

Sandela, Charles Taylor as well as Michaela Walker. A chapter dedicated to Amitai Etzioni is missing, however, numerous relations to his works somehow compensate this loss.

What is worth noticing in the book by Dominiak is first of all his own very interesting and often quite critical comments complementing the represented current of political philosophy. Brave comments relating to the community and its shape are based on numerous theoretical analysis thanks to which the reader learns not only about the communitarianism itself but also about its critics. What is more, by reference

to other ideologies the author created a fascinating panorama of the issue: current, presented with a distance and objectivism expecting sizeable qualifying and comparative analysis. The books gives an insight in the melting pot of philosophy of politics and political thought. This is a valuable impulse for a consideration of dialectics of individual ideologies. In the same time this is a book not only for specialists but also for all the interested in the development of philosophical currents or political thought both for the scientists, students and people preferring wise and well written scientific literature.

A review of the book:

Kazimierz Łastawski, *The History of European Integration [Historia integracji europejskiej]*, Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek, Toruń 2011, pp. 370

by Joanna Marszałek-Kawa

Great historical changes are not as a rule a result of single but long lasting series of events and coincidence of special circumstances. That was the case with the appearance of the European integration. This is how the author presents it in the discussed work. Namely, as a result of a long historical process. It makes the monograph valuable and its purpose is to serve as a scientific explanation of the

sources, circumstances, reasons and proceeding of the first integration in the history.

The layout of the work is in a fashion which makes it exceptionally transparent.

The first chapter is dedicated to "The Development of the Unification Ideas in the History of Europe." The author points out at the Greek and Roman earliest beginnings of these ideas, at relying on

Christian Universalism the Medieval European community and at recurring almost throughout of our history ideas of giving them political shapes.

As the author of the thesis argues: "European integration is based on a solid cultural heritage of Europe which was shaped by the Greek culture, the Roman law and Christian universalist ideas. It is facilitated by a common heritage of human rights and freedom, equality and solidarity, the rule of law, ideological pluralism and tolerance as well as democratic rules governing the functioning of states. Various natural borders of the European countries never constituted obstacles to the development of philosophical ideas, cultural movements, art and scientific discoveries across the continent.

Christianity, humanism, the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, Rationalism, Romanticism, Positivism, Liberalism or Socialism structured the heritage of Europe and they have been felt and experienced in varying degrees throughout the centuries encompassing the whole continent.

Outlining all the historical ideas of the unified Europe, the author rightly points out that the formation of the United States bolstered these ideas significantly. The presence of Poland is also mentioned both in the period of partitions and later in the time of promoting these ideas.

Chapter II is dedicated to "Accession Proceedings in 1945–1950" which is the initial phase of the integration process. It

pictures World War II as a catharsis which initiated the necessity of putting an end to dreadful European rivalries which had already led to the world wars twice. After all, it was Winston Churchill, who was the eager spokesman of the formation of the United States of Europe to stop the haunt of war and pave the way to peace.

Referring to postwar integration processes in Western Europe, professor K. Łastawski indicates quite a big impact of the U.S. politics of that time. Indeed, the Marshall Plan was to unite Europe both politically and economically under the aegis of the United States and was supposed to enhance the American business cycle. At the same time, the U.S. consolidated its Western alliance against Stalin and his Eastern bloc.

The Organization for European Economic Cooperation (OEEC) was in fact the first institution established within the Marshall Plan aimed at enhancing integration. Under this plan it served to form transnational economic, social and political ties which immensely facilitated European integration. It is worth mentioning that the United States granted great support to the West European movements fighting for "the united Europe," having formed The American Committee on United Europe.

In Chapter II the author outlines all these movements as well as the formation of Benelux Customs Union, the setting up of Western European Union and the

Council of Europe. He also draws attention to active promotion of the European integrity, Central and East European political emigration (“intermarium” – Free Isthmus Card from 1946). Furthermore, the work of Jerzy Giedroyc and Paris-based journal “Kultura” played a separate but major role to keep the bonds between Central Eastern and Western Europe.

The breakthrough events for the history of European integration are discussed by the professor Łastawski in Chapter II, under the title: “The Formation of Three European Communities.” It was in 1950–1960. It is when the foundations of future European integration were laid. In this way the member States specifically affirmed the political and defence objective of progressive integration. The treaty of European Defence Community and European Political Cooperation were planned. However, this project was aborted when the French Legislative Assembly vetoed its application and it was agreed that economic integration should prevail. Besides the 1949 foundation of NATO which became the main defence of the West and the formation of the European Coal and Steel Community only proved that.

Moreover, the need of economic integration was partially linked with the aversion of France and other countries to form any ties with the Federal Republic of Germany, as FRG was accepted in 1955 to join NATO. It was evident that economic

and social foundations of the integration should be laid first what had been pointed out by the supporters of eliminating the tragic division of Europe before World War II. For instance Aristide Briand was one of their advocates.

By the way, even after the adoption of EU Treaty political and defence integration were not yet fully advanced.

Since the Treaties of Rome of 1957, what constitutes a large part of Chapter III, the European community not only managed to build a single market, introduce a common currency, it in fact created a unified economic system and advanced to social integration. What is more, it expanded from the original “six” to twenty five countries.

After the fourth chapter in which the author realigned the internal structure and described such important affairs as the common agricultural policy and the convergence rates, Chapter V discusses at length the development of the second stage of integration, which embraced a “Northern extension” of the community.

Chapter VI outlines the way to the establishment of the European Union, while Chapter VII refers to the Treaty of Maastricht and the 3-pillar based structure.

The extensive Chapter VIII says about the development of the European Union in the 1990s and what is more, preparations made before the accession of ten new Member States such as Poland. The

author presents here major directions facing the EU development policy.

The last chapter was named: "European Integration in the 21st century." In a concise but informative Conclusion the author presents the current situation in the European Union, convergence and divergence in the policy of its largest Member States as well as the prospects how to work out solutions for further integration.

APPENDICES are very important for the scholarly character and tone of the thesis. The first one is a thorough, counting nineteen pages, Agenda of Integration Actions in Europe after 1945. Appendix 2 includes a list of the most important treaties. Appendix 3 presents Stages of Enlargement of the European Union Communities. Appendix 4, 5 and 6 concern the presidents

of the European Parliament. Appendix 7 shows the order of the presidency in the Council of the European Union after the Maastricht Treaty. Appendix 8 lists the number of MP's from different countries, while 9, 10 and 11 refer to the Presidents of the Court of Justice of the European community, the Presidents of Court of Auditors, Presidents and General Secretaries of the Council of Europe.

The value of this thesis have been enhanced by the bibliography at the end of the book as well as index of names.

I strongly believe that the book of K. Łastawski written in a clear and easy to understand language can serve as an excellent lecture on the History of European Integration. It is excellent when it comes both to content and layout.

CYBERPOLITICS

A review of the book:

New media and politics. Internet, democracy, electoral campaigns [Nowe media i polityka. Internet, demokracja, kampanie wyborcze], ed. Marek Jeziński, Wydawnictwo Adam Marszałek, Toruń 2009, pp. 291

by Marta Dorenda

The expression (and concept) of "new media", initially describing the facilities which permitted the spread of information in real time amongst many recipients,

although present in western literature for sixty years, still merits thorough analysis. The rapid development of new media, signifying nowadays communication