

## Summary

### *„Im Schatten der Öffentlichkeit. Privatheit und Intimität bei Jean-Jacques Rousseau und Hannah Arendt“*

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Privateness is having a hard time within the republican tradition. From the outset, it is determined by the dictates of the general and finds itself in the shadows of the public. Exploring the works of Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Hannah Arendt, this article asks for the meaning, significance and legitimacy of the private. Thereby, it intends to make a contribution to the history of ideas of republicanism and to unscramble the paradoxical dialogue about the future of the republic conducted by Rousseau and Arendt. A closer look will show that it is the antagonism of appearance and concealment, of masculinity and femininity that marks the borders of the private. Out of this opposition evolves what we will call the specific republican difference. According to Rousseau and Arendt, the rise of the social and the simultaneous emergence of intimacy effect the dissolution of this difference. Thus, the future of the republic appears to be dim: Modern intimacy discloses itself as an ambivalent substitute for the lost harmony of private sphere and public space.