



## The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patočka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European)

By Aviezer Tucker

Download now

Read Online →

### **The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patočka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European)** By Aviezer Tucker

A critical study of the philosophy and political practice of the Czech dissident movement Charter 77. Aviezer Tucker examines how the political philosophy of Jan Patočka (1907–1977), founder of Charter 77, influenced the thinking and political leadership of Vaclav Havel as dissident and president.

Presents the first serious treatment of Havel as philosopher and Patočka as a political thinker. Through the Charter 77 dissident movement in Czechoslovakia, opponents of communism based their civil struggle for human rights on philosophic foundations, and members of the Charter 77 later led the Velvet Revolution. After Patočka's self-sacrifice in 1977, Vaclav Havel emerged a strong philosophical and political force, and he continued to apply Patočka's philosophy in order to understand the human condition under late communism and the meaning of dissidence. However, the political/philosophical orientation of the Charter 77 movement failed to provide President Havel with an adequate basis for comprehending and responding to the extraordinary political and economic problems of the postcommunist period.

In his discussion of Havel's presidency and the eventual corruption of the Velvet Revolution, Tucker demonstrates that the weaknesses in Charter 77 member's understanding of modernity, which did not matter while they were dissidents, seriously harmed their ability to function in a modern democratic system. Within this context, Tucker also examines Havel's recent attempt to topple the democratic but corrupt government in 1997–1998. The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patočka to Havel will be of interest to students of philosophy and politics, scholars and students of Slavic studies, and historians, as well as anyone fascinated by the nature of dissidence.

 [Download The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence fr ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence ...pdf](#)

# **The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European)**

*By Aviezer Tucker*

## **The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European)**

By Aviezer Tucker

A critical study of the philosophy and political practice of the Czech dissident movement Charter 77. Aviezer Tucker examines how the political philosophy of Jan Patocka (1907–1977), founder of Charter 77, influenced the thinking and political leadership of Vaclav Havel as dissident and president.

Presents the first serious treatment of Havel as philosopher and Patocka as a political thinker. Through the Charter 77 dissident movement in Czechoslovakia, opponents of communism based their civil struggle for human rights on philosophic foundations, and members of the Charter 77 later led the Velvet Revolution. After Patocka's self-sacrifice in 1977, Vaclav Havel emerged a strong philosophical and political force, and he continued to apply Patocka's philosophy in order to understand the human condition under late communism and the meaning of dissidence. However, the political/philosophical orientation of the Charter 77 movement failed to provide President Havel with an adequate basis for comprehending and responding to the extraordinary political and economic problems of the postcommunist period.

In his discussion of Havel's presidency and the eventual corruption of the Velvet Revolution, Tucker demonstrates that the weaknesses in Charter 77 member's understanding of modernity, which did not matter while they were dissidents, seriously harmed their ability to function in a modern democratic system. Within this context, Tucker also examines Havel's recent attempt to topple the democratic but corrupt government in 1997–1998. *The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel* will be of interest to students of philosophy and politics, scholars and students of Slavic studies, and historians, as well as anyone fascinated by the nature of dissidence.

## **The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European)**

**By Aviezer Tucker Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #2096304 in eBooks
- Published on: 2000-08-15
- Released on: 2000-08-15
- Format: Kindle eBook

 [Download The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence fr ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online *The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patočka to Havel* (Pitt Russian East European) By Aviezer Tucker

---

### Editorial Review

#### Review

"The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patočka to Havel is a very interesting, rich discussion of the effort to apply philosophical insights to real politics, a retrospective study of that effort, and a deep meditation on the meaning of intellectual responsibility in our time. Tucker writes clearly and obviously knows his subject well. This is first-rate stuff." -- *Thomas Rockmore, Duquesne University*

... very well argued, incisively written, and based on extremely wide reading. The subject matter is one of the greatest importance. -- *Jon Elster, Columbia University*

...remarkable and complex... philosophical significance and deserves to be better known... An impressively argued work, informative and rewarding. -- *Peter Caws, George Washington University*

#### From the Author

"*The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patočka to Havel* is a very interesting, rich discussion of the effort to apply philosophical insights to real politics, a retrospective study of that effort, and a deep meditation on the meaning of intellectual responsibility in our time. Tucker writes clearly and obviously knows his subject well. This is first-rate stuff."--Tom Rockmore, Duquesne University"  
"*The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patočka to Havel* is a unique and pathbreaking work. It is very well argued, incisively written, and based on extremely wide reading. The subject matter is one of the greatest importance. Moreover, the theses defended in the work are both original and persuasive. Dr. Tucker unites a sympathetic knowledge of the phenomenological tradition with a sophisticated understanding of modern politics in general and of Czechoslovak and Czech politics in particular. He has a relentlessly commonsensical attitude towards the grand political claims that are often made in the Heideggerian tradition, yet does not dismiss Heideggerian philosophy or phenomenology as meaningless. For me, one of the great revelations of reading Dr. Tucker's book was that he enabled me to see intellectual qualities in Heidegger that had previously escaped me. Being able to write on Heidegger without jargon or obscurantism is a rare feat indeed. Equally rare is Dr. Tucker's ability to straddle political philosophy, political theory, and analysis of political events."--Jon Elster, Columbia University

"In this remarkable and complex case study of the relations between philosophy and politics, Aviezer Tucker examines the concept of dissidence and its role in the emergence of the post-Soviet Czech Republic. The Czech experience is of prime philosophical significance and deserves to be better known. Not only have two Czech presidents, Tomas Masaryk and Václav Havel, been serious philosophers in their own right, but the pivotal work of the Socratic Jan Patočka animated the challenge of the Charter 77 group and gave it phenomenological grounding and rationale as 'life in truth' . . . An impressively argued work, informative and rewarding."--Peter Caws, George Washington University

"At least two books for the price of only one lurk within this volume's covers. There is, on the one hand, an introduction to the philosophical thought of Jan Patočka, with its roots in Husserl, Heidegger, Plato, and some of the other usual philosophical suspects. On the other hand, there is an informed analysis of the underlying thought and some of the principal political moments of the so-called Velvet Revolution and its aftermath . . . eminently useful in doing philosophy's job of understanding the world in which we live, as farcical and devoid of the Patočkan spirit of sacrifice as this globalized world may now have become on both sides of the former 'Iron Curtain'." William L. McBride, Purdue, *Ethics*, July 2002

". . . insightful, well-written, authoritative, and informative."Michael S. Cummings, *Utopian Studies* 13, no. 1, 247-50 2002

"This is a valuable work, well worth reading." James Satterwhite, *American Historical Review*, February 2002

"It is rare to find a book which examines the philosophical foundations of communist-era dissident movements in any of the former Soviet-bloc countries. This book . . . is therefore a welcome addition. . . .a stimulating read even for those who do not count themselves as philosophers."--Vit Novotny, *Europe-Asia Studies*

"This is an important book . . . will be of interest to . . . all readers who seriously contemplate the challenge of 'living in truth' while participating in institutional politics, even at less lofty levels than the presidency." -- Yvonne Howell, *Slavic and East European Journal*, Spring 2002

"Impressively covers many disciplines . . . Impressively far-reaching in scope . . . Tucker deserves commendation for delivering such an insightful and stimulating work."--Rick Fawn, *Slavic Review*, Fall 2003

#### About the Author

Aviezer Tucker is editor of the *East European Constitutional Review* at New York University. During the 1998-1999 academic year, Tucker was a Mellon postdoctoral research fellow at the Department of Political Science at Columbia University. Previously he taught in the department of Politics and European Studies at Palacky University in the Czech Republic.

#### Users Review

##### From reader reviews:

##### Ray Shippee:

Now a day folks who Living in the era where everything reachable by connect to the internet and the resources included can be true or not involve people to be aware of each facts they get. How a lot more to be smart in getting any information nowadays? Of course the solution is reading a book. Reading through a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information mainly this *The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel* (Pitt Russian East European) book as this book offers you rich data and knowledge. Of course the details in this book hundred pct guarantees there is no doubt in it everbody knows.

##### Arnold Allison:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their free time with their family, or their own friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, going to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Do you wish to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Can be reading a book may be option to fill your cost-free time/ holiday. The first thing that you'll ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the publication untitled *The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel* (Pitt Russian East European) can be great book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

##### Elisa Dumont:

Reading a book being new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to learn a book. When you examine a book you can get a large amount of benefit. When you read ebooks, you can improve your knowledge, since book has a lot of information onto it. The information that you will get depend on what

sorts of book that you have read. In order to get information about your review, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself read a fiction books, these us novel, comics, and soon. The The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) provide you with a new experience in looking at a book.

**Cody Chenault:**

Reading a book make you to get more knowledge from it. You can take knowledge and information from a book. Book is composed or printed or illustrated from each source that will filled update of news. Within this modern era like at this point, many ways to get information are available for you. From media social including newspaper, magazines, science reserve, encyclopedia, reference book, story and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Do you want to spend your spare time to open your book? Or just looking for the The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) when you essential it?

**Download and Read Online The Philosophy and Politics of Czech  
Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) By  
Aviezer Tucker #ZVQE9NJ1MT7**

# **Read The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) By Aviezer Tucker for online ebook**

The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) By Aviezer Tucker Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) By Aviezer Tucker books to read online.

## **Online The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) By Aviezer Tucker ebook PDF download**

**The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) By Aviezer Tucker Doc**

**The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) By Aviezer Tucker Mobipocket**

**The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) By Aviezer Tucker EPub**

**ZVQE9NJ1MT7: The Philosophy and Politics of Czech Dissidence from Patocka to Havel (Pitt Russian East European) By Aviezer Tucker**