

Contents

Introduction.....	xiii
The Aristotelian Foundation of Argumentation Theory.....	xix
Knowledge and Opinion.....	xx
Theory and Praxis.....	xxi
Analytics and Dialectics.....	xxii
Topics and Rhetoric.....	xxiv
Types of Dialogue and Ways of Addressing.....	xxv
The Formation and Deformation of Aristotelian Theory in the Philosophical Tradition.....	xxvii
On the Concepts of Knowledge and Truth.....	xxvii
On the Concepts of Probability and Subjectivity.....	xxviii
On Argumentation and Rhetoric.....	xxxi
Argumentation Theory Under Construction.....	xxxii
First New Constructions.....	xxxii
Some Highlights of Contemporary Argumentation Theory.....	xliii
Sketch of the Revised Foundation of the Concept of Argument.....	lix
1 Knowledge.....	1
1.1 Sketch of the Pragmatic Concept of Theory.....	1
1.2 Action: Praxis.....	11
1.3 Theory: The Pragmatic Concept of Theory.....	16
1.4 The “Substance” That Theories Are Made of.....	23
1.4.1 Concepts.....	23
1.4.2 Propositions.....	28
1.4.3 Rules.....	31
1.5 Theory Types.....	32
1.5.1 Formal Theory.....	32
1.5.2 Technical Theory.....	33
1.5.3 Social (Cultural, Culture Forming) Theory.....	34

1.6	Theory as Knowledge.....	36
1.7	Other Types of Theoretical Bases for Arguments	48
1.8	Access to Knowledge: Teaching and Research.....	51
2	Research.....	55
2.1	The Concept of Research	55
2.2	The Limit of Orientation as the Place of Research: Question, Problem, and <i>Quaestio</i>	60
2.2.1	Are These Problems Occasions for Research?.....	63
2.3	New Theory That Supports New Actions.....	66
2.4	The Thetic Construction.....	73
2.5	It's a Small World.....	75
2.5.1	Assessment of the Entire Construction	76
2.5.2	Assessment of the Geographical Thesis.....	77
2.6	The Genesis of Thetic Theory: The Research Project.....	81
2.7	Thetic Theory in Dialogue	85
3	Subjectivity	93
3.1	The Question of the Subjective Conditions of Insight	93
3.2	Subjectivity as a System.....	98
3.2.1	Self-Reference, Self-Relation, Self-Transparency	98
3.2.2	Habitus and Way of Perceiving	103
3.3	The Theoretical Level: Orientation System	107
3.4	Dynamics of Subjectivity	115
3.5	Distance and Commitment in Thetic Speech	120
4	Basic Operations	127
4.1	Theory Minimalism, Concept of Argument	127
4.1.1	Two Kinds of Validity Claims	132
4.2	Asserting: The Thesis.....	134
4.3	Justifying: Reasons and Justifications.....	142
4.4	Criticizing: Objection and Refutation	153
4.5	Interaction of the Basic Operations in the Thetic System.....	162
4.6	The Completeness of the Triad of Basic Operations.....	165
4.6.1	The Supposedly Enormous Diversity of Argumentative Operations	166
4.6.2	The False Alternative between Justifying and Criticizing	169
5	Frame Structures	175
5.1	A Further Basic Structure.....	175
5.2	Frames as Focus and Interface	177
5.2.1	Focusing	177
5.2.2	The Interface of Subject and Object.....	179
5.2.3	The Theory-Practice Interface.....	181

5.3	Latency of the Frame	182
5.3.1	Frame and Aspect.....	182
5.3.2	Way of Seeing and Perspective	184
5.4	The Subjective Constitution of the World, the Worldly Constitution of the Subject.....	186
5.5	Frame Differences, Frame Change, Frame Sublation	189
5.6	What Does It Mean to Work?.....	195
5.7	Emergence and Treatment of Frame Structures in the Practice of Argumentation.....	201
5.7.1	How Do Frame Differences Emerge and Take Effect?.....	202
5.7.2	Some Strategies for Handling Heterogeneity.....	204
5.8	A King on His Way to the Republic.....	209
5.8.1	The Problem	209
5.8.2	The Events from Mid-1791 Until the Death of the King in January 1793	212
5.8.3	Four Arguments.....	214
6	Dialogue Events	231
6.1	The System of Moves and Successive Moves.....	231
6.2	Four Dimensions	235
6.2.1	Material Dimension and Subjective Dimension.....	236
6.2.2	Procedural Dimension and Structural Dimension.....	238
6.3	Linear and Retroflexive Argumentation	245
6.4	Discussion of Pros and Cons.....	248
6.4.1	Integration of the Process-Outcome Relationship.....	258
6.4.2	Integration of the Subject-Matter Relationship.....	259
7	Validity	267
7.1	The Intermediate Realm of the Thetic: Preliminary Sketch of the Concept of Thetic Validity	267
7.2	The Motivational Side of Validity: Communication of Insights	272
7.3	The Criterial Side of Validity: The Absence of Open Objections	278
7.4	The Three Stages of Assessing Validity	284
7.5	The Open Forum of Arguments: Trust as the Pragmatic Function of Validity.....	287
7.6	Probable Validity?	291
7.7	The Concept of Validity as a Thesis	294
7.7.1	Confronting Universalism	295
7.7.2	Confronting Relativism	303
7.7.3	The Relationship to Pluralism.....	313

8 Argument Analysis..... 315

8.1 What Is Argument Analysis?..... 315

8.2 The Problem of Interpretation..... 317

8.2.1 Guide to Argument Analysis 321

8.3 Analysis of the Hüppe–Merkel Debate

About the Embryo’s Right to Life..... 324

8.3.1 Round 1: Main Features of the Positions and Their
Possible Roots in the Participants’ Biographies 326

8.3.2 Round 2: Is it Permissible to Kill Embryos
or, Rather, Human Beings to Help Other
Human Beings? 331

8.3.3 Round 3: Is the Early Embryo
a Human Being or Not?..... 336

8.3.4 Round 4: The Issue of Abortion 345

8.3.5 Round 5: The Limits of Using Embryos 347

8.3.6 Concluding Assessment of the Discussion..... 358

9 Reflexivity 361

9.1 The Problem of Constitution 361

9.2 The Status of Argumentation Theory:
Descriptive or Normative? 367

9.3 What Is Reflection? 369

9.4 Object- and Meta-level..... 373

9.5 Rational Argumentation 377

9.6 Natural, Scientific, and Philosophical Argumentation 384

9.7 Normal and Radical Study of Argumentation 389

10 Transsubjectivity 393

10.1 What Is Reason in Argumentation?..... 393

10.2 The Dynamics of Thetic Theory 403

10.3 The Recognition of the Other..... 407

10.4 The Transcendent Core of Secular Reason 412

References 421

Index..... 437