

SU DEMOCRAZIA LIBERTÀ EGUAGLIANZA. À PROPOS DEL ROSS DI *HVORFOR DEMOKRATI?*

Alessandro Serpe*

Abstract. By crumbling ancient truths as the one for which positive law protects individual rights and that for which rights and duties cannot be said existing prior to positive law, Scandinavian legal philosophy has frequently been the target of harsh criticism. Does the explicit non-cognitivist approach to ethics in terms of Emotivism, developed by Lundstedt, Olivecrona and Ross which holds that moral judgments do not possess truth-value, inevitably lead to the dark paths of practical nihilism and/or moral indifference to values?

As evidence of his private and scientific commitment aimed at promoting the values of democracy and freedom, in early 40's Alf Ross wrote *Hvorfor Demokrati? Why Democracy? What are the meanings of freedom and equality? How do they relate with democracy?*

In order to provide an adequate answer, Ross addresses the submission of analytical verification of such concepts and through a process of progressive demystification of old moral and legal truths he holds fast to the fundamental core of freedom, shared values, and social-democracy. In Ross's meta-ethical account, shared values can germinate democracy and critically support its development. The realism of Ross does not merely count as a detailed descriptive analysis of democracy, but it keeps his valuable freedom agenda firmly.

Key-words. Alf Ross, Scandinavian legal realism, democracy, freedom, equality.

* Università G. d'Annunzio di Chieti-Pescara; Università Telematica L. da Vinci di Torrevicchia Teatina (Ch).