

Book symposium on Thomas Fossen's

"Facing Authority. A Theory of Political Legitimacy" (Oxford University Press)

Organized by Manon Westphal (Münster) and Janosch Prinz (Maastricht)

6 June 2024, 14-17hrs, University of Münster

"Facing Authority" rejects the dominant moralist and realist approaches to political legitimacy because they stay too far away from the practices of judging political authorities. The book argues we should move away from understanding legitimacy as a moral property or as a justificatory threshold. Drawing on insights from pragmatist philosophy, "Facing Authority" instead shifts attention to practices of judging political authorities and provides practical orientation for those confronted with the need to take stances in relation to the political authorities in their lives.

Thomas Fossen will provide a summary of key ideas and arguments from "Facing Authority" followed by a brief Q&A. Then four commentators from different corners of political theory will offer their interpretations of the book's contributions. Finally, there will be an open discussion. All contributions will be in English.

Facing Authority is available for free <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/facing-authority-9780197645703?cc=nl&lang=en&#> (click on Open Access on the top right)

Programme

14:00 Dr. Thomas Fossen (Leiden) – summary of key ideas/arguments of the book

14:30 Q & A (for clarificatory questions on the presentation)

14:50 break

15:00 commentaries by Prof. Dr. Ilaria Cozzaglio (Hamburg), Dr. Janosch Prinz (Maastricht), Dr. Veith Selk (Darmstadt), and Dr. Manon Westphal (Münster)

15:45 open discussion

17:00 close

The symposium will take place at the Department of Political Science, Scharnhorststraße 100, 48151 Münster.

If you would like to attend, please send an email to j.prinz@maastrichtuniversity.nl and manon.westphal@uni-muenster.de until 2 June.