

La dimensione istituzionale della fiducia

MICHELE BOCCHIOLA

The Institutional Dimension of Trust

Abstract: This essay examines the institutional dimension of trust, an aspect that has been overlooked in contemporary philosophical debate. While disciplines such as political science have studied trust in institutions from an external perspective – focusing on how citizens trust institutions – the essay adopts an internal perspective, concentrating on how public officeholders develop mutual trust within institutions. Institutional trust is distinct from personal relationships and goes beyond mere adherence to formal rules. Although there are objections that view it as redundant, the essay argues that institutional trust facilitates cooperation and improves institutional functioning by motivating public officeholders to uphold not only the rules but also the institutions' normative values and ideals. The essay is divided into three sections: the distinction between institutional and personal trust, a definition of institutional trust, and responses to criticisms.

Keywords: Trust, Institutional trust, Public officeholders, Office accountability, Institutional roles, Institutional rules.

notizie di POLITEIA, XL, 156, 2024. ISSN 1128-2401 pp. 15-33