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Animal Rights – Politicised, but not Humanised

Prof. Dr. Bernd Ladwig, Free University of Berlin



Sentient animals have moral rights because they share with us some morally relevant characteristics such as interest in life and well-being. Unjustly regulated human-animal relations are part of the basic structure of our society for which we are commonly responsible as citizens. In that regard, animal rights should be a matter of political philosophy. However, authors such as Sue Donaldson and Will Kymlicka, go too far in applying genuinely political concepts such as "citizenship" to our relations with animals. Animals have no concept of themselves as free and equal citizens and cannot intentionally influence political communities as such. Although their objective interest encompasses the aspect of membership, which is part of the status of citizenship, this does not include a further aspect - active political participation.

Date: Thursday, 10th of December 2015 Time: 18:15 – 20:00 Place: Unitobler, Lerchenweg 36, 3012 Bern, Room F-123

Everybody is invited for the PLEP Semester End Apéro after the talk.

Philosophisch-Historische Fakultät Institut für Philosophie Länggassstrasse 49a 3012 Bern www.philosophie.unibe.ch



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