

Bronislaw Baczko

Honorary Professor at the Université de Genève

2011 Balzan Prize for Enlightenment Studies

For his contribution to philosophical reflection dedicated to Rousseau's thought and to the study of the political and social consequences of the Enlightenment on the French Revolution.

Institution Administering Research Funds: Université de Genève

Adviser for the Balzan General Prize Committee: Dominique Schnapper

A Critical Dictionary of Utopia in the Century of the Enlightenment

There are a number of dictionaries devoted to the main utopian works and their authors, including meanings and literary topoi, in different eras. What researchers and teachers lack however is a tool that will critically evaluate the main concepts connected to the idea of utopia and the whole literary production it has engendered, something that offers accurate definitions and detailed analyses. The purpose of Bronislaw Baczko's research project is to fill this gap with the publication of a collective reference work, containing contributions from the most respected international scholars in the field. In carrying out this project, Bronislaw Baczko will work in tandem with his close associates Michel Porret, Professor of Modern History at the Université de Genève, and François Rosset, Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the Université de Lausanne.

The development of the project will involve graduate students from the Ecole doctorale interdisciplinaire dix-huitiémiste of the Université de Genève, Université de Lausanne, Université de Neuchâtel, Université de Fribourg and Universität Bern. Workshops will be organized with the authors of the relevant articles and an international symposium on the subject of utopia, in collaboration with the Université de Genève and the Université de Lausanne, will be held to accompany publication at the end of the project.

The work of managing the project, drafting the articles, the overall elaboration of the index and bibliography, as well as the illustrations, will be entrusted to a coordinator appointed for a period of two years.