IBO, OA.1274

Della Casa, Alessandro, 'Isaiah Berlin e i limiti del pluralismo' ['Isaiah Berlin and the Limits of Pluralism'], Paradoxa 3 (2024), 93–103

Abstract:

The author examines the distinctions and connections between 'pluralism' and 'liberalism' in Isaiah Berlin's thought. In particular, the essay focuses on how, in order to clarify his own position in the face of discordant interpretations, Berlin formulates two fundamental theses: (a) the pluralist and liberal attitude does not coincide with a neutralist approach in the moral field; (b) stability and social cohesion – even in a context of broader tolerance, such as the liberal one – cannot be separated from a delimitation of values and ends which are held as permissible. Developing an instructive analogy with Popper's argument about the paradox of tolerance, the author aims to bring out the importance and relevance of Berlin's reflection on 'pluralism'.