

## Summary

### *„Ethik und Demokratie bei Jean-Jacques Rousseau“*

by Jacob Emmanuel  
Mabe

Hardly any other modern thinker has demanded so much of his readers and interpreters as Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Anyone who reads his works will find new impetus for contemplation and further thought. In his time, Rousseau pursued answers to many questions that are also very pertinent to our present global world. What marks his philosophy and gives it relevance today is its intercultural valency and interdisciplinary quality. Through his methodical blending of literature, cultural studies, and philosophy, Rousseau makes interdisciplinary interpretation of his theory possible and facilitates access to his work by philosophers, educators, philologists, political scientists, sociologists, ethnologists, anthropologists, linguists, lawyers, etc. With his government theory, Rousseau tries to establish an ethic that makes people's lives possible in a state-run community. This article examines Rousseau's democratic ethic in an intercultural light and shows that, in respect to its claim to governance, it can serve as a moral and normative orientation for political practice in all states committed to governmental principles through equal participation of all civic groups. Furthermore, it also sets standards for civil morality and freedom and for human rights, social security, and equitable distribution of economic wealth and employment in the global world.