



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

**National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens**

EST. 1837

Department of History and Philosophy of Science

Newsletter no. 3

January-February 2024

The Newsletter of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science (PHS) aims to inform about activities of its members of staff and students. The History and Philosophy of Science is an interdisciplinary academic field, which studies science as a complex historical, social, and cultural phenomenon and highlights the philosophical dimensions of its theories and practice. It examines the philosophical, conceptual, and historical approaches to science in general, as well as to a variety of particular research fields, including the humanities and social sciences, natural sciences, psychology and cognitive sciences, life and medical sciences, mathematics and logic, and new technologies. The [faculty members](#) of the Department include some of the world experts in their respective fields, while several of the members lead or collaborate in [international research projects](#). The Department consists of three Divisions: History of Science and Technology, Philosophy and Theory of Science, and Technology, and Cognitive Science. It offers the sole [undergraduate programme](#) of studies on History and Philosophy of Science in Greece and 9 [postgraduate programmes](#) of studies in both Greek and English, which cover a wide range of philosophical topics, the history of science and technology, studies in society, science and technology, digital humanities and augmented textual studies, and cognitive psychology. PHS is among the highest rated of humanities departments in Greece, in terms of international research citations.

Awards and Distinctions

- The Department warmly congratulate Dr **Michael Sotiropoulos**, who was recently elected **Lecturer in Modern Greek Studies** at the University of **Edinburgh**. Dr Sotiropoulos is a postdoctoral researcher of the PHS and member of the research group of Prof. **Aristides Hatzis**.

Research News

- Prof. **Aristides Hatzis** conducted research in the archives of the British Foreign Office in London and the Special Collections at the New York Public Library in November 2023 and January 2024, respectively. One of the findings of his research in London was featured in the largest Greek newspaper, [Kathimerini](#) (31/12/2023). He will give a series of 4 lectures in [Pyrna](#) on the fin-

dings from his research from 2018 to date. In early January he presented a paper on Ioannis Kapodistrias' response to the 1828 plague epidemic at the annual conference of the American Historical Association in San Francisco.

- **Konstantinos Konstantis**, PhD Candidate, Department of History and Philosophy of Science (dissertation advisor: Prof. **Aristotle Tympas**), is currently a **visiting doctoral student at**

the Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge, UK. A dissertation fellow of HFRI who works on a dissertation on the emergence of engineering ethics (especially AI ethics), Konstantinos has recently completed internships at the Hellenic Republic National Commission for Bioethics and Technoethics and as the Elizabeth & Emerson Pugh Young Scholar in Residence at the IEEE History Center (USA).

Past Events – Talks

- Professor **Vassilios Karakostas** (PHS) gave a talk on “**Perspectivist Account of Truth-Theoretic Semantics in Quantum Mechanics**” in the framework of the **9th European Conference of Philosophy of Science Association (EPSA)**, in Belgrade, Serbia (September 2023).

- Dr **Yulie Foka-Kavaliaraki**, postdoctoral researcher (PHS), participated with a full in-person talk at a scientific conference, organised by the **Museum of Natural History in London**, on **16 November 2023**. The title of her presentation was “**Problem solving and exploratory behavior in *Octopus vulgaris* in captivity**” (co-author, Prof.



Talk by Dr Yulie Foka-Kavaliaraki, Museum of Natural History, London

D.E. Raitzos). Her preliminary research (which was conducted at the Aquarium

Lab of the Department of Biology) was also presented at the same Museum in November 2022.

- Professor **Theodore Arabatzis** gave a talk on “**Contingency and counterfactuals in understanding science historically**” in the framework of the international conference “**Explanation and Understanding in Philosophy of Science**” organised by the Department of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, and the Serbian Academy of Sciences in Belgrade (5-8 December 2023).

- Two hundred teachers from the Greek educational system attended a workshop titled “**Environment, Sustainability, Education: The contribution of the field Science, Technology, Society-Science and Technology Studies (STS)**”, which was organised by environmental education centers and directorates of education on the Thrace and East Macedonia region of Greece. Lectures were given by Prof. **Aristotle Tympas**, director of the NKUA STS graduate program, Dr. **Georgia**

Fermeli, Special Teaching Personnel at the History and Philosophy of Science Department, Dr. **Giorgos Velegrakis**, who teaches the course on environment/sustainability at the NKUA STS graduate program, and Dr. **Kostas Vattes**, a graduate of the doctoral program of the History and Philosophy of Science Department who teaches in the secondary education in Thrace.

- On Monday 15 January 2024, on the occasion of the celebration of the [World Logic Day](#), a series of talks and interventions on the subject of logic took place in Room A in the teaching building of the PHS Department. The World Logic Day has been designated, by decision of UNESCO, as 14 January (in Greece, for technical reasons, it was celebrated on 15 January). It is the day on which Kurt Gödel died and Alfred Tarski was born. The World Logic Day has been celebrated in Greece, too, in recent years, on the initiative and organisation of the associate professor in the National Technical University of Athens Petros Stefaneas.



Participants “Wold Logic Day”, Hall A, PHS

This year’s event was organised in cooperation with PHS, and the keynote speaker was the Associate Professor of PHS **Yannis Stephanou**, on the topic “A Theory of Truth”. His talk was followed by a discussion, and then all those present spoke about the work they have done, or would like to do, in logic. The

event was also webcast, and a video recording has been posted at this [link](#) (search with the term “world logic day”). It was attended by about forty people in physical attendance.

- The inaugural event of the new “**Laboratory for Political and Institutional Theory and the History of Ideas**” took place in the building of the Hellenic Parliament and, in particular, in the historic Senate Hall. The conference, “[1821 on the First Page: The Greek Revolution in the Foreign and Domestic Press](#)” was co-organised with the Library of the Hellenic Parliament and the British School at Athens.



Talk by Prof. Aristides Hatzis, Senate Hall, Hellenic Parliament

There were two keynote talks and 9 panels with 30 participants. At the opening of the conference, Prof. **Aristides Hatzis** presented a major research project on the Newspapers of the Revolution, which began in 2020 with funding from the National Committee for the celebration of the Bicentennial from the Greek Revolution and the University of Athens and will continue until the end of 2025 with funding from the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (ELIDEK) and the University of Athens. In the first

part of the project, the 23 Greek newspapers published in the revolutionary area from 1821 to 1832 were indexed (1,770 separate issues, 8,300 pages, over 30,000 different news items). The official newspaper of the Ionian Islands, and the London *Times* have also been catalogued (as far as the Greek Revolution is concerned). The *Times* published 4,000 news-items on the Greek Revolution, from 1821 to 1832. In the new phase of the project, 17 other newspapers (10 British, 4 French, 1 Austrian, 1 Italian, 1 Spanish) will be indexed. The findings will be freely

available on a special website, a kind of portal on the Greek Revolution.



Speakers and audience, Senate Hall, Hellenic Parliament

Forthcoming Events – Talks

- The **Division of Philosophy and Theory of Science and Technology** (PHS) organises the following seminar at the Department of History and Philosophy of Science (Hall C, 20 February 2024, 7pm):

Dr **Vanessa Seifert**:

«**Metaphysics of Chemistry: What are chemical reactions?**»

- **Graduate Seminar, Department of History and Philosophy of Science**, Fall 2023. The meetings will be held live and online in the GOUDAROULIS HALL at the Secretariat Building, (first stop of the Campus), on certain Tuesdays from, 18.00-20.00. The link to join via Webex is [here](#). Programme:

-6 Φεβρουαρίου, 2024

Eno Agolli (Rutgers University, USA):
“Counterpossible conditionals and presupposition failure”

-27 Φεβρουαρίου, 2024

Κοσμάς Μπρουσαλης (ΕΚΠΑ)

«Τα Κατωφερή Μονοπάτια προς τον Δομικό Ρεαλισμό: Μια Εσωτερική

Ασυνέπεια και μια Πρόταση Συμφιλίωσης»

-26 Μαρτίου, 2024

Ελένη Μαθιού ([Universität Bonn](#))

«Η αφανής αντιπαράθεση για την αυτοσυνειδησία»

-16 Απριλίου, 2024

Αθανάσιος Χριστοφιλόπουλος (ΕΚΠΑ)

«Από το φάσμα φωτός στο κβάντο φωτός. Μία ιστορική αναδρομή»

- The **Athens Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy** is a forum for scientific research and exchange on all topics and aspects of Ancient Philosophy, including its modern reception. It is organised by **The Athens MA in Ancient Philosophy**, in cooperation with the Research Centre for Greek Philosophy of the Academy of Athens. The talks take place once a month, on a Thursday at 7 pm, at the Elli Lambridi Philosophical Library (9 Ypsilantou Street, 10675 Athens). The duration of the talks is between 30-40 minutes, followed by an extensive, free, focused,

critical discussion that can last up to 60 minutes. The programme for the academic year 2023-24 is as follows:

- 15 Febr. **George Karamanolis:**

“A forgotten aristotelian ethical work: the case of *Magna Moralia*”

- 14 Mar. **Chloe Balla:**

“Socrates in the *Phaedo*”

- 18 Apr. **Doukas Kapantais:**

“‘Necessary conclusion’ in Kripke frames and in *Prior Analytics*, I, 10”

- 16 May **Anna Tigani:**

“Ten Categories as models of dialectical problems and premisses”

- 13 June **Alexander Nehamas:**

“What Do We Learn About Philosophers and Philosophy in *Republic V*?”

• Associate Professor **Eleni Gemtou** will give a series of 3 online lectures in [Pyrna](#) on “**Neo-Impressionism**”:

First talk: Επιστήμη και Ιμπρεσιονισμός ως προϋποθέσεις για το κίνημα του Νεοϊμπρεσιονισμού (13/2/2024, 18:30).

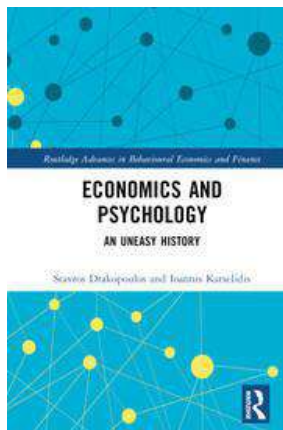
Second talk: Οι πρωτεργάτες του Νεοϊμπρεσιονισμού και το έργο τους (20/2/2024, 18:30).

Third Talk: Οι προεκτάσεις του Νεοϊμπρεσιονισμού μετά τον θάνατο του Seurat (27/2/2024, 18:30).

Publications of Members of the Department

• **Monograph:**

Drakopoulos, Stavros and Ioannis Katselidis, [Economics and Psychology: An Uneasy History](#), Abingdon: Routledge, 2024.



Abstract: With the rise of modern behavioural economics and increasing interest in subjective well-being research, the question of the relationship between economics and psychology has again been brought to the fore. Drawing on the history of economic thought, this book explores the historical relationship between the two disciplines. The book opens with a description of the primary

philosophical foundations for early arguments supporting the interplay between economics and psychology. Both classical economists and other prominent pre-marginalists writers are examined in this context. The ensuing discussion explores the marginalist revolution and how well-known economists like Jevons and Edgeworth, influenced by pre-marginalist writers, incorporated ideas and findings from psychology. The book then describes how, following the so-called “Paretian turn”, early neoclassical economists attempted to expel psychological concepts from economic analysis. Combined with the increasing formalization, the influence of the classical physics scientific ideal, and the impact of positivism, this methodological stance became dominant in modern mainstream economics. In contrast, non-mainstream traditions continued to acknowledge the significance of psychology in their economic analysis. This tradition

includes inter alia the so-called old behavioural economics, mainly of Herbert Simon and George Katona. The revival of psychology in economics came mainly with the emergence and development of new behavioural economics as a distinct branch during the last few decades. The trend was further assisted by the emergence of the economics of subjective well-being. Finally, the book briefly explores the state of the current debate concerning the relationship between economics and psychology. This book will be invaluable reading to anyone interested in the history of the study of economics and psychology, as well as of great interest to students and scholars of history of economic thought, psychological economics, behavioural economics and the history and philosophy of social sciences.

• **Edited Volume:**

Panagiotis Charitos, Theodore Arabatzis, Harry Cliff, Günther Dissertori, Juliette Forneris, Jason Li-Ying, eds., [*Big Science in the 21st Century Economic and Societal Impacts*](#), Bristol: IOP Publishing Ltd , 2023, pp. xviii + 426.



Abstract: Authored by a diverse group of contributors, *Big Science in the 21st Century*

ry offers a multifaceted view of the challenges, merits, and transformations of Big Science across different disciplines and geographical boundaries. It delves into the transformative role of Big Science in shaping the world we live in, from its historical roots in the aftermath of the Second World War to its contemporary interdisciplinary and international nature. The book is organised in five parts, each offering unique insights into the impact of Big Science. The first part looks at lessons from Big Science organizations and best practices in increasing the return of benefits to society. The second part offers the voice of key economists who have worked on assessment exercises concerning the socioeconomic benefits of large-scale research infrastructures. The third part traces the development of Big Science in the aftermath of World War II. The fourth part focus on the educational and cultural impacts that Big Science has beyond the laboratory, from the art gallery to the school classroom. The last part brings a more global perspective with contributions from other continents outside North America and Western Europe. The book is aimed at professionals involved in science policy and administration, economists interested in evaluating the results of scientific research, historians of science and technology, and anyone with an interest in scientific outreach and communication.

• **Άρθρα:**

- Arapostathis, S., Fotopoulos, Y. (2023). "[Between Material Dependencies, Natural Commons and Politics of](#)

- [Electrical Transitions: State as Networks of Power in Greece, 1940–2010.](#)” In: Carlson, W.B., Conway, E.M. (eds) *Electrical Conquest. Archimedes*, vol 67. Springer, Cham., 141-171.
- Drakopoulos, S. (2024). [“Value Judgements, Positivism and Utility Comparisons in Economics”](#), *Journal of Business Ethics*, 189.3: 423-37.
 - Gotsis, G., Grimani, A. (2024a). [“Fostering Vaccination of Older Adults Against COVID-19”](#). In: Marques, J. (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Spirituality*. Springer, Cham.
 - Gotsis, G., Grimani, A. (2024b). [“Leadership and Inclusive Healthcare System: Managing Vaccine Hesitancy Among Healthcare Personnel”](#). In: Marques, J. (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Spirituality*. Springer, Cham.
 - Gotsis, G., Grimani, A. (2024c). [“Fostering Inclusive Healthcare During the COVID-19 Pandemic Through Religious Leadership”](#). In: Marques, J. (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Spirituality*. Springer, Cham.
 - Gotsis, G., Grimani, A. (2024d). [“Humanistic Leadership: A Global Roadmap Toward Inclusion”](#). In: Marques, J. (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Spirituality*. Springer, Cham.
 - Gotsis, G., Grimani, A. (2024e). [“Leading with Compassion: Fostering Inclusive Healthcare Organizations”](#). In: Marques, J. (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Spirituality*. Springer, Cham.
 - Hatzimoysis, A. (2023). «Η αναγκαιότητα του καλού», *Δευκαλίων* 37/1-2: 5-21.
 - Hatzimoysis, A. (2024). [“Valent Representation: Problems and Prospects”](#), *Journal of Philosophy of Emotion* 5.2: 17-23.
 - Karampatsos, C., Tzokas, S., Velegrakis, G., & Harlaftis, G. (2023). [“Is There Oil in Greece? Oil Exploration and Scientific Conflict during the First Years of the Greek Geological Survey \(1917–1925\)”](#). *The Historical Review/La Revue Historique*, 19(1), 77–112.
 - Karampatsos, C., Tzokas, S., Velegrakis, G., (2023). [“The endless potentiality: A century and a half of Greek oil aspirations \(and what often becomes of them\)”](#), *Journal of Energy History/Revue d’Histoire de l’Énergie [Online]*, n°10.
 - Sachini, E., Sioumalas-Christodoulou, K., Chrysomallidis, Ch., Siganos, G., Megas, G., Androutsopoulou, M., Tympas, A. and N. Karampekios. (2024). [“Mapping the Technology Transfer Offices in Greece: Initial Outcomes Concerning Medical and Health Technologies and Next Steps”](#), *Journal of Knowledge Economy*.
 - Simos, M. (2023). [“Uncanny Traces: Villiers de l’Isle-Adam’s Critique of the Metaphysics of Selfhood”](#). In D. Goodman and M. Clemente (eds.), *Routledge International Handbook of Psychoanalysis, Subjectivity, and Technology*, Routledge, pp. 302–322.
 - Tzafestas, E. (2023). [“Toward Epidemic Computer Art”](#), *Proceedings of GA2023, XXVI Generative Art*, Rome, Italy, Dec. 2023.
 - Baumgartner, R., Arora, P., Bath, C. (...), Vlantonis, K., Wiggert K., & Willi-

ams, R. [“Fair and equitable AI in biomedical research and healthcare: Social science perspectives”](#), *Artificial Intelligence in Medicine* 144 (2023): 102658.

New Member of Staff

• The Department welcomes Dr **Katerina Vlantoni**, who has been elected **Assistant Professor of History of Biomedical Science and Technology**. Katerina Vlantoni (BSc & PhD NKUA, MA Maastricht University) specialises in the history of biomedical science and technology. She is the Principal Investigator of the project [“**BIO-CONTEXT: Contextualizing biobanking in Greece: histories, practices, discourses**”](#), which is funded by HFRI. Her research has been supported by: a grant from the Visiting Fellows Program, History Office, US National Institutes of Health (Bethesda, USA); the Heraklitos II scholarship (European Community Fund and “Education and Lifelong Learning” of the National Strategic Reference Framework); the “IKY Excellence Scholarship for Postdoctoral Research in Greece - Siemens Program”; and, funding from the Onassis Foundation. She has participated as a postdoctoral researcher in several European and national projects, including “InsSciDE: Inventing a shared Science Diplomacy for Europe” (EU Horizon 2020), “HoNESt: History of Nuclear Energy and Society” (EU Eura-

tom Research and Training Programme) and “RISK CHANGE” (EU Creative Europe). As a doctoral student, she participated in the research projects “Papyrus: Cultural and historical digital libraries dynamically mined from news archives” (EU FP7) and “Inventing Europe: Technology and the Making of Europe, 1850 to the Present” (European Science Foundation).



Swearing-in Ceremony, Main Building, NKUA
She has taught undergraduate and graduate courses at the NKUA, the University of West Attica (Department of Biomedical Engineering and Department of Biomedical Sciences) and the Hellenic Open University. Her work has been published in international and Greek journals as well as in edited volumes. She is a member of the Management Committee of the European network of historians of technology “Tensions of Europe: Research Network on History, Technology and Europe”.

New Laboratory

• On December 1, 2023, the decree on the establishment of the **“Laboratory for Political and Institutional Theory and the History of Ideas”** was published in the Government Gazette. Five faculty

members (**Giorgos Gotsis, Stavros Drakopoulos, Panagiotis Thanassas, Petros Bouras-Vallianatos, Aristides Hatzis**) and one member of the laboratory teaching staff (**Katerina Dermitzaki**) were appointed to the of

Laboratory. On January 29, 2024, the members of the Laboratory elected Professor **Aristides Hatzis** as Director. The Laboratory will be housed in the new building, will have an extensive

library on Greek history, political theory, history of institutions and ideas, computers with access to the network of the University of Athens and a slide projection machine.

New MSc Programme

- The new English-speaking two-year **Msc/MA “Logic”** aims to promote knowledge and research in the science of logic and its interaction with mathematics (mainly in connection with foundational questions) and philosophy (mainly in connection with logic’s application to central philosophical branches). It will provide high-level training serving both the needs of research and the needs of education and every other area that presupposes the skills of analytic and synthetic thought, by offering three specializations: “History and Philosophy of Logic”, “Logic and Foundations of Mathematics” and “Mathematical Logic”. It is the product of a collaboration between the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Department of History and Philosophy of Science), the National Technical University of Athens (School of Applied Mathematical and

Physical Sciences) and the Academy of Athens (Center for Research in Greek Philosophy). The science of logic studies correct reasoning, that is, the principles and methods of validly deriving conclusions from assumptions, independently of specific contexts of investigation. Despite its great importance, no graduate programme in the subject “Logic” is currently in operation in Greek higher education or, more generally, in the higher education of southeastern Europe and Mediterranean. In Greece, there is the programme “Algorithms, Logic and Discrete Mathematics” (in the Department of Informatics and Telecommunications in the NKUA), but it has a very different character, since it focuses on theoretical computer science. Thus, the new graduate programme will fill a gap. It is intended to come into operation in September 2024.

Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University Campus, Ano Ilisia, 15771, Athens, Greece. **Tel.** +30-2107275586. **Website:** <https://en.phs.uoa.gr/>

Head of Department: Professor Anthony Hatzimoysis

This **Newsletter** was prepared by Assoc. Professor Petros Bouras-Vallianatos

The **Newsletter’s website** is maintained by Professor Christos Papatheodorou

To register, please email to pbourasval@phs.uoa.gr

The **next Newsletter** is scheduled to be published in **early April 2024**. Please send your news to pbourasval@phs.uoa.gr by **29 March 2024**.