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Thomas Fuchs is Karl Jaspers Professor for Philosophical Foundations of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy at Heidelberg University. His main areas of research include phenomenological philosophy and psychopathology, embodied and enactive cognitive science, and interactive concepts of social cognition. Central themes are the basic experiential categories of body, space, temporality, and intersubjectivity both in healthy and psychopathological states.

Fuchs first developed his phenomenology of the body in “*Leib, Raum, Person. Entwurf einer phänomenologischen Anthropologie*” (2000), later in “*Leib und Lebenswelt*” (2008). It starts from a “spherical anthropology” that conceives of bodily space, sensorimotor space, feeling space, and interpersonal space as concentric spheres of relatedness between the lived body and the world. Plessner's distinction between lived body and corporeal body (*Leib* and *Körper*) then provides the basis for the conception of various psychopathological phenomena such as reification, alienation, hyperreflexivity, or disembodiment.

These concepts have particular application to the analysis of schizophrenic self disorders, to the experience of body and time in depression, borderline disorder, dementia, and to the psychopathology of delusions. Fuchs' conceptualization of schizophrenia as a “disembodiment” also led to the implementation of body-oriented therapy methods for the treatment of schizophrenic negative symptoms. A collection of central essays on these topics was published in 2020 under the title, *Randzonen der Erfahrung. Beiträge zur phänomenologischen Psychopathologie*.

Since the publication of his seminal book “*Das Gehirn - ein Beziehungsorgan*” (2008), Fuchs has furthermore developed a conception of the embodied mind that, starting from a double aspectivity of body and mind, takes the *principle of life* as the basis for a new understanding of the mind-brain problem. Consciousness thus becomes a manifestation of the life process of the entire organism (continuity of “*Leben*” and “*Erleben*”). In the meantime, a more advanced version has also been published in English under the title “*Ecology of the Brain. The Phenomenology and Biology of the Embodied Mind*” (2018). Fuchs has also recently applied this basic concept to issues of artificial intelligence, transhumanism, virtuality, and embodied personhood in dementia, among others (“*In Defense of the Human Being. Foundational Questions of an Embodied Anthropology*,” 2021)