

# Republic: A Philosophical Masterpiece by Plato | Oxford World Classics



**Republic (Oxford World's Classics)** by Robin Waterfield

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3011 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Word Wise : Enabled

Print length : 561 pages

Lending : Enabled



**Plato's *Republic*** is one of the most influential works of philosophy ever written. Written in the 4th century BCE, it explores fundamental questions about the nature of justice, the ideal state, and the good life.

The book is divided into 10 books, each of which addresses a different aspect of these questions. In the first book, Plato introduces the main characters of the dialogue: Socrates, Glaucon, and Adeimantus. Socrates argues that justice is not simply a matter of following the laws, but of living a virtuous life. He then goes on to describe his vision of an ideal state, in which the citizens are divided into three classes: the guardians, the auxiliaries, and the producers.

In the subsequent books, Plato explores the different virtues that are necessary for a just state. These virtues include wisdom, courage,

temperance, and justice. Plato also discusses the role of education in developing these virtues and the importance of music and art in creating a harmonious society.

The *Republic* is a complex and challenging work, but it is also a deeply rewarding one. Plato's insights into the nature of human nature and the good life are still relevant today, and his vision of an ideal state continues to inspire people around the world.

### **About the Author**

**Plato** (428/427–348/347 BCE) was a Greek philosopher, mathematician, student of Socrates, writer of philosophical dialogues, and founder of the Academy in Athens, the first institution of higher learning in the Western world. He is widely considered the most influential of all philosophers, especially in the Western tradition. Plato is also considered one of the founders of Western thought, along with Socrates (his mentor) and Aristotle (his student). His writings spanned a wide range of subjects, notably philosophy (especially ethics, political philosophy, and metaphysics), but they also included mathematics, natural science, and religion.

### **About the Translator**

**Robin Waterfield** is a British author and translator. He has translated a wide range of classical and contemporary works, including works by Homer, Virgil, Ovid, Cicero, and Montaigne. His translations are known for their accuracy, clarity, and elegance.

### **Reviews**

**"One of the most important works of philosophy ever written. Plato's insights into the nature of justice, the ideal state, and the good life are**

still relevant today." - *The New York Times*

"A masterpiece of Western literature and thought. Plato's *Republic* is essential reading for anyone interested in philosophy, politics, or the human condition." - *The Guardian*

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