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公民、消費者、國家與市場

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本文之主旨在於探究現今公民與國家二者之間的相互關係,以及其各自所 應扮演的角色。亞里斯多德的傳統公民觀視公民同時爲統治者與被治者。此即 彰顯每個個體皆必然隸屬於集體之中。然而自十七、十八世紀以降,國家與社 會、公領域與私領域、自私與利他,以及理性與感情之二元區分,已成爲西方 近代國家的組織基礎。

但是公領域與私領域之區分於今逐步淡化。馬克思與黑格爾也早已認爲此 種區分有超越的必要。今日自由主義與全球化之趨勢更是逐日削減公領域之範 圍,使公民角色漸爲消費者之角色所取代。

面對此趨勢,國家應由傳統管制者的角色轉變爲規制者之角色。而在國家 逐步退出社會生活,人民再次由公權力之桎梏解放出來時,更需強調個體之道 德感與友愛情操,以維繫群體之秩序及其存在。

Citizen, Consumer, State and Market

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ABSTRACT

The main purpose of this article is to study the mutual relation between the citizen and the state; and its role in our epoch. For Aristotle, a citizen is both governor and governed. This classic version assumes that all individuals belonging to a historically developed community. Since the later seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the oppositions between the individual and the state, the private and the public, egotism and altruism, as well as between a life governed by reason and one governed by the passions, have become constitutive of human existence in the Western modern state. Just like Kant asserted, the realm of the ethical is reserved for the private workings of inner life and the public arena is the sphere of right, of mutual and rational consent to the individual and collective will of others.

But nowadays the distinction between the public and the private decline. Hegel and Marx, both, in different ways, have already sought to overcome this distinction between legality and morality, between juridical community and ethical life that was believed by Kant. The actual tendency of the globalization and liberalism enlarges the field of the market and reduces the role of the state. The role of the consumer substitutes for the citizen.

Facing to this trend, it is necessary for the state to change its role from a controller to a regulator. The new emancipation of the subject from the public authority demands emphasis on the force of moral sentiments and natural affections, which roots man in community.

Key Words: citizen, state, consumer, market, control, regulate, privatization, public service