

NARRATIVES ON POLITICAL SCIENCE: TYPES, STRUCTURE, TRUTHFULNESS. BETWEEN TEXTUALISM AND MODERATE COGNITIVE REALISM

Abstract

The aim of the article is reconstruction of the semantic structure of narrative on political science. A turnaround occurred in the contemporary philosophy of the humanities under the influence of post-modernism it shifted from logic to rhetoric. The broader background for this turnaround was the crisis of cognitive realism. Language was considered part of the cognitive apparatus shaping the picture of the examined phenomena. The data perceived by senses are grouped in categories and notions being constructs of the exploring subject. The same subject also produces general models of the examined phenomena, always represented by words, notions and linguistic utterances. This is why, in line with the constructivist standpoint, the researcher inhabits a world of texts and interpretations. And the forms of discourse play a fundamental cognitive role. From the perspective of analytic philosophy the focus of attention was the truth as the goal of cognitive activities and the logical procedures leading to the truth, especially the procedure of explaining. But constructivism or narrativism focuses on the text, the narrative, the discourse and the linguistic and literary means that make the reader believe in the picture of the phenomenon the researcher paints, that is, rhetoric. A more detailed narrative structure – thus closer to research practice – comprises three layers: informative, rhetorical and theoretical-ideological ones.

Keywords: narrative, semantic structure, narrativism, cognitive realism.

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