



Really Existing Nationalisms: A Post-Communist View from Marx and Engels (Hardback)

By Fellow in Ethics and Political Philosophy Erica Benner

Oxford University Press, United Kingdom, 1996. Hardback. Book Condition: New. New.. 224 x 146 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This is an impressive re-examination of the theories of Marx and Engels on nationalism. The author challenges the conventional view that Marx and Engels lacked the theoretical resources needed to understand nationalism. It argues that the two men had a much better explanatory grasp of national phenomena than is usually supposed, and that the reasoning behind their policy towards specific national movements was often subtle and sensitive to the ethical issues at stake. Instead of offering an insular Marxian account of nationalism, the book identifies arguments in Marx and Engels writings that can help us to think more clearly about national identity and conflict today. These arguments are located in a distinctive theory of politics, which enabled the authors to analyse the relations between nationalism and other social movements and to discriminate between democratic, outward-looking national programmes and authoritarian, ethnocentric nationalism. The book suggest that this approach improves on accounts which stress the independent force of nationality over other concerns, and on those that fail to analyse the complex motives of nationalist actors. It concludes...



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