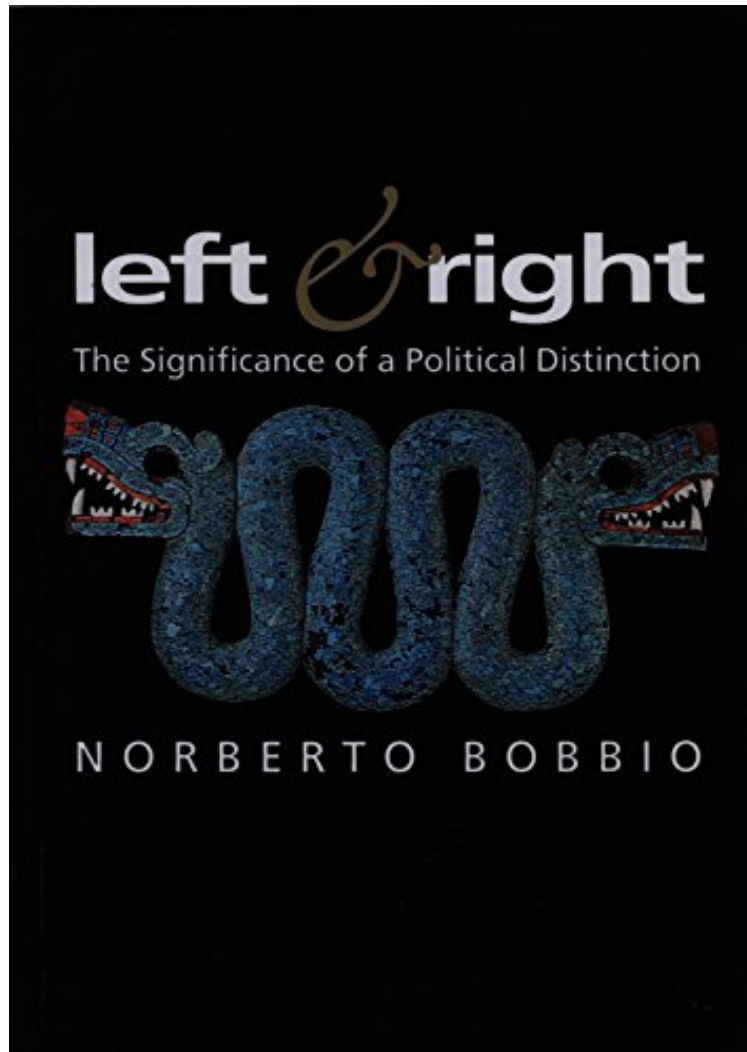


[Download pdf] Left and Right: The Significance of a Political Distinction (Themes for the 21st Century)

## Left and Right: The Significance of a Political Distinction (Themes for the 21st Century)

Von Norberto Bobbio

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**Von Norberto Bobbio : Left and Right: The Significance of a Political Distinction (Themes for the 21st Century)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Left and Right: The Significance of a Political Distinction (Themes for the 21st Century):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A good introduction to an old divisionVon Altin RraxhimiBobbio's book is an instrumental introduction to what divides the left and the right, in a time when there are suggestions that their division is overcome. Analyzing each claim, he concludes they are groundless. Two opposite outlooks stand in the division: the one that considers men equal and the

other that considers them unequal. For as long as these outlooks exist, and it appears they will continue to exist, there will be a left, and consequently, a right, and vice versa. There are also other insights or interpretations of both contemporary thinking and of the patterns of thought that make the book interesting. The analysis of why the dyad exists in form, compared to all attacks on it as a scheme, for example, is well argued and put. Bobbio is a refined thinker, so, the fame he has in Italy as probably that country's foremost modern political philosopher, stands in strong arguments.

**Kurzbeschreibung** Following the collapse of communism and the decline of Marxism, some commentators have claimed that we have reached the 'end of history' and that the distinction between Left and Right can be forgotten. In this book - which was a tremendous success in Italy - Norberto Bobbio challenges these views, arguing that the fundamental political distinction between Left and Right, which has shaped the two centuries since the French Revolution, has continuing relevance today. Bobbio explores the grounds of this elusive distinction and argues that Left and Right are ultimately divided by different attitudes to equality. He carefully defines the nature of equality and inequality in relative rather than absolute terms. Left and Right is a timely and persuasively argued account of the basic parameters of political action and debate in the modern world - parameters which have remained constant despite the pace of social change. The book will be widely read and, as in Italy, it will have an impact far beyond the academic domain. **Pressestimmen** 'Are contemporary political issues best understood in left-right terms? With his customary lucidity and wisdom, Professor Bobbio, Italy's most distinguished political thinker explains the persistence and defends the relevance of the distinction in the face of "the great problem of inequality between people and between the peoples of this world" in a short work that is far-reaching, simple and deep.' Steven Lukes, European University Institute 'Now, in Norberto Bobbio's newly translated book, we have the most ingenious and forceful defence of the traditional categories of left and right for many years, and one that will set the standard of argument on the subject for the foreseeable future ... The history of his book illustrates some of the paradoxes of recent political discourse ... simple, lucid ... scrupulous and rigorous analysis.' John Gray, The Times Higher Education

**Supplement Kurzbeschreibung** Following the collapse of communism and the decline of Marxism, some commentators have claimed that we have reached the 'end of history' and that the distinction between Left and Right can be forgotten. In this book - which was a tremendous success in Italy - Norberto Bobbio challenges these views, arguing that the fundamental political distinction between Left and Right, which has shaped the two centuries since the French Revolution, has continuing relevance today. Bobbio explores the grounds of this elusive distinction and argues that Left and Right are ultimately divided by different attitudes to equality. He carefully defines the nature of equality and inequality in relative rather than absolute terms. Left and Right is a timely and persuasively argued account of the basic parameters of political action and debate in the modern world - parameters which have remained constant despite the pace of social change. The book will be widely read and, as in Italy, it will have an impact far beyond the academic domain.