



Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel

Martin J. Matustik

Download now

Read Online →

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel

Martin J. Matustik

Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel Martin J. Matustik

Contradictory interpretations have been applied to history-making events that led to the end of the cold war: Václav Havel, using Kierkegaardian terms, called the demise of totalitarianism in east-central Europe an "existential revolution" (i.e. an awakening of human responsibility, spirit, and reason), while others hailed it as a victory for the "New World Order." Regardless of one's point of view, however, it is clear that the global landscape has been dramatically altered. Where once the competition between capitalism and communism provided a basis for establishing political- and self-identity, today, the destructive forces of nationalist identity and religious and secular fundamentalism are filling the void.

In his timely and significant new work, Martin J. Matustik synthesizes the critical social theory of Jürgen Habermas with the existentialism of Havel and Søren Kierkegaard to present an alternative to the conceptualization of identity based on nationalism that is stoking the flames of civil wars in Europe and racial and ethnic tensions in eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, and the United States. In so doing, he reinvigorates critical social theory, and points the way toward a multicultural, post-national identity and a democracy capable of resisting both imperial consensus and xenophobic backlash.

Offering the most extensive examination of Habermas's and Kierkegaard's critiques of nationalist identity available, *Postnational Identity* dramatically confronts the traditional view of existential philosophy as antisocial and uncritical. This volume shows how Kierkegaardian theory and practice of radically honest communication allows us to rethink the existential in terms of Habermas's communicative action, and vice versa. As the author explains the foundations of his work in the Preface:

Critical theory and existential philosophy, brought together in this book, engender two forms of suspicion of the present age. The critical theorist, such as Jürgen Habermas, unmasks the forms in which social and cultural life become systematically distorted by the imperatives of political power and economic gain. The existential critic, like Søren Kierkegaard and Václav Havel, is suspicious of the various ways in which individuals deceive themselves or other people. This study aims to integrate Kierkegaard's and Havel's existential critique of motives informing human identity formation with Habermas's critique of the colonialization of fragmented, anomic modern life by systems of power and money....My argument is that existential critique and social critique complement each other and overcome their respective limitations.

Organized into three distinct sections, the book begins with a study of individual and group identity in Habermas's work on communicative ethics. This section draws on Habermas's readings of Kant, Hegel, Marx, Kierkegaard, Mead, and Durkheim. Part Two uses Kierkegaard's existential ethics to broaden Habermas's notion of identity. The argument proceeds from the performative character of existential individuality to Kierkegaard's theory and practice of communication, and, finally, to the regulative community ideal projected in his critique of the present age. In the book's final section, the author addresses the question of identity to the nationalist strife of the present age. Overall, the book sets forth the argument that a move from fundamentalist constructions of identity to postnational, open, and multicultural identity is a critical ideal on which both the existential and socio-political suspicion of the present age converge.

Postnational Identity is addressed to the three multicultural audiences that gave it shape: western Europe,

eastern Europe, and the United States. One of the first works to treat seriously the existential thought of Václav Havel, the book will hold enormous appeal for students and professionals involved in existential philosophy, critical theory, philosophy, and, more generally, political science, literary theory, communications, and cultural studies.

 [Download Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel Martin J. Matustik

Download and Read Free Online Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel Martin J. Matustik

From reader reviews:

Christopher Clarke:

Do you one of people who can't read enjoyable if the sentence chained from the straightway, hold on guys this particular aren't like that. This Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel book is readable by simply you who hate the straight word style. You will find the information here are arrange for enjoyable studying experience without leaving possibly decrease the knowledge that want to give to you. The writer connected with Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel content conveys the thought easily to understand by most people. The printed and e-book are not different in the written content but it just different as it. So , do you nonetheless thinking Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel is not loveable to be your top record reading book?

Cleveland Wheeler:

The book untitled Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel contain a lot of information on it. The writer explains the girl idea with easy technique. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do certainly not worry, you can easy to read that. The book was written by famous author. The author will take you in the new period of literary works. It is possible to read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or device, so you can read the book inside anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can start their official web-site as well as order it. Have a nice learn.

Jamey Norton:

As we know that book is very important thing to add our information for everything. By a book we can know everything you want. A book is a set of written, printed, illustrated or blank sheet. Every year seemed to be exactly added. This publication Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel was filled regarding science. Spend your spare time to add your knowledge about your technology competence. Some people has various feel when they reading a new book. If you know how big good thing about a book, you can really feel enjoy to read a guide. In the modern era like right now, many ways to get book which you wanted.

Rhonda Lanham:

Do you like reading a reserve? Confuse to looking for your best book? Or your book ended up being rare? Why so many concern for the book? But any people feel that they enjoy regarding reading. Some people likes examining, not only science book and also novel and Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel or others sources were given information for you. After you know how the great a book, you feel would like to read more and more. Science reserve was created for teacher or students especially. Those textbooks are helping them to bring their knowledge. In

various other case, beside science guide, any other book likes Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel to make your spare time considerably more colorful. Many types of book like this one.

**Download and Read Online Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel
Martin J. Matustik #MNP8V1BZSU7**

Read Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel by Martin J. Matustik for online ebook

Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel by Martin J. Matustik Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel by Martin J. Matustik books to read online.

Online Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel by Martin J. Matustik ebook PDF download

Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel by Martin J. Matustik Doc

Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel by Martin J. Matustik Mobipocket

Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel by Martin J. Matustik EPub

Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel by Martin J. Matustik Ebook online

Postnational Identity: Critical Theory and Existential Philosophy in Habermas, Kierkegaard, and Havel by Martin J. Matustik Ebook PDF