

CURSOS DA ARRÁBIDA
II COURSE IN POLITICAL THEORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE
OCTOBER 3 - 7, 1994

Co-ordinator: João Carlos Espada
Research Fellow, Institute of Social Sciences, Lisbon

“THEORIES OF JUSTICE:
LIBERTY, EQUALITY, OPPORTUNITY”

Introduction

Ever since Plato launched his enquiry into the concept of Justice in *The Republic*, the issue has remained at the core of the theory and practice of politics. This course on “Theories of Justice” will introduce some recent controversies on the subject, namely those related to three main views which were at the centre of the debates on justice in the 1970’s and 80’s contractarian theory of justice, and Robert Nozick’s entitlement theory of justice.

Furthermore, some crucial concepts underlying every discussion on Justice will be introduced, namely those of liberty, equality and opportunity. The concept of citizenship and the corresponding debate on civil, political and social rights will also be referred to. In general terms, this course aims at providing an introduction to, and a critical appraisal of, the state of the debate on Justice in the 1990’s. Apart from several Portuguese specialists on the subject, we are privileged to have the participation of three leading political theorists from abroad: Lord Plant and Professor John Gray, from Oxford, and Professor Steven Lukes, from the European University Institute, in Florence.

Student Profile

Those attending this course are not required to have any previous technical background in theories of justice, provided they have a genuine interest in the subject and they are aware that some discussions may have some significant technical components. Undergraduates and post-graduates are welcome, as well as non-academics whose activity is related to politics.

October 3

5 p.m.

“Social Rights and Democratic Equality”

Lord Raymond Plant, The Master, St.Catherine’s College, Oxford

October 4

10 a.m.

“Why there cannot be an Overall Theory of Justice”

John Gray, Jesus College, Oxford

5 p.m.

“Social Justice: The Hayeking Challenge”

Steven Lukes, European University Institute, Florence, Italy

5.30 p.m.

Debate

Chairman: José de Sousa e Brito, Judge, Constitutional Court, Portugal

October 5

10 a.m.

“Robert Nozick’s Theory of Justice”

António Franco Alexandre, Lisbon University

5 a.m.

“Justice between Generations”

João Lopes Alves, Portuguese Philosophy Society

October 6

10 a.m.

“Contingency and Solidarity”

João Paulo Monteiro, Lisbon University

3.30 - 4.30 p.m.

“Ronald Dworkin and Liberal Equality”

Guilherme d’Oliveira Martins, Member of Parliament, Lisbon

5 - 6.30pm

“Liberty and Welfare: Amartya Sen’s View”

João Cravinho, Member of European Parliament

October 7

10 a.m.

“Friedrich A.Hayek and Raymond Plant on Social Rights: A Critique”

João Carlos Espada, Research Fellow, Institute of Social Sciences, Lisbon

2.30 p.m.

Closing Debate

Chairman: Diogo Freitas do Amaral, Faculdade de Direito de Lisboa