



The Palgrave Hegel Handbook

Edited by

Marina F. Bykova · Kenneth R. Westphal

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Palgrave Handbooks in German Idealism

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Palgrave Handbooks in German Idealism

ISBN 978-3-030-26596-0

ISBN 978-3-030-26597-7 (eBook)

<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-26597-7>

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Series Editor's Preface

The era of German Idealism stands alongside ancient Greece and the French Enlightenment as one of the most fruitful and influential periods in the history of philosophy. Beginning with the publication of Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason* in 1781 and ending about ten years after Hegel's death in 1831, the period of "classical German philosophy" transformed whole fields of philosophical endeavor. The intellectual energy of this movement is still very much alive in contemporary philosophy; the philosophers of that period continue to inform our thinking and spark debates of interpretation.

After a period of neglect, as a result of the early analytic philosophers' rejection of idealism, interest in the field has grown exponentially in recent years. Indeed, the study of German Idealism has perhaps never been more active in the English-speaking world than it is today. Many books appear every year that offer historical/interpretive approaches to understanding the work of the German Idealists, and many others adopt and develop their insights and apply them to contemporary issues in epistemology, metaphysics, ethics, politics, and aesthetics, among other fields. In addition, a number of international journals are devoted to idealism as a whole and to specific idealist philosophers, and journals in both the history of philosophy and contemporary philosophies have regular contributions on the German Idealists. In numerous countries, there are regular conferences and study groups run by philosophical associations that focus on this period and its key figures, especially Kant, Fichte, Schelling, Hegel, and Schopenhauer.

As part of this growing discussion, the volumes in the *Palgrave Handbooks in German Idealism* series are designed to provide overviews of the major figures and movements in German Idealism, with a breadth and depth of coverage that distinguishes them from other anthologies. Chapters have been specially commissioned for this series, and they are written by established and emerging scholars from throughout the world. Contributors not only provide overviews of their subject matter but also explore the cutting edge of the field by advancing original theses. Some authors develop or revise positions that they have taken in their other publications, and some take novel approaches that challenge existing paradigms. The *Palgrave Handbooks in German Idealism* thus give students a natural

starting point from which to begin their study of German Idealism, and they serve as a resource for advanced scholars to engage in meaningful discussions about the movement's philosophical and historical importance.

In short, the *Palgrave Handbooks in German Idealism* have comprehensiveness, accessibility, depth, and philosophical rigor as their overriding goals. These are challenging aims, to be sure, especially when held simultaneously, but that is the task that the excellent scholars who are editing and contributing to these volumes have set for themselves.

Matthew C. Altman

Preface

This new volume in the *Palgrave Handbooks in German Idealism* series focuses on Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel, whose work marks the pinnacle of the movement commonly known as German idealism. With Hegel's death, German idealism came virtually to the end, giving way to new philosophical movements and schools, most of which first appeared in response or as a critical reaction to Hegel and Hegelian philosophy. Hegel secured himself an important place in the history of philosophy not only as the last of the great philosophical system builders of modern times who employed dialectic to emphasize the progress of history and of thoughts, but also as one whose groundbreaking ideas and far-reaching insights continue to influence work in philosophy and many other humanities and social science disciplines today.

Indeed, Hegel made original and profound contributions to virtually all of the key areas of philosophical inquiry, including logic, epistemology, ontology, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, ethics and moral philosophy, philosophical anthropology and philosophy of psychology, aesthetics and philosophy of art, philosophy of science, social and political philosophy, philosophy of law and philosophy of religion, philosophy of history and history of philosophy, as well as philosophy of education. Many philosophical ideas that become fashionable today could be traced to Hegel, and his systematic philosophy has been a source of inspiration and point of departure for numerous contemporary philosophical concepts and theories that vary in their contents and theoretical intentions. Despite differences in philosophical views and positions presented by the various philosophical schools and movements of today, most of them, directly or indirectly, have been impacted by Hegel. Thus, it is no wonder that Hegel's work continues to attract the attention of scholars and broader audiences.

The *Palgrave Hegel Handbook* provides a comprehensive overview of Hegel's philosophy based on the best results in contemporary Hegel scholarship. This volume includes twenty-eight original chapters authored by highly qualified and accomplished scholars in the field, offering a series of well-researched, comprehensive—and comprehensible—discussions that together provide a reliable,

accessible, and considered account of Hegel's philosophical system and thoughts. Adding to established readings of Hegel and his philosophical project, contributors present new interpretations of his main ideas and writings. In addition, the volume presents detailed consideration of arguments against Hegel's views and central contemporary controversies concerning his philosophy. The aim of the editors and contributors of this book is to help readers navigate the enormously complex and notoriously difficult system that Hegel developed and appreciate its philosophical value and historical importance. The volume is suitable for both established scholars and budding philosophy students seeking to advance their knowledge of the main aspects of Hegel's thought. As a distinctive compendium of scholarship reflecting the current state of Hegel studies and offering an accessible yet not over-simplified comprehensive account of Hegel, it is a valuable contribution to an ongoing debate which inspires new thinking about Hegel and his philosophical legacy.

Marina F. Bykova
Kenneth R. Westphal

Acknowledgements

The editors, Marina Bykova and Ken Westphal, wish to thank first and foremost Matthew Altman for his kind invitation and constructive assistance in conceiving, commissioning and producing this volume. We thank heartily all our contributors for their superb contributions. It has been a great honor and pleasure to work with this group of such outstanding Hegel scholars! Our thanks also go to both the editorial and production teams at Palgrave. We appreciate their patience and understanding with such a large, complex *Handbook*. The production staff's conscientious editorial and publishing efforts have been invaluable.

Permissions

An earlier version of Chapter 11 (by Michael Wolff) was originally published in German as “Realitätsstufen oder Entwicklung? Hegels ‘Realphilosophie’ und die Philosophie der Wissenschaften” (*Hegel-Jahrbuch* 1989, 397–415). Permission for English translation has been granted by the author and the publisher as holders of the copyright. The detailed information is indicated in the citation to the chapter.

About This Book

This Analytical Contents provides a topic outline of each chapter and of the entire volume, complementing the Table of Contents, the closing section of the Introduction (§0.5) and the Subject Index. A uniform numbering of §§ and sub-§§ by legal decimals is used here which preserves the structure and numbering of the authors' sub-section headings. The first digit is in each case the number of the chapter. Some section headings have been supplied for this Analytical Contents; these are placed in square brackets.

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Notes on Sources and Key to Abbreviations

Hegel is cited according to volume and page numbers of the German critical edition: *Gesammelte Werke*. (If important, line numbers added too; e.g.: *GW* 9:56.11–13.)

Below is the list of abbreviations used for all references, as well as the list of English translations used. If the author provides his/her own translations, this is stated in a note and a reference to an appropriate German edition is given.

References to the work of all major thinkers are keyed to the standard scholarly editions (examples: Kant, *Akademieausgabe* [AA]; Fichte, *Gesamtausgabe* [GA]; Schelling, *Werke: Historisch-Kritische Ausgabe* [HKA]; Marx, *Marx-Engels Gesamtausgabe* [MEGA]).

Recent translations of the works of Kant and Hegel contain pagination from their critical German editions. References to pages of English translations of Kant's and Hegel's works are only provided when the translation does not contain pagination from the critical edition of the thinkers' works.

As a rule, multivolume editions of Hegel's works are cited by volume: page numbers; when needed, they are cited by volume: page.line numbers. Works divided into numbered sections are cited by section (§) number (see more below).

Hegel's *Phenomenology of Spirit* is cited according to the critical edition in his *Gesammelte Werke*, vol. 9. Contributors quoting Hegel's 1807 *Phenomenology* use Terry Pinkard's translation (Cambridge, 2018) or provide their own translations clearly state this in added notes.

Hegel's *Encyclopedia of Philosophical Sciences* and *Philosophy of Right* are composed as lecture syllabi. They contain three distinct kinds of text: Main sections, Remarks Hegel appended to those main sections, and "*Zusätze*," lecture notes appended by Hegel's editors to Hegel's sections or remarks. Where Hegel's published remarks are cited, the section number is followed by the suffix "R," as in "§345R." Where student notes from Hegel's lectures are cited, the section number is followed by the suffix "Z," as in "§345Z." Where both a main section and a remark or a lecture note are cited an ampersand is interposed thus: "§345 & R" or "§345 & Z." (In no case are all three kinds of text cited together.)