

EUROPEAN CONCEPTUAL HISTORY

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In Search of European Liberalisms

CONCEPTS, LANGUAGES, IDEOLOGIES

Edited by **Michael Freeden** · **Javier Fernández-Sebastián** · **Jörn Leonhard**

The initiative behind the book – to sketch a history of European liberalism using the conceptual history approach – is an important one for the field. Its diverse contributions are extremely valuable, making available research and perspectives not widely known in English-language scholarship. **Jonathan Kwan**, University of Nottingham

Since the Enlightenment, liberalism as a concept has been foundational for European identity and politics, even as it has been increasingly interrogated and contested. This comprehensive study takes a fresh look at the diverse understandings and interpretations of the idea of liberalism in Europe, encompassing not just the familiar movements, doctrines and political parties that fall under the heading of 'liberal' but also the intertwined historical currents of thought behind them. Here we find not an abstract, universalized liberalism, but a complex and overlapping configuration of liberalisms tied to diverse linguistic, temporal and political contexts.

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