

---

FRANCESCA FORLÈ

Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele

francescaforle@hotmail.it

SARAH SONGHORIAN

Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele

s.songhorian@gmail.com

---

*FORMALISM IN ETHICS AND NON-FORMAL  
ETHICS OF VALUES. A NEW ATTEMPT  
TOWARD THE FOUNDATION OF AN ETHICAL  
PERSONALISM.*

THE NEW ITALIAN TRANSLATION  
BY ROBERTA GUCCINELLI

---

Roberta Guccinelli (Member of the Max Scheler Gesellschaft) has just published the new Italian translation of *Formalism in Ethics and Non-formal Ethics of Values: A New Attempt Toward the Foundation of an Ethical Personalism* (Bompiani, 2013). Her translation is also accompanied by the original German text and by an extensive analytic index.

The *Formalism* constitutes Max Scheler's "opus magnum" and a model for thinking about moral and practical issues without leaving life aside. From a holistic perspective of axiological perception, this work presents a solid theory of value, that is antithetic to both relativism and absolutism in ethics. Scheler's attempt was also that of providing a new foundation for a new personalism.

Here we have the chance to publish two book reviews of this new and accurate translation and to understand the relevance and the inestimable value of this work.

The first review published here by Barbara Malvestiti (University of Milan) focuses on one specific topic within the scope of the analyses found in *Formalism*: the concept of "individual essence", identified by the translator with the correlate of "the betrayed beatitude and love experience" each person can experience during his life. Such experience provides the *Leit motiv* of Guccinelli's Introduction to the *Formalism* new edition.

The second review, by Jonathan Bazzi (Vita-Salute San Raffaele University), presents Guccinelli's re-translation, framing it in the Italian context and explaining the reasons for the decision to re-translate *Formalism*. It also focuses on the core themes of Scheler's masterpiece in the light of the possible developments in the contemporary debate, especially in the ethical and political one.