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	Sommario/riassunto	During the 1960s the German philosopher Jurgen Habermas introduced the notion of a ""bourgeois public sphere"" in order to describe the symbolic arena of political life and conversation that originated with the cultural institutions of the early eighteenth-century; since then the

""public sphere"" itself has become perhaps one of the most debated concepts at the very heart of modernity. For Habermas, the tension between the administrative power of the state, with its understanding of sovereignty, and the emerging institutions of the bourgeoisie-coffee houses, periodicals, encyclopedias, litera