

"Only In The Western World" curated by Luigi Fassi

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As the author of a study of Western culture that originated in an analysis of European rationality and its growing dominion over all fields of social and political life, German philosopher Max Weber (1864-1920) influenced a large degree of 20th century sociological and philosophical thoughts.

According to Weber, rationality is a uniquely European phenomenon, a set of philosophical guidelines that defines the sensibility and horizon of Western and European modernity only. It is in the dominion of the world expressed by means of reason and scientific knowledge that the exceptionalism of Western identity, and therefore its unique role (and superiority) within the history of the world, can be located. To historically legitimize his theory of rationality, Weber was the first European sociologist to embark on a vast and sophisticated cross-cultural comparison, also in order to determine the features and signifiers of...