

Paul Yorck von Wartenburgs Auffassung von Geschichtlichkeit

Abstract

The aim of this research is to examine the conception of historicity [Geschichtlichkeit] of the count Paul Yorck von Wartenburg – who is perhaps better known for his friendship with Wilhelm Dilthey. The recuperation and investigation of Yorck's arguments takes place in the context of his rejection of metaphysical and positivist models as well as from his constant intellectual exchange with Dilthey. The focus of the present analysis is Yorck's concept of person, strongly influenced by Christian doctrine, as well as his psychology of history: here we will identify how the author understands historical reality and the dependency between attitudes of consciousness [Bewusstseinsstellungen] and the context of life. Adjacent concepts of Yorck's conception of historicity, such as syndesmos (historical connection between people), "aliveness" or life [Lebendigkeit], totality [Totalität] and the human being in its entirety [Ganzer Mensch], are also examined in order to better understand Yorck's notion of historicity and its divergences to Dilthey's approach to the humanities. These observations allow us to identify some of the ways in which the relation between philosophy and history has been thought.

Keywords: Paul Yorck von Wartenburg; Historicity [Geschichtlichkeit]; Person; Psychology/Philosophy of History; Stances of consciousness [Bewusstseinsstellung]; Wilhelm Dilthey