

The Value Crisis and Chances for Liberalism in Russia

The modern Russian society is experiencing a deep value crisis caused by multiple factors. It consists not in the presence of different value orientations in our society, but in the widespread loss of meaning of social existence, and of sense of social justice, as well as in the failure to secure adjustment of these value orientations to one another within a pluralistic framework conducive to a democratic order. B. Kapustin investigates the possible contribution of the Russian liberalism to the creation of such a framework, arguing that its social basis, intellectual profile and moral commitments are likely to be much closer to the Jeffersonian republicanism and social liberalism than to those of utilitarianism (both classical and modern) even if the latter succeeds. In spite of all the obstacles standing in its way, the Russian liberalism of this kind has reasonably good chances to give birth to the liberal-democratic ethos in this country.



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