge, 2002).

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It maintains close relations with other scientific institutions within and outside Europe. By its activities, the ESF adds value by cooperation and coordination across national frontiers and endeavours, offers expert scientific advice on strategic issues, and provides the European forum for science.

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Acknowledgments

In May 1995 the European Science Foundation (ESF) accepted a proposal to set up a network for the study of republicanism as a shared European heritage. The proposal had been worked out by a group of six scholars interested in different aspects of this theme: Catherine Larrère (University of Bordeaux 3), Hans-Erich Bödeker (Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte, Göttingen), Ivo Comparato (University of Perugia), Iain Hampsher-Monk (University of Exeter) and ourselves.

We were influenced in our choice of subject by two earlier international collaborations. One of these was the *convegno* held at the European University Institute in 1987 on the place of republicanism in the political theory of the Renaissance. Organised by Gisela Bock, Maurizio Viroli and Werner Maihofer, this meeting eventually gave rise to the volume *Machiavelli and Republicanism* published by Cambridge University Press in 1990. Our other source of inspiration was the ESF programme *The Origins of the Modern State in Europe, 13th to 18th Centuries*. As part of this project, Janet Coleman chaired a group studying many aspects of the relationship between the development of notions of individuality and the formation of the European system of states. The role played by republics and republican values in this process was a subject of discussion in the group, but it was not one of the themes of the ESF programme. It was specifically noted in the discussions of the group that more attention should be paid to the history of republicanism after the era of the Renaissance and outside the confines of Italy. This became our theme, and between September 1995 and September 1997 we devoted four *Arbeitsgespräche*, workshops and *convegni* to discussing it.

We are deeply indebted to the institutions which agreed to act as our hosts on these occasions, and to the individual members of our network who organised our meetings and made them such a success. Our warmest thanks go

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to Hans Bödeker and the Max-Planck-Institut für Geschichte in Göttingen, where we held our first meeting on ‘Republicanism as Anti-Monarchism’ in April 1996; to the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Study (NIAS) in Wassenaar, where our meeting on ‘Republicanism and the Rise of Commercial Society’ took place in September 1996; to Ivo Comparato and his colleagues at the University of Perugia, where we held our third meeting on ‘The Political Institutions of the Republic: Discourse and Practice’ in April 1997; and to Catherine Larrère and the University of Bordeaux 3, where our fourth meeting on ‘*Les Mœurs républicaines*: the political culture of Republicanism’ was held in September 1997.

We were able to take stock of our findings, and to pursue their implications in new directions, at a final meeting in Siena in September 1998. This additional *convegno*, under the title ‘The Historical Perspectives of Republicanism and the Future of the European Union’, was organised in cooperation with the Comune di Siena and took place in the Sala della Pace of the Palazzo Pubblico. We are deeply grateful to Siena’s *sindaco* Pierluigi Piccini and to Carlo Infantino for their invaluable support and splendid hospitality. We should also like to thank Monte dei Paschi di Siena for contributing a generous grant towards our expenses.

We also wish to express our thanks to Christ’s College Cambridge for agreeing to allow our steering committee to hold its meetings there. We initially met in June 1995 to plan our workshops and decide whom to invite to them. We met again in January 1999 to evaluate the activities of our network in company with representatives of the European Science Foundation and to discuss our plans for publication with Cambridge University Press. On both occasions the College made us very welcome and offered us much hospitality.

The academics and administrators of the European Science Foundation have aided us in very many ways. In the planning phase of our network Max Sparreboom offered especially valuable advice. Vuokko Lepisto attended our first two workshops and gave us much help and support. During the latter phases of our project we were especially fortunate to work with Antonio Lamarra, who took a highly scholarly interest in our activities as well as providing us with further generous support. The Chairman of the ESF’s Standing Committee in the Humanities, Wim Blockmans, proved willing at all times to offer academic, administrative and good-humoured diplomatic advice on a variety of European academic matters.

The period since our meetings came to an end has been one of unexpectedly heavy editorial work. The business of translating, reshaping, revising and adding to our original conference papers has had the effect of

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transforming them almost out of recognition, but it has taken us a long time. We are deeply grateful to the editorial staff at Cambridge University Press for their patience and encouragement throughout this period. We owe particular thanks to Richard Fisher, who gave us excellent advice at the outset and has edited our volumes with great good humour and unwavering efficiency. The Press also provided us with a handsome grant towards our translation expenses, matched by a no less handsome sum from the European Science Foundation. We should note that these volumes are not the only fruits of our network's research. Ivo Comparato, Catherine Larrère and Hans-Erich Bödeker are editing a volume of essays on 'Republican Founding and Republican Models' to be published by Olschki in Florence. Meanwhile a number of papers from our *convegno* in Siena have already been published in *Demands of Citizenship* (London, 2000), edited by Iain Hampsher-Monk and Catriona McKinnon.

We end with the expression of our greatest debt, which is of course to our friends and fellow members of the network. We are deeply grateful to our fellow coordinators Catherine Larrère, Hans-Erich Bödeker, Ivo Comparato and Iain Hampsher-Monk, all of whom discussed every aspect of our project with us at numerous meetings in Cambridge, in Amsterdam cafés and in restaurants in Perugia, Bordeaux and Siena. We are likewise grateful to all our contributors, each of whom participated in at least two of our workshops. They succeeded in turning each one of these occasions into a highly successful combination of hard work, intense discussion and exemplary sociability. We are grateful too for their forbearance in the face of our subsequent calls for the revision – and in many cases the complete re-writing – of their individual chapters. As these volumes go to press, we are delighted to learn that there is still time to offer our warmest thanks to our sub-editor Virginia Catmur, who has brought to bear an extraordinary level of skill and meticulousness, and has succeeded in sorting out a very large number of last-minute difficulties.

While our volumes were in final preparation, our friend Eluggero Pii died after a terrible illness stoically borne. It is an honour to publish here his final paper, the last testimony to the depth, breadth and grace of his scholarship.

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