

Jurgen Habermas

Quotes

Political, War, Understanding, Government, People, September 11, Fall, Decision, Cynical, Exercise, Goal, Historical, Manhattan, Order, Fighting, Impact, Years, Self, Terrorism, Danger

From a moral point of view, there is no excuse for terrorist acts, regardless of the motive or the situation under which they are carried out.

~Jurgen Habermas

The only knowledge that can truly orient action is knowledge that frees itself from mere human interests and is based in Ideas - in other words knowledge that has taken a theoretical attitude.

~Jurgen Habermas

Global terrorism is extreme both in its lack of realistic goals and in its cynical exploitation of the vulnerability of complex systems.

~Jurgen Habermas

The task of universal pragmatics is to identify and reconstruct universal conditions of possible mutual understanding.

~Jurgen Habermas

The speaker must choose a comprehensible expression so that speaker and hearer can understand one another.

~Jurgen Habermas

Each murder is one too many.

~Jurgen Habermas

Reaching and understanding is the process of bringing about an agreement on the presupposed basis of validity claims that are mutually recognized.

~Jurgen Habermas

One never really knows who one's enemy is.

~Jurgen Habermas

I shall develop the thesis that anyone acting communicatively must, in

performing any speech act, raise universal validity claims and suppose that they can be vindicated.

~Jurgen Habermas

Today's Islamic fundamentalism is also a cover for political motifs. We should not overlook the political motifs we encounter in forms of religious fanaticism

~Jurgen Habermas

Since our complex societies are highly susceptible to interferences and accidents, they certainly offer ideal opportunities for a prompt disruption of normal activities.

~Jurgen Habermas

The difference between political terror and ordinary crime becomes clear during the change of regimes, in which former terrorists become well-regarded representatives of their country.

~Jurgen Habermas

Disappointment over nationalistic authoritarian regimes may have contributed to the fact that today religion offers a new and subjectively more convincing language for old political orientations.

~Jurgen Habermas

Partisans fight on familiar territory with professed political objectives to conquer power. This is what distinguishes them from terrorists

~Jurgen Habermas

The state is in danger of falling into disrepute due to the evidence of its inadequate resources.

~Jurgen Habermas

The uncertainty of the danger belongs to the essence of terrorism.

~Jurgen Habermas

Since the intervention in Afghanistan, we suddenly began to notice when, in political discussions, we found ourselves only among Europeans or Israelis.

~Jurgen Habermas

Some of those drawn into the holy war had been secular nationalists only a few years before. If one looks at the biographies of these people, remarkable continuities are revealed.

~Jurgen Habermas

The clever, albeit fragile, coalition against terrorism brought together by the U.S. government might be able to advance the transition from classical international law to a cosmopolitan order.

~Jurgen Habermas

The misery in war-torn Afghanistan is reminiscent of images from the Thirty Years' War.

~Jurgen Habermas

If the September 11 terror attack is supposed to constitute a caesura in world history, it must be able to stand comparison to other events of world historical impact.

~Jurgen Habermas

A threatened nation can react to uncertain dangers solely through administrative channels, to the truly embarrassing situation of perhaps overreacting

~Jurgen Habermas

I take as my fundamental starting point the fundamental distinction between work and interaction

~Jurgen Habermas

I cannot imagine a context that would some day, in some manner,

make the monstrous crime of September 11 an understandable or comprehensible political act

~Jurgen Habermas

Historically, terrorism falls in a category different from crimes that concern a criminal court judge.

~Jurgen Habermas

After September 11, the European governments have completely failed. They are incapable of seeing beyond their own national scope of interests.

~Jurgen Habermas

Manhattan... capital of the 20th century, a city that has fascinated me for more than three decades.

~Jurgen Habermas

Perhaps at a later point important developments will be traced back to September 11. But for now we do not know which of the many scenarios will actually hold in the future.

~Jurgen Habermas

Instead of the international police action we had hoped for during the war in Kosovo, there are wars again - conducted with state-of-the-art technology, but still in the old style

~Jurgen Habermas

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