

Yvanka B. Raynova, *Sein, Sinn und Werte: Phänomenologische und hermeneutische Perspektiven des europäischen Denkens* (Frankfurt a.M.: Peter Lang, 2017).

In her book *Sein, Sinn und Werte: Phänomenologische und hermeneutische Perspektiven des europäischen Denkens*, Yvanka B. Raynova refers to a long discourse on the so-called "crisis of philosophy." Even today, philosophy is accused of being in a crisis of meaning, of being abstract and unworldly, and without practical application nor connection to reality. Thus, philosophy cannot serve the needs of society. Raynova's book is directed against such reproaches, with which already Brentano, Husserl, and Heidegger had to deal in regard to the s.c. "crisis of philosophy." Unfolding the diverse facets of this discussion in the phenomenological schools, Raynova displays how the crisis of reason led to a crisis of meaning and of being. According to her, this axiological insecurity came to a head in the area of responsibility, human dignity and human rights and led to the necessity of a rethinking of history and community. The hidden purpose of her analyses is to show that philosophy is or can be useful, as a basic knowledge without which the concept of the fundamental values and the history of human rights, upon which the European Community is based, cannot be understood and further developed.