



ECONOMICS - PHILOSOPHY

Studies in Ethics and Economics Series Editor: Samuel Gregg, Acton Institute

"A very important text, *The Constitution under Social Justice* takes us beyond today's sterile political labels and returns political discourse to where it belongs—the language of natural law. Written in the nineteenth century, Antonio Rosmini's book provides those in the twenty-first century with the tools they need to think about freedom in the modern world in a coherent manner."

- *Carlos Hoevel*, Professor of Philosophy, Catholic University of Argentina

"Antonio Rosmini's *The Constitution under Social Justice* is a great book that extols the virtues of a liberty ordered to truth. This translation will bring Rosmini's thought to the attention of new audiences at precisely the right time. His insights into the role of property in ordering free societies are essential reading for theologians, economists, and political scientists today."

- *James V. Schall*, Professor of Government, Georgetown University

"Much misunderstood in his own time, Father Rosmini is surely a contemporary model for serious theological reflection on the political and economic order. *The Constitution under Social Justice* is a masterpiece—both for his time and ours."

- *Jean-Yves Naudet*, Professor of Economics, Université d'Aix-Marseille III

"Antonio Rosmini is one of the great minds of nineteenth-century Catholicism. His '*The Constitution under Social Justice*' represents the most mature expression of Rosmini's political and economic thought. This English translation is a must-read for anyone interested in the dialogue between the worlds of theology, philosophy, and economics."

- *Robert A. Sirico*, President, Acton Institute

Antonio Rosmini (1797-1855) was one of the first natural law scholars to bring natural law thinking into a conversation with the market economic order that was beginning to emerge in Europe in the nineteenth century. His reflections on matters such as the origin, nature, and limits of private property, the role of the state, and the nature of human reason show him to be a unique, innovative thinker who nonetheless was determined to work within the parameters of Catholic doctrine. Many of these ideas are exemplified in his seminal work, *The Constitution under Social Justice*, a text that has profound insights to offer to those today who seek to integrate theology, philosophy, and economics into their conception of a social order that aspires to be both free and just.

Antonio Rosmini in America: *The Constitution Under Social Justice*

È stata pubblicata in lingua inglese, secondo la bella traduzione di Alberto Mingardi (Direttore generale dell'Istituto Bruno Leoni), l'opera di Rosmini dal titolo *La costituzione secondo la giustizia sociale*, un lavoro di capitale importanza nell'ambito della storia del pensiero politico italiano dell'Ottocento, che rivela riflessioni quanto mai attuali e profonde, capaci di riportare la nostra attenzione su questioni politiche che hanno costituito elementi imprescindibili della nostra cultura nazionale, ma non solo. L'interesse suscitato negli Stati Uniti per quest'opera, infatti, rende ulteriormente ragione del fatto che il pensiero rosminiano è tale da non essere circoscrivibile, quanto alla portata, al solo ambito nazionale ed europeo.

Questa edizione (pubblicata nella collana degli «Studies in Ethics and Economics» per i tipi di Lexington Books – a division of Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., Lanham, Maryland, Unites States of America 2007, pp. L+191, \$ 19,95), è introdotta da tre preziosi contributi: il primo, di Robert A. Sirico, Presidente dell'Acton Institute (pp. VII-X), il secondo, dal titolo *Beyond Democratism and Conservatism: The Original Approach of Rosmini's Costituzione* (pp. XI-XXVIII), di Carlos Hoevel (Università Cattolica dell'Argentina) e il terzo, di Alberto Mingardi, dal titolo *Property and Liberty: The Development of Antonio Rosmini's Political Thought* (pp. XXIX-L).

Samuele Francesco Tadini