Dániel Paksi, Mihály Héder

Guide to Personal Knowledge: The Philosophy of Michael Polanyi

Tacit Knowledge, Emergence and the Fiduciary Program

About the author

Dániel Paksi has an MA in History and an MA in Philosophy (both at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest) and a Ph.D. in History and Philosophy of Science (Budapest University of Technology and Economics). Dr. Paksi was a Lecturer of Philosophy and History of Science from 2006 at BUTE and between 2006 and 2018 at ELU. His main fields of expertise are theories of emergence and evolution, philosophy of biology, and Michael Polanyi’s philosophy. Paksi is the author of ‘Personal Reality: The Emergentist Concept of Science, Evolution, and Culture’ (Two Volumes, Pickwick Publications, 2019).

Mihály Héder is a Software Engineer who turned to philosophy when facing some fundamental questions around Artificial Intelligence. He achieved his doctorate in philosophy by dwelling into the topic of computer epistemology in 2014 at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics. Here he applied Michael Polanyi’s framework and defined robot tacit knowledge. He teaches generic and AI ethics and philosophy of technology at his alma mater. Dr. Héder is deeply concerned about revealing the power of humanities for people with a STEM background. For Héder’s other works see: https://www.filozofia.bme.hu/people/mihaly.heder

Summary

This book will help readers understand the most important book of Michael Polanyi, ‘Personal Knowledge’, and help them grasp the essence of his philosophical thinking. In this volume, Polanyi’s goals are first reconstructed, and then his main philosophical arguments are introduced. The discussion is limited to the most crucial ideas that are indispensable for the arc of his book: tacit knowledge, emergence and the fiduciary program.

The thirteen chapters of this volume explain the essence of the thirteen chapters of ‘Personal Knowledge’. The page numbers in this book work just as well with the 2015 ‘Enlarged Edition’ of ‘Personal Knowledge’ as with the original issues.

Whether you just want to get the key quotation and the context right on tacit knowledge, emergence or the fiduciary program, or want to have a deep dive for your scholarly research in philosophy and management, this book is for you.

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