

EKKEHART KRIPPENDORF Europe's Renaissance – But in What Spirit?

Recalling the ancient Greek myth of Europe's genesis and defining it as one of the prerequisites for her cultures, the author discusses current problems in Europe's development. He argues that protests against the militarization of the European Union, by a few activists encounter logically their limits in affectivity in, what he refers to as »the people's real-politik attuned ears«. He describes the EU, founded by a class of bureaucratic careerists, as a construction lacking soul and ethical substance, and pleads for a renaissance in the spirit of the original tale of a culture of peace.

RICHARD SAAGE Renaissance of Utopia?

Reviewing the book »Renaissance der Utopie« (Renaissance of Utopia) ed. by Rudolf Maresch and Florian Rötzer (2004) the author describes a renaissance of utopia that leaves the earlier utopian schemes far behind that had focused on a vision of communist society. Today, he says, there are no more »great stories« only »petty ones« concentrating on the optimization of the subjective state using the most advanced technology. But this, is certainly not the end – Morus' »classical line« will rebound: self-critically and renewed.

INGRID LOHMANN What Does »Human Capital« Really Mean?

The overwhelming predominance of the term »human capital« – the author says – marks a new quality in the globalized capitalist system, transforming education into a sector of the market-orientated system, abiding only by criteria of business management. The widely discussed PISA tests are not, as many were hoping, a chance to overcome concrete lacks in the educational system, but rather part of the aggressive strategy of commercial educational services operating worldwide to streamline the entire educational system to fit into their strategies and heighten their profits.

CLARA ZETKIN to MARIA REESE ... dead cold formulas ...

These are two letters Clara Zetkin (1857-1933) had written from Archangelskoje (Soviet Union) to Germany. In her correspondence on December 27, 1932 with her comrade Maria Reese, Clara Zetkin discusses the KPD's incompetence in elaborating an appropriate policy for winning the middle classes and for fighting the Versailles Treaty, not from a nationalist, but an anti-capitalist standpoint. She also complains of the lack of qualified inner-party education. Writing on August 7, 1932, she informs the Central Committee of her willingness to open the Reichstag as President by Seniority.

KÄTE and HERMANN DUNCKER A Visit to Russia during the 7th Year of the October Revolution

Commemorating the 90th anniversary of the October Revolution, Heinz Deutschland presents, for the first time, letters written by the KPD Co-Founders, Käte (1871-1953) and Hermann Duncker (1874-1960) during their three and a half month visit to Soviet Russia in 1924. The letters show on the one hand their authors' high hopes for the »Holy Land« of socialism and, on the other, a critical look at the reality, which in fact, despite all the ups and downs, provides more than merely a confidential glimpse.

ERHARD SCHERNER »Young Etruscan Teaching« In Memory of Alfred Kurella

Alfred Kurella (1895-1975), 1919-1924 Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Communist Youth International, writer and cultural politician, came to live in the GDR in 1954 after having spent decades in the Soviet Union. From 1957-1963 he headed the Cultural Commission of the Politburo of the SED's Central Committee. The author, Kurella's assistant at the time, recalls those years of difficult and contradictory decisions, describing his protagonist as a man who acted with an honest, and at times despairing heart.

MOSHE ZUCKERMAN The Significance of Hannah Arendt's »Eichmann in Jerusalem«

For nearly two decades – the author says – Hannah Arendt's (1906-1975) reflections have been receiving renewed attention. This is due to her role as one of the most prominent 20th century political philosophers, but it is also due to the end of the block confrontation and the victory of the capitalist system. But in spite of the need to treat Hannah Arendt's views with great circumspection, her book on the Eichmann trial is today still of outstanding significance for understanding the monstrosity of the Shoah and the »banality of evil«.

FRANK DEPPE Hannah Arendt and 20th Century Political Thought

Hannah Arendt once described her place in the political arena as being »nowhere« and outside of the mainstream framework of modern or any other political thought. Still with the worldwide success of her book on Totalitarianism – the author says – she stood on the frontlines in the Cold War. Now, the Left should dare venture a new look into her oeuvres – but without suddenly turning her into an icon of political theory. She wanted to find the causes of 20th century catastrophes, but she shared the conservative distrust of politicizing the social.

GUSTAV AUERNHEIMER Revolution and Soviets in the Thoughts of Hannah Arendt and Rosa Luxemburg

The one, a woman, a Jew and a socialist, the other, a woman, a Jew and a non-socialist. The author compares the theoretical works of Rosa Luxemburg and Hannah Arendt, describing the latter as predestined to be the theoretician of a new age by not symbolizing an alternative within but rather in contrast to socialism. To analyze the significance of both women today, demands the understanding that not only was the milieu destroyed that gave rise to the classical worker's movement, but – through the holocaust – the same is true of the milieu of Jewish intellectuals, of German-Jewish symbiosis.

THOMAS MARXHAUSEN Communist Manifesto (Adapted) Preprint of an Entry to the HKWM

Following the entry »Kaderpartei,« in vol. 193, November 2006, »UTOPIE kreativ« publishes another preprint of the forthcoming vol. 7 of the Historisch-kritisches Wörterbuch des Marxismus« (HKWM – Historical-critical Dictionary of Marxism). The author, who describes the Communist Manifesto as the most prominent Marxist work and the founding document of a new world-perspective, compares its spread throughout the world, to that of the Bible. He analyses not only its place within the Marx'/Engels' school of thought, but also its various chapters, its unique language and its significance for today.

GÜNTER WIRTH Marxism, Faith, Religion Necessary Comments on a Book by Uwe-Jens Heuer

By presenting a complex review of Uwe-Jens Heuer's book »Marxismus und Glauben« (Marxism and Faith), Hamburg 1996, the author develops his own views concerning Marx, Engels, and Lenin's criticism of religion, the church and socialism, the Christians' theoretical works in the shadows of conflicts in official GDR church policy, and the role of the CDU in the GDR. He sees this all as a contribution to the discussion around the question of whether a communion between Marxism and religion could have a perspective.

GÜNTER MAYER, WOLFGANG KÜTTLER Post-Soviet Marxists in Russia

The authors present an overview of recent books and articles on Marxism and socialism published in Russia. After describing the three basic positions – a): socialism is what was built under Stalin's leadership and must be revived; b) socialism was destroyed by the counter-revolution in the thirties; and c) socialism could not have survived because of the unripened pre-requisite social conditions – the authors proceed to particularly review concepts developed around the project »Alternativy«.

SEBASTIAN STUDE Halle/Saale, 1989

This is a detailed, comprehensive documentary and eyewitness based description of the development in the GDR in 1989 in the provincial capital of Halle on the Saale. The author, born in 1978, claims to contribute to an insight into this decisive period of history which is no longer led by emotions and political bias. One of his conclusions is that in the autumn of 1989, the population, which had been degraded by the SED to an object of politics, attained, for a short period, the role of subject, which was later again lost when West German conditions molded their entire lives.

MARIO KESSLER Homeless Leftists? Thoughts on Fritz Lamm and Leo Kofler

The author reviews new research on two West-German independent leftists: Michael Benz' biography of Fritz Lamm (1911-1977), a Jewish German, homosexual socialist forced to flee Germany after Hitler's rise to power, only to return from Cuba in 1948 to work as a trade union organizer and editor of *Funken* (*Spark*), and Christoph Jünke's biography of Leo Kofler (1907-1995), who had his own, distinctive interpretation of Marxism, linking aspects of sociology and history to aesthetics and anthropology.