

Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. mult. **Martha C. Nussbaum**, University of Chicago, USA

Martha C. Nussbaum is Ernst Freund Distinguished Service Professor of Law and Ethics, Philosophy Department and Law School, The University of Chicago. Her interdisciplinary research interests range from classical literature and philosophy, ethics, political and moral theory, feminism, cultural studies to human and animal rights. The unifying theme of Nussbaum's scholarship is the reflection on vulnerability. In her break-through monograph *The Fragility of Goodness: Luck and Ethics in Greek Literature and Philosophy* (1986), she develops an anthropology based on the notion of vulnerability, which entails a reconsideration of the human embodiment; the acknowledgment of emotions as intelligent elements of rationality and indispensable aspects of practical wisdom; and positing relationality as central for the development and flourishing of the human being. Acknowledging the ethical and political role of works of art and literature in reconsideration of vulnerability, Nussbaum powerfully advocates for their centrality in contemporary societies in *Love's Knowledge* (1990), *Poetic Justice: The Literary Imagination and Public Life* (1996), *Cultivating Humanity* (1997) and *Not for Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities* (2010). In her writings on philosophical accounts of emotions, *Upheavals of Thought* (2001), *From Disgust to Humanity* (2010), *Political Emotions* (2013), *Anger and Forgiveness* (2016), and *the Monarchy of Fear* (2018), she explores emotions as the expression of significant vulnerable attachments. She investigates their role in a world of uncontrolled events. Inquiring into the forms of vulnerability that impede human flourishing and are incompatible with political justice, Nussbaum has developed the Capabilities Approach—a normative evaluative approach to understanding poverty, well-being, and justice (*Frontiers of Justice* (2006), *Creating Capabilities* (2011)—which has become an influential paradigm in the areas of development, economics, and human rights. In her recent work, Nussbaum extends this approach to non-human animals.

Nussbaum holds honorary degrees from over 60 colleges and universities around the world and is a recipient of many prestigious awards, including the American Philosophical Association's Philip Quinn Prize (2015), the Kyoto Prize in Arts and Philosophy (2016), the Don M. Randel Prize for Achievement in the Humanities from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2018), the Berggruen Prize for Philosophy and Culture (2018), and the Holberg Prize (2021).