

Kurt Salamun

Wie soll der Mensch sein?

Philosophische Ideale vom 'wahren' Menschen von Karl Marx bis Karl Popper

[What should human beings be like? Philosophical Ideals of the »Genuine« Human Being from Karl Marx to Karl Popper.]

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The question of the meaning of life and of humanity in general has always been a central theme in philosophy. Many philosophers have developed ideals of what »true humanity« is and how it should be achieved. To exemplify this, Kurt Salamun presents the following ideals from European philosophy in the 19th and 20th centuries: the dialogical I-Thou relationship (Feuerbach, Buber), coping with ultimate situations in life (Jaspers), the relationship between human beings and God (Kierkegaard), the free spirit and the Übermensch (Nietzsche), the unalienated human being in a classless society (Marx), the new man in a satisfied existence (Marcuse), enduring the absurdity of life and the permanent revolt against the meaninglessness of the world (Camus), the autonomous self in every situation which comes from absolute freedom and responsibility (Sartre), humans that engage with one another as active political agents (Hannah Arendt), man as an enlightened critical rationalist in the open society (Popper).

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