EINLADUNG ZUM VORTRAG

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MARKETS AS MERE MEANS

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RAUM I
MARKETS AS MERE MEANS

There has been a remarkable shift in the relation between market and state responsibilities for public services like health care and education. While these services continue to be financed publicly, they are now often provided through the market. The main argument for this new institutional division of labor is economic: while (public) ends stay the same, (private) means are more efficient. Markets function as »mere means« under the continued responsibility of the state.

The question is what to think of the promise of the new model to combine public ends with private means. Rutger Claassen will take up this question in terms of egalitarian liberal political theory. Should egalitarian liberals endorse or reject markets for public services? He investigates and rejects currently existing egalitarian liberal theories about this division of labor and presents and defends a new, political theory of marketization. This theory consists of three interconnected modules. First, it revisits the question of means and argues in favor of a differentiation of markets depending on who is in control and who gets what. Second, it revisits the question of ends, and argues that public services should be justified as social rights. This, he will argue, leads to a qualified case for accepting public markets. Third, Rutger Claassen revisits the transition from ends to means, i.e. the legitimacy of the process of deciding about the introduction of markets. This process should be reconceived as a matter of deliberative democratic theory.


Vortrag in englischer Sprache