

Lukács's aesthetics. H. A. Hodges, a Dilthey scholar, assesses Lukács's *Zerstörung der Vernunft*, a historicosociological analysis of German irrationalist philosophy, which according to Lukács's arguments led in a straight-line development from Schelling to Heidegger and the Nazi *Weltanschauung*. The other essays discuss Lukács's literary scholarship, his notion and use of the Hegelian category of totality, and his concept of "the beautiful." For this reviewer, the most outstanding and authentic writing of the volume is "Lukács' Concept of Dialectic." It is taken from a forthcoming book on Lukács by István Mészáros, who was Lukács's assistant at the University of Budapest in the late 1940s. He presents a critical and thorough analysis of the broader sociopolitical and historical context of Lukács's theories.

On the whole the book is an adequate reflection of the growing Lukács scholarship in England and must be considered the best English-language introduction and guide to many facets of Lukács's thinking.

Henri Arvon's book is neither an interpretation nor a criticism, but a short and lucid presentation of Lukács that is intended to be an introduction. Considering how complex Lukács's intellectual and political career has been, Arvon's work is a remarkable accomplishment. The book consists of two parts: one hundred pages of exposition of Lukács's work and seventy-four pages of excerpts from his writings.

Chapter 1 is a discussion of totality, a fundamental category in Lukács's thinking, as developed by him in his *Theory of the Novel*. In Chapter 2, subtitled "subjectivity," and based on *History and Class Consciousness*, Arvon contrasts Lukács's creative and imaginative Marxism with that of dogmatic Soviet text interpretations and presents Lukács's critique of Engels's dialectics of nature. Chapter 3 discusses Lukács the theorist of a *tertium datur*, fighting on two fronts against both "decadent-bourgeois" ultramodern literary trends and Stalinist naturalistic revolutionary romanticism, because, in his view, both reflect a distorted reality. His idea of great critical realism à la Balzac is the model of literary creation. This point of view led Lukács to his high esteem for Thomas Mann, who in turn was influenced by the early Lukács and flattered by the older Lukács's esteem. This relationship of mutual respect, despite the differences in world view, is discussed at some length. The selection of texts is arranged under four headings: political philosophy, general philosophy, aesthetics, and critical realism.

In sum, Professor Arvon, a scholar of anarchism and Marxism, has written a lucid and reliable work which will attract many readers interested in a primer on Lukács.

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SOVIET PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW: DOCTRINES AND DIPLOMATIC PRACTICE. By *Kazimierz Grzybowski*. Leiden: A. W. Sijthoff. Durham, N.C.: Rule of Law Press, 1970. xx, 544 pp. Dfl. 66. \$18.50.

In a magisterial chronicle of a half century of development of Soviet doctrine and practice in public international law, Dr. Grzybowski has brought together an incredible amount of information in a small space. Some would have thought the task overwhelming, for much has happened since T. A. Taracouzio attempted the same thing in 1935. The Soviet Union has grown from the position of an insignificant actor upon the world stage to one of the two mightiest powers; its leaders have moved from a denial of the utility of international law to a role as

its proponents, albeit with extensive revision; and its Marxian socialist partners have multiplied so as to require creation of a new type of association within the confines of "proletarian internationalism."

Because of the scope of the subject and the need to reduce the account to what can fit between two covers, the author has had to write something of an encyclopedic dictionary. Its strengths and weaknesses emerge from the conception. The "plus" is in the lead provided to documentation, organized under a series of headings covering every aspect of the subject and even delving into broad fields of Soviet constitutional law. There is ample footnoting, bibliography, and quotation, not only from Soviet and Western sources but also from hard-to-use United Nations records. The "minus" is in the abbreviation, although the information is greater than appears under any one heading. The author often spreads it about to bring it to the attention of readers who look at their subject of primary concern before they examine the whole book.

To readers conversant with past decades the major contribution is in the exposition of the new socialist international law which is presently engaging the attention of Soviet authors. The evidence of what membership in the Socialist Commonwealth of Nations means legally is explored with major attention given to Hungary in 1956 and Czechoslovakia in 1968. The author notes that the first intervention was unilateral, while the second followed consultation of partners. He asks whether this evolution signifies the end of unilateral Soviet determination of what is required in application of principles of proletarian internationalism (p. 120). He wonders whether unilateral action might recur if the Soviet leadership thought it necessary to defend the Marxist axioms of history against outsiders.

Other notable features are the discussions of the Soviet concept of *ius cogens* bereft of natural law underpinnings, the limits to application of the principles of self-determination, the legality of aid rendered to anticolonial movements, the recognition of governments in exile and of incipient governments not yet in power in colonies, the declining attention to be given the protection of individual foreigners in relation to the attention to be focused upon breaches of the "new" rules, the attitude toward application of Soviet law in annexed and even leased territories, and the law of the sea and space.

While specialists in one or another area of Soviet practice will probably find fault with the treatment of what they know best, the volume will be useful for those seeking speedy orientation in the discipline and a guide to further research. As such it will find a place in foreign offices, embassies, and libraries and on the desks of those concerned with international affairs.

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POLISH LAW THROUGHOUT THE AGES. Edited by *Wenceslas J. Wagner*.
Hoover Institution Publication, 91. Stanford: Hoover Institution Press, 1970.
xii, 476 pp. \$14.00.

The occasion for the publication of this volume was the millennium of the Christianization of Poland, the event that included Poland in the orbit of the contemporary community of nations and made its history a part of European history. The legal institutions of Poland and the work of her lawyers came under the influence of the Western tradition. Yet—and this is important—in her legal development Poland