Abstract
This article examines, in general lines, the model of rationality proposed by Jürgen Habermas as an attempt of overcoming of the epistemological positions of the first Critical Theory. First, it develops the conception of the reason raised by Adorno and Horkheimer in his emblematic work Dialectical of the Illustration. Then, it shows how, according to Habermas, this conception would drive to dissolution of the emancipist ideal inscribed in modern reason. Later, it shows the different phases of the itinerary for which the modern reason turns into a frustrated modality of reason: the positivism. Finally, it shows the habermasian attempt of reconstruction of a rationality in where there is place to a few emancipist ideal inscribed in the own reason.

Keywords
reason, modernity, interest, emancipation, communication.