

Workshop

POLITICAL NORMATIVITY: REALISM MEETS CRITICS

10th October 2019, h. 10.00- 17.15 • SPS SEMINAR ROOM

(room 215, 2nd floor, via Passione side)

Dept. of Social and Political Sciences
via Conservatorio 7 - Milan

Political normativity does not equate with moral normativity, or so political realists claim. The former, they continue, is better suited to regulate politics than the latter. To maintain this claim, however, realists need to address two related questions. First, they have to identify the distinctive source - if any - of specifically political norms (e.g. actual consent, enlightened self-interest, etc.). Let us call it the grounding question. Second, they need to specify which are the distinctive political values that are included in their normative account (e.g. legitimacy, order, etc.). Let us call this the normative question. Elaborating a consistent normative approach that is able to answer these two questions in a convincing way is the main challenge realists face.

At stake is the viability of the realist notion of political normativity with respect to other rival accounts. By failing to address either one of such challenges, critics claim, realism would collapse respectively on moralism or descriptivism, thereby ceasing to be a defensible normative position.

In this workshop eminent advocates and critics of contemporary political realism will discuss whether such a thing as political normativity exists and, if it does, what it looks like. This question also brings in substantive issues concerning the nature of politics, what ought to be required from political agents and the role of political theorists.

10.00 Opening Address

Antonella Besussi • University of Milan

10.15 Distinctively Political Normativity: Unattractive or Redundant

Eva Erman • Stockholm University

Chair **Carlo Burrelli** • University of Eastern Piedmont

11.30 COFFEE BREAK

11.45 Political Realism: Method not Metaethics

Jonathan Leader Maynard • University of Oxford

Chair **Ilaria Cozzaglio** • Goethe University Frankfurt

13.00 LUNCH BREAK

14.30 Normativity Without Moralism

Enzo Rossi • University of Amsterdam

Chair **Chiara Destri** • Sciences Po - Paris

15.45 COFFEE BREAK

16.00 Context and Critique in Realist Political Theory

Manon Westphal • University of Münster

Chair **Greta Favara** • Vita-Salute San Raffaele University