

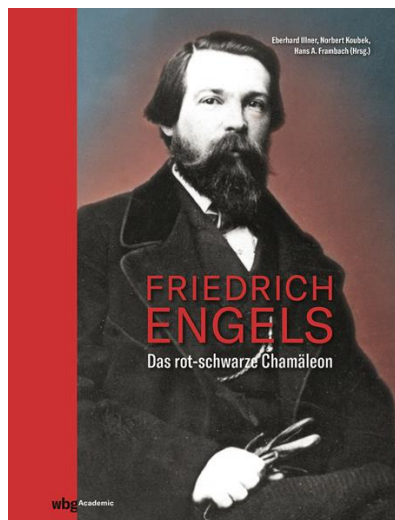
Friedrich Engels

Das rot-schwarze Chamäleon

Edited by Eberhard Illner, Hans Frambach,
Norbert Koubek

This volume assembles an international cast of scholars to explore the entwined themes of technology, capitalism, and work in the life and writings of Friedrich Engels. Not a biography in any conventional sense, the essays collectively reassess Engels's engagement with nineteenth-century industrial capitalism and its meanings for work and social organisation. Drawing on fresh and original research, fourteen authors recalibrate Engels's contribution to the nineteenth-century world of political economy, socialism, and political philosophy -- themes and positions on the "transformation of the world" that inflect current debates on work, technology, and the future of capitalism.

Friedrich Engels had many faces. He was a worldly entrepreneur, a firebrand revolutionary, a political journalist, amateur scientist, soldier, and an expert in military science. But he was also a well-heeled bohemian, a nature lover, a polyglot, an enthusiast of foxhunts, and, not least, a gravedigger of the bourgeoisie. His talent to lead various bourgeois and socialist lives inspires the image of a 'red-black chameleon'. Although Engels's role as Marx's intellectual and political partner remains paramount, his complex, multifaceted life was much more. Incorporating a range of disciplines in economics, history, philosophy, political science, and the history of science, this survey offers new sightlines to appraise this outside figure.



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