

BACHELOR'S THESIS – Abstract in English

Filip Rut – Karl Jaspers' Conception of Guilt

Abstract

Origin, meaning and distinction of different types of guilt are the subjects of one of Karl Jaspers' most widely read books – *The Question of German Guilt*. Different conception of guilt can be found in his earlier texts, namely in the second volume of his *Philosophy*, where he places guilt among the so called boundary situations. What these conceptions have in common is the understanding a certain type of guilt as a structural part of the human condition, that can not be subtracted from it. However, the relation between these two conceptions of guilt is not clear and Jaspers himself does not offer any explanation. The main goal of this paper is to try to clarify this relation. To make this clarification possible, it will be necessary to interpret Jaspers' conception of guilt from the wider context of his philosophy of existence.

Keywords

Karl Jaspers, guilt, boundary situation, Existenz, political guilt, moral guilt, metaphysical guilt, collective guilt