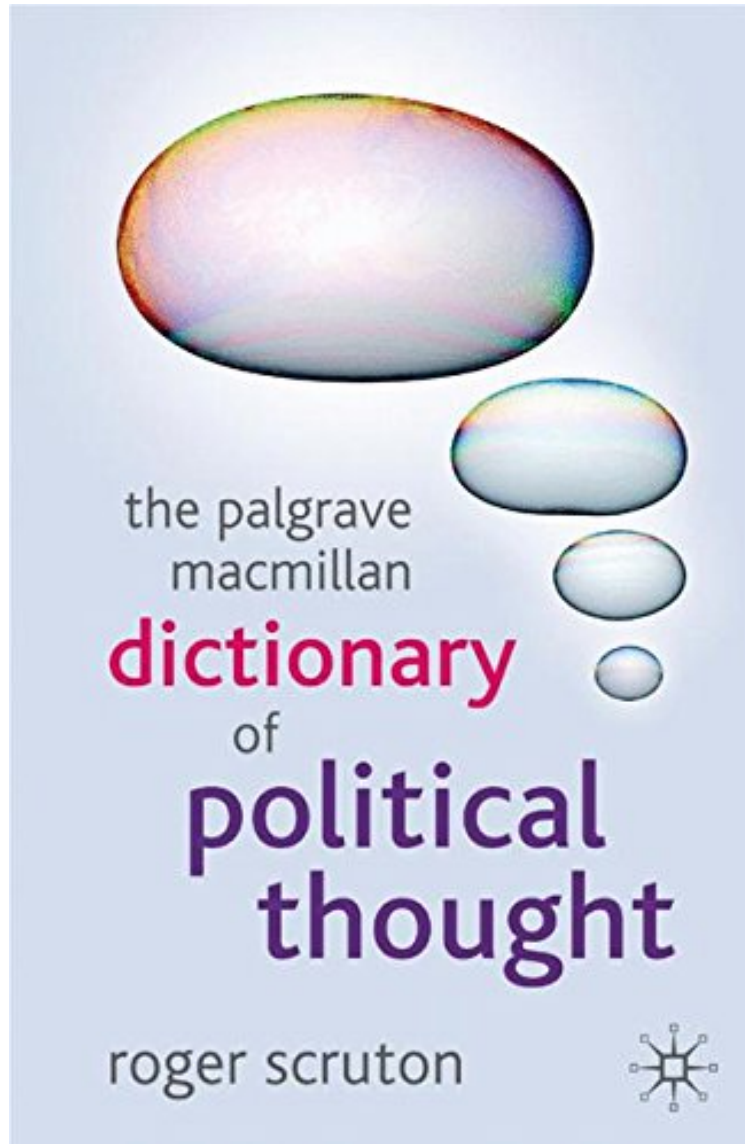


(Free) The Palgrave Macmillan Dictionary of Political Thought

# The Palgrave Macmillan Dictionary of Political Thought

*Roger Scruton*

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**Roger Scruton : The Palgrave Macmillan Dictionary of Political Thought** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Palgrave Macmillan Dictionary of Political Thought:

16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. PHILOSOPHY AS IT RELATES TO POLITICS By Loren D. Morrison In yet another year of 30 second sound bites that we are asked to believe represent well thought out positions on substantive issues, I would recommend this book as an unbiased source for finding out what such words as "liberalism" and "conservatism" really mean. This reference book goes much deeper than mere definitions in its

discussions of everything from the philosophies of Kierkegaard and Heidegger, as they relate to political thinking, to such diverse concepts as "infrastructure," "political economy," and "due process." There are over 1500 entries in all, and each one sheds some light on terms that are bandied about, and frequently misunderstood, by politicians seeking support. There are also many other terms, some common and some obscure, that are discussed. I think that any reader could benefit by reading the discussions under the aforementioned topics of "Liberalism" and "Conservatism." There might be some surprises awaiting that reader. There is a lot more, and sometimes a lot less, substance than is commonly understood about these political philosophies. Neither discussion fits the negative images presented by the opponents of each of these political philosophies. There seem to be negatives and positives to both. There is also an excellent discussion on the subject of existentialism and its meaning in the context of late 20th century and early 21st century politics. Just a few other ideas of what awaits the user of A DICTIONARY OF POLITICAL THOUGHT: An excellent discussion on the subject of "education" as the process whereby a rational being is instructed and the political implications of this instruction. A discussion of the concepts of a political party and what distinguishes a party from a faction. There's much more to this dictionary which might be better defined as an encyclopedia. I think that, during any campaign year, this book, with its many definitions and concept clarifications should be at one's side whenever he or she is listening to any campaign rhetoric. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. sheds light on matters of public discussion. By James Bonhamton Roger Scruton is superb at explaining terms and concepts, many of which are somewhat nebulous. I am professor emeritus of physics, not politics, but when I use this dictionary or just leaf through it, I find well-written articles of real value. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. An especially good dictionary of 'political conceptions' By Shalom Freedman This dictionary is especially good. This is because it was written entirely by Roger Scruton, one of the most distinguished political philosophers of modern times. He says the aim of the dictionary has been "to extract, both from active debate, and from the theories and intuitions which surround it, the principal ideas through which modern political beliefs find expression. The emphasis of the dictionary is conceptual rather than factual, exploring the formation of doctrines rather than specific application. Political events are mentioned only when they cast light on intellectual conceptions."

This new edition takes stock of the revolutionary changes that have taken place since the dictionary was first published in 1982. 1790 entries cover every aspect of political thought providing an indispensable guide to the thought, the wisdom and the folly of modern politics by one of the most lucid philosophers of our time.

'It is much more than a dictionary, and is in fact more akin an encyclopaedia in terms of content...an essential reference work that should be available in all government, public and academic libraries.' Terry O'Brien, Reference s About the Author ROGER SCRUTON is a writer, philosopher and public commentator. He engages in contemporary political and cultural debates from the standpoint of a conservative thinker and is well known as a powerful polemicist. He has written widely in the press on political and cultural issues. He is currently research professor for the Institute for the Psychological Sciences where he teaches philosophy at their graduate school in both Washington and Oxford. He is also a visiting professor at Princeton University teaching a course offered jointly through the politics and philosophy departments.