

The Concept of everyday life in the philosophy of Emmanuel Levinas in dialogue with Martin Heidegger

By analysing everyday life with Levinas I try to reveal that the « familiar » or the « ordinary » world does not have to be considered as impersonal, as a decline or as a deficiency, but on the contrary, that such a naïf situation can gain an essential status for the concept of a man as such. Confrontation between Levinas and Heidegger shows us, that the gravity of Dasein remains inside of him and for that reason the everyday life seeks to relieve, whereas what Levinas tries to do is exactly to remove from the very beginning this gravity from the subject into his dependence and responsibility for the Other. Surprisingly, the everyday life characterised by enjoyment remains more charged with Levinas than is the case with Heidegger. Thus we do not need to search for an escape from everyday life in the depth of Dasein to discover his fundamentals, but on the contrary we have to stay in a dialogue with the Other, in an ethic relation with other person and all this within the everyday life.