

Abstract

This licenciate thesis tries to present the relevance of the theory of justice of John Rawls from the point of view of Christian ethics, trying to emphasise some selected aspects of the theory.

The basis for this reflection gives, among others, the fact that the theory of justice of John Rawls is repeatedly cited alongside of the presentation of the principles of Catholic social thought (CST). In few points they show up certain similarity, in others they oppose each other.

Furthermore John Rawls formulates his formal theory in a way that it could be accepted for every rational person. People with religious beliefs and moral ideas belongs to this group, or as they are called by Rawls himself, they are persons with comprehensive doctrines. The foundations for the analysis of the theory of justice is justified also by the fact that Rawls ascribes certain role to the religious beliefs in his theory, which cannot be ignored.

Thirdly, in the person of John Rawls one can find a supporter of the eminent representative of what we call a liberal tradition. Liberalism, because of its unclear way of its definition, but real presence in the society and thinking of the people, is not an ignorable challenge for the Church and religious thoughts, with which she tries to deal at least for the last two centuries. In this work the author tries to present the life and work of John Rawls, followed by the basic theses of the theory of justice. Then various selected aspects are presented, which are important for the Christian-ethical reflection.

In the last section a critique of the theory of justice is presented, mostly founded by the communitarian thinkers, and a possible path is suggested, which direction should be taken for future reflection.