

Foreword

The current volume contains articles based on presentations at the 32nd *International Hegel Congress of the International Hegel-Society at the University of Tampere: Hegel's Encyclopaedic System and its Legacy*. The congress took place between June 5th and 8th 2018.

When initially thinking about the main topic for this conference, a couple of things immediately suggested themselves. 200 years had gone since the publication of Hegel's *Encyclopedia* in 1817, so it was fitting to devote a conference to this significant milestone in Hegel's *oeuvre*. In that work, Hegel's system found its form in outline, to be revised and developed in subsequent editions. The congress not only addressed the nature of Hegel's system (including the relationship between Spirit, Nature and categories of Logic), but also the difference between the first and subsequent editions of *Encyclopedia*. It also considered the legacy of Hegelian speculative thinking in which the true is the whole and where "negativity" is put to productive use. It also examined the question of whether and how the value of Hegel's social philosophy depends on accepting Hegel's system.

As we had the honour to be hosting the *Hegel Gesellschaft* meeting for the first time in Finland, or in the Nordic countries, we also wanted to dedicate a day in the program to Hegel's legacy in Finland, Scandinavia, and Russia. Finland is one of the countries where Hegelianism had a big influence in the phase of the nation-building, so there is general interest in Hegelianism in Finland, especially perhaps in J. V. Snellman.

As per usual, the conference presentations covered all aspects of Hegel-scholarship. And as 200 years had also passed since the birth of Karl Marx, and the relationship between Marx and Hegel is of course a source of continuing interest, that was one special topic touched in the presentations.

Thanks to the quality of the presentations, the conference was a great success, and on behalf of the organizers I am very happy to thank the Hegel-Society once more, and join the representatives of the Society in wishing you fruitful encounters with the texts in this collection.

Tampere, December 2019

Arto Laitinen

