

Christian Fleck

On Hirschman's early political convictions

Abstract

AOH offered more than once autobiographical remarks about his upbringing in Berlin and his politicization even before he left Germany for France.

His biographer Jeremy Adelman condensed these remarks into his fine biography. The presentation tries to locate AOH's early political convictions within leftist politics in the years before and after power had been handed over to Hitler in Berlin. Puzzlingly AOH did not follow the path of other upper middle class intellectuals into the orbit of Soviet led communism but chose a group left of the Social Democrats but right from the CP. Austro Marxism seems to have played an influence both on AOH's politics and economics.