

La república deliberativa. Una teoría de la democracia

The Deliberative Republic: A Theory of Democracy



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Publisher: [Marcial Pons, Ediciones Jurídicas y Sociales](#) [2]

Year of Publication: 2006

Pages: 364

ISBN: 978-84-9768-383-8

Genre: Social Science and religion

AUTUMN

2009

Season: AUTUMN 2009

This book offers a detailed and thorough analysis of what has become the most important democratic theory in the last twenty years in the world: deliberative democracy. What some have called the "deliberative turn", is at least safe to be described as a deep renovation of democratic thinking producing hundreds of theoretical as well as empirical works and publications in several academic fora in the world, predominantly in the Anglo-Saxon ones. In this book we can find a synthesis of the deliberative democratic theoretical model, especially of its republican version, while it also establishes a route for such model's subsequent institutional design. For this reason, this book is addressed not only to political and legal philosophers, but also to legal and political scientists and practitioners; not only to rulers with sympathy towards the new democratic ideas, but also to the citizens interested in, and committed to, the res publica, the public affairs or the commonwealth.

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Additional information **Press reviews:**

The book starts from the recent emergence of the deliberative model in response to dissatisfaction with the functioning of existing democratic systems. The early chapters constitute a rich journey through the notion of deliberation as a regulative moral ideal that appeals to an intersubjective, rational and fair agreement among all the interests at stake, with splendid examination of the differences between deliberation, negotiation and voting and the various ways of conceiving democracy: deliberative, as a market, pluralist and agonistic. Although at different places, the study faces and addresses in an excellent way the two flagship paradoxes of the model: that of the preconditions for democratic deliberation (those related to equality and freedom to be chairing the debate, which the more deeply and faithfully are they met, the less room they will leave to free collective decision, and vice versa) and that facing the fairness of the proceedings of the democratic decision with the fairness of the results obtained using this procedure.

In essence, José Luis Martí puts the deliberative model under a hardly destructible armour for those who assume the parameters of Kant-like morality. By characterizing it as an unattainable ideal, but indispensable as a guide to practice, no argument based on the stark, stubborn reality will really affect it. If reality imposes limits, the ideal can still lead us so that we can try to go as far as possible.

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