

Isaiah Berlin Online, OA.1055

Della Casa, Alessandro, 'Berlin lettore di Marx: pluralismo dei valori e natura umana' ('Berlin as a Reader of Marx: Value Pluralism and Human Nature'), *Studi storici* 3 (2011), 597–603.

**Author's abstract:**

The aim of this essay is to analyse the evolution of the Berlinian interpretation of Karl Marx's philosophy. In his early *Karl Marx: His Life and Environment* (1939), Berlin, despite his opposition to the Russian Revolution, actually showed a sympathetic stance towards Marx's philosophy. Berlin shared with Marx a denial of a universal and eternal shape of human nature, as well as anti-monistic tendencies. Berlin thus shows the discontinuity between Marx's thought and Marxism. Nevertheless, beginning from his short visit to Russia in 1945, Berlin's interpretation of Marx undergoes a change. After that time, Marx appears to Berlin as the major proponent of Western 'philosophia perennis' and as the 'great monster' embodying all the features of Soviet totalitarianism.