SUMMARIES

EUGEN LEMBERG’S CONTRIBUTION TO THE THEORY OF NATIONALISM

Miroslav Hroch

The author follows a twofold approach to Lemberg’s work on nationalism. For once, looking back on first reading the book in the mid-1960s, he relates what he thought inspiring at the time – the perspective encompassing Europe as a whole and the sense for social relations, among other things – and what he deemed unacceptable, such as Lemberg’s definition of nationalism. In the second part, he places Lemberg’s work in the broader context of nationalism research. Lemberg is to be credited with having introduced “nationalism” as an analytical term. The objective features of a nation were not negated outright, but rather relegated to the plane of the people’s consciousness of what unites them. In his time, Lemberg, with his interdisciplinary approach combining methods from social and political science with those used in teaching politics, was an exceptional figure. With his focus on Europe as a whole, he stands out from the scientific mainstream as well. His work, however, has not had lasting influence in German research. In an Anglo-American context, it is almost unknown today.

EUGEN LEMBERG’S IDEOLOGY CONCEPT

Bedřich Loewenstein

This is an attempt at evaluating the importance of Eugen Lemberg’s theory of ideologies both in relation to the overall merit of Lemberg the sociologist and the intellectual and political background of the 1960s. The concept, largely oriented at roles and functions of ideology, may be understood as an extension of the earlier nationalism concept; ideology’s main attributes being identity transfer and behaviour control. The contemporary background was the critical view of ideology, taken by the Frankfurt school, which Lemberg sharply rejected. His proposition that ideology is inevitable is corroborated in his posthumous work “Anthropologie der ideologischen Systeme” (Anthropology of Ideological Systems). The article critically examines, above all, the problem of secularisation and redeification in our time and age, together with a more general appraisal of the applicability of Lemberg’s ideology concept.