

Contents

Introduction — 1

- The Role of Political Philosophy — 1
- The Question of Justice — 1
- The Approaches to Justice — 3
- The Relationship between Justice and Equality — 13
- The Principles of Distributive Justice — 14
- The Cohenian Critique of the Difference Principle — 16
- Is the Cohenian Critique Justified? — 23

1 The Rawlsian Theory of Justice — 28

- 1.1 Justice as Fairness — 36
- 1.2 A Fair System of Cooperation — 38
- 1.3 Free and Equal Citizens — 39
- 1.4 The Basic Structure of a Well-Ordered Society — 40
- 1.5 The Original Position — 40
- 1.6 The Principles of Justice — 42
 - 1.6.1 The First Principle of Justice — 42
 - 1.6.2 Justifying the Principles of Justice — 43

2 A Meta-Ethical Theory: Cohen's Idea of Justice — 49

- 2.1 Cohen's Thesis — 52
- 2.2 The Argument — 55
- 2.3 The Defenses — 57
- 2.4 The Requirements — 60
- 2.5 Challenges, Critiques and Replies — 63
- 2.6 Pogge's Critique of the Cohenian Meta-Ethical Method — 66

3 A Meta-Ethical Theory: Cohen's Rescue of Justice — 72

- 3.1 Rescue of Justice from Constructivism — 72
- 3.2 Weak and Strong Defenses — 76
- 3.3 Illustrations — 78
- 3.4 What is not Justice? — 80
- 3.5 Objections and Replies — 83
- 3.6 Justice Is Not the First Virtue of Social Institutions — 85
- 3.7 The Justification of the Two Principles Is Not Contractarian — 86

- 4 The Difference Principle — 89**
 - 4.1 The Rawlsian General Conception of Justice — 89
 - 4.2 Justice as Fairness: The Second Principle of Justice — 90
 - 4.3 Fair Equality of Opportunity — 91
 - 4.4 The Interpretation of the Second Principle of Justice — 93
 - 4.4.1 The System of Natural Aristocracy — 94
 - 4.4.2 The System of Natural Liberty — 95
 - 4.4.3 The Liberal Interpretation — 97
 - 4.4.4 The Difference Principle within the Democratic Interpretation — 97
 - 4.5 The Argument for the Second Principle of Justice — 101

- 5 The Rescue of Equality from the Rawlsian Theory of Justice — 104**
 - 5.1 Cohen's Critique of the Difference Principle — 104
 - 5.2 Rescue of Equality from the Incentives Argument — 105
 - 5.3 The Interpersonal Test — 108
 - 5.4 Two Readings of the Difference Principle: Rawls's Contradiction — 110
 - 5.5 Rescue of Equality from the Pareto Argument — 112
 - 5.6 Rescue of Equality from the Contradiction of the Difference Principle — 115
 - 5.7 The Cohenian Conception of Justice — 116

- 6 Scrutinizing the Cohenian Rescue of Equality — 120**
 - 6.1 The Cohenian Critique of the Incentives Argument — 120
 - 6.2 Challenges to Cohen's Critique of the Incentives Argument — 123
 - 6.2.1 Need for a Psychology of Egalitarianism — 123
 - 6.2.2 Legitimacy of Applying the Interpersonal Test — 124
 - 6.3 Removing Inequalities: Just or Unjust? — 126
 - 6.4 The Cohenian Critique of the Difference Principle — 127
 - 6.5 Analysis of the Cohenian Critique of the Difference Principle — 129
 - 6.5.1 Two Complementary Levels — 129
 - 6.5.2 Justificatory Level: Equality 1 — 130
 - 6.5.3 Rule of Distribution: Equality 2 — 130
 - 6.5.4 Particular Distributions: Equality 3 — 131
 - 6.6 The Cohenian Rejection of the Difference Principle — 131
 - 6.7 Examination of the Cohenian Rejection of the Difference Principle — 133

- 6.8 The Legitimacy of the Move from Moral Arbitrariness to Equality — 134
- 7 The Cohenian Alternative — 139**
 - 7.1 The Rawlsian Move — 140
 - 7.2 The Cohenian Illustration of the Move — 141
 - 7.3 A Pareto-Improving Equality-Preserving Move — 142
 - 7.4 Scrutinizing the Cohenian Alternative — 144
 - 7.5 A Further Rescue of Equality: The Cohenian Reply to the Trilemma Objection — 146
 - 7.6 The Rawlsian Challenge to the Cohenian Alternative — 147
 - 7.7 The Rescue of Equality from the Basic Structure — 148
 - 7.8 Pogge's Defense of the Basic Structure — 153
 - 7.9 Scheffler's Defense of the Basic Structure — 157
- 8 Disagreement on the Status of Principles — 162**
 - 8.1 Principles in the Rawlsian Understanding — 162
 - 8.2 Principles in the Cohenian Understanding — 165
 - 8.3 Focusing on Fundamental Principles — 167
 - 8.4 Cohen versus Rawls — 168
 - 8.5 The Thesis — 169
 - 8.5.1 Theoretical Level — 170
 - 8.5.2 Practical Level — 171
 - 8.6 A Discussion of the Role of Facts — 172
- 9 Disagreement on the Status of Facts — 175**
 - 9.1 Cohen's Search for Justice: What Is Justice? — 176
 - 9.2 The Cohenian Critique of the Rawlsian Constructivism — 177
 - 9.3 Two Complementary Cohenian Theses — 179
 - 9.4 Cohen's Reply — 180
 - 9.5 Cohen's View: A Socratic-Platonic View — 181
 - 9.6 Two Different Approaches — 181
 - 9.6.1 Two Different Questions — 182
 - 9.6.2 Terminology — 182
 - 9.7 Rawls's Question: "What Is a Just Social System?" — 183
 - 9.7.1 A Factual Question — 183
 - 9.8 The Meaning of Fairness — 184
 - 9.9 The Autonomy of the Rawlsian Citizens — 185
 - 9.10 Important Facts in Shaping a Just Social System — 186

9.10.1	Facts about the Human Condition —	186
9.10.2	Facts about Human Nature —	187
9.10.3	Facts about the Political System —	187
9.10.4	Available Facts in the Original Position —	188
9.10.5	The Role of the Facts in the Stability of Justice as Fairness —	188
10	Different Understandings of Justice —	191
10.1	Different Treatments of Justice —	191
10.2	Different Conceptions of Society —	193
10.2.1	The Liberal Democratic Society —	193
10.2.2	The Cohenian Community —	194
10.3	Different Moral Feelings —	196
10.3.1	The Rawlsian Sense of Justice —	196
10.3.2	The Rawlsian Ethos of Justice —	197
10.3.3	The Cohenian Egalitarian Ethos —	202
10.4	The Role of Education —	203
10.4.1	In the Rawlsian Conception of Justice —	203
10.4.2	In the Cohenian Conception of Justice —	204
10.5	Different Approaches to Social Justice —	205
10.5.1	The Rawlsian Constructivist Approach —	205
10.5.2	The Cohenian Conceptual Approach —	206
10.6	Different Conceptions of Justice —	207
10.6.1	Fundamental Principles of Justice —	207
10.6.2	Rules of Regulation —	208
10.6.3	Justice as Fairness —	208
10.6.4	An Egalitarian Conception of Justice —	209
10.7	Different Principles of Distributive Justice —	210
10.8	The Cohenian Ethos for Personal Justice —	212
	Conclusion —	216
	References —	218
	Author Index —	219
	Subject Index —	220