

SPIN-код: 4897-4450
 ORCID: 0000-0003-0808-8900
 AuthorID (SCOPUS): 56308857400
 ResearcherID: C-7039-2018
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 Адрес для переписки: abdidikin@bk.ru

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H. KELSEN

The Graduate Institute
 of International Studies,
 Geneva, Switzerland

Translated from English
A. B. DIDIKIN

Institute of State and Law RAS,
 Moscow, Russia

CAUSALITY AND RETRIBUTION

A translation of a paper by the Austrian philosopher and lawyer Hans Kelsen devoted to the conceptual understanding of the principle of causality in humanitarian knowledge is presented. The paper formulates and justifies the thesis that the origins of ideas about causality in nature should be found in ancient mythology and philosophy, where the key reference point for the perception of nature and society was the principle of retribution. On the basis of historical and philosophical reconstruction of the philosophical ideas of Heraclitus and Democritus Kelsen traces the evolution of the principle of causality to the present day, including the emergence of new theories in the field of quantum mechanics and mathematics.

Keywords: causality, retribution, mythology, ancient philosophy, Hans Kelsen.

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ResearcherID: C-7039-2018
 Address for correspondence: abdidikin@bk.ru

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About the translator

DIDIKIN Anton Borisovich, Doctor of Philosophical Sciences, Candidate of Law, Head of Legal Philosophy, Legal History and Legal Theory Department, Leading Researcher.

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 ORCID: 0000-0003-0808-8900
 AuthorID (SCOPUS): 56308857400