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Religion, Law, and Democracy

Selected Writings

ERNST-WOLFGANG BÖCKENFÖRDE

EDITED BY MIRJAM KÜNKLER AND TINE STEIN

Ernst-Wolfgang Böckenförde (1930-2019) was one of Europe's foremost legal scholars and political thinkers. As a scholar of constitutional law and a judge on Germany's Federal Constitutional Court (1983-1996), Böckenförde was a major contributor to contemporary debates in legal and political theory, to the conceptual framework of the modern state and its presuppositions, and to contested political issues such as the constitutional status of the state of emergency, citizenship rights, bioethical politics, and the challenges of European integration.

This second volume in the first representative edition of Böckenförde's writings brings together his essays on religion, law, and democracy. It is organized in four sections: I. the Catholic Church and Political Order; II. State and Secularity; III. the Theology of Law and its Relation to Political Theory; IV. Norms and the Principle of Human Dignity. Each section is accompanied by an editors' introduction as well as a running editorial commentary. In addition, the volume contains excerpts from a biographical interview conducted with Böckenförde in 2009/2010.

FEATURES

- Introduces Böckenförde's work on religion and its relation to democracy and secular law
- Contextualizes Böckenförde's work on law, religion, and democracy through detailed introductions and editors' commentary presenting Böckenförde as a social democrat, a political liberal, and a Catholic reformer
- Offers insight into Böckenförde's reflections on his religious commitments whilst serving as a judge on the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany

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Ernst-Wolfgang Böckenförde was a Professor of Public Law at the University of Freiburg. He served as a judge at the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany (1983-1996) and made pathbreaking contributions in the fields of constitutional history, constitutional dogmatics, philosophy of law, the status of natural law and canon law in modern democracy, and to democratic theory.

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The first volume in this edition, *Constitutional and Political Theory: Selected Writings* (Oxford University Press, 2017), brought together Böckenförde's contributions to (I) the political theory of the state; (II) constitutional theory; (III) constitutional norms and fundamental rights; and (IV) the relation between state, citizenship, and political autonomy.

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