Title:

A "radical democracy" not so radical? Chantal Mouffe and the immanent criticism of libe-

ralism.

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Abstract:

Chantal Mouffe's is presented as one of the leading theoreticians of the radical left, as a

disciple of Carl Schmitt and as a resolute opponent of the liberal tradition. However,

according to the her own admission, Chantal Mouffe is more in the "social democratic"

camp than in the "radical left" camp, she marks a fundamental difference with regard to Carl

Schmitt and she claims her attachment to the liberal ideal. Starting from these discrepancies,

this article defends the idea that Chantal Mouffe's thought is perceived as more radical than

it really is. Chantal Mouffe intends to reform the liberal tradition rather than denying it.

Key words:

Chantal Mouffe / Conflict / Liberalism / Radical democracy / Carl Schmitt

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