



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

**National and Kapodistrian  
University of Athens**

— EST. 1837 —

## Department of History and Philosophy of Science

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Newsletter no. 6

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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.

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### Awards and Distinctions

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- **Anders Korsgaard**, PhD Candidate in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science (supervisor: Assistant Professor **Katerina Vlantoni**), participated in the BBMRI-ERIC ACADEMY «[1<sup>st</sup> ELSI Symposium: Ethical, Legal and Societal Insights and Outlook for Biobanks and Biomedical Research](#)» in Lyon, France, from **June 4th to 6th, 2024**. Anders gave a talk entitled «Envisioning the European Health Data

Space: Implications upon the Reshaping of Biobanking Infrastructure», for which he received a «**Young Researchers Award**». In sharing his experience from the conference, Anders stated that “The conference, with its various topical sections where a plurality of perspectives and expertise across countries was shared, provided me with a moment to reflect more thoroughly on the interplay between policy, practice,

and experience in biobanking and health data sharing; particularly on how the enabling of cross-border health data sharing is indeed multifaceted - and that health data sharing, as well as research and biomedical practice, can take on local forms in response to what local infrastructures enable.”

- [Theodore Arabatzis](#), Professor of History and Philosophy of Science, was elected **Ordinary Member of the European Academy of Sciences** in the Social Sciences and Humanities Divisions Section (**July 2024**).
- After a highly competitive process, the National Archives of the United Kingdom has selected Prof. **Aristides**

**Hatzis** as a **Delegate to the Archives’ Advisory Group** to represent two different groups at the same time. Specifically, Prof. Hatzis will represent both the “Academic Users” of the British Archives and the “Overseas Researchers”. Until now, the representative of the latter group has been Canadian, while the 3 representatives of the Academic Users (as well as any other group on the Advisory Group) have been British. Prof. Hatzis’ election means in practice that he will be involved in shaping the long-term strategy of the Archives and its policy towards researchers, representing above all the needs of the community of European historians.

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## Research News

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- The research project [“Testing under crisis, a history from HIV/AIDS to COVID-19: between public debates and health policies – CrisisTesting”](#) was launched in February 2024, led by the Principal Investigator **Katerina Vlantoni**, Assistant Professor in the HPS Department. The project is implemented in the framework of H.F.R.I call “Basic research Financing (Horizontal support of all Sciences)” under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan “Greece 2.0” funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU (H.F.R.I. Project Number: 16024). Building on the history of medical science and technology, CrisisTesting explores the interplay between developing, implementing and communicating public health policies in relation to testing over the course of four decades, from the HIV/AIDS to the COVID-19 pandemics. CrisisTesting pays attention to sociomedical appro-

priations of tests during health crises by studying the public health policies and the public debates in Greece. In other words, takes into account the national context in order to examine the appropriation of testing technologies, from medical discourse to public discourse. The aim is to study testing and screening practices in historical perspective by exploring the ways they get entrenched in health policies during crises. To carry out the research, CrisisTesting relies on a synthesis of methodological approaches, drawing upon historiographical suggestions from the history of science, technology and medicine, and the history of epidemics/pandemics, while enriching theoretically the research framework with approaches from the social studies of medicine and science & technology studies. The research team consists of 5 members: **Athanasios Barlagiannis** (Re-

searcher in the Modern Greek History Research Centre, Academy of Athens), **Eirini Mergoupi-Savaidou** (post-doctoral researcher), **Marilena Pateraki** (postdoctoral researcher), **Kostas Raptis** (postdoctoral researcher) and **Katerina Vlantoni**.

- The research project “*Ex Oriente Scientia: Medieval Greek Translations of Arabic Medical Works and their Influence on Byzantine Medicine*” (BYZMED) was formally launched in October 2024. It is led by Assoc. Professor **Petros Bouras-Vallianatos** and aims to act as an interim project for the preparation of an ERC Consolidator Grant 2026, which will provide the first comprehensive study of the introduction and dissemination of Arabic medical knowledge to Byzantium. The project is funded by H.F.R.I call “Aien Aristeuein Theodore Papazoglou: Science and Society” and its duration is two years. The project members are: **P. Bouras-Vallianatos**, Professor **Christos Papatheodorou** (PHS/NKUA), and Assoc.

Professor of Arabic Philosophy **Elvira Wakelnig** (University of Vienna).

- The Modern Greek Studies Association [Innovation Grant](#) for 2024 has been awarded to Prof. **Aristides Hatzis**. The committee’s citation reads as follows: Aristides Hatzis, National Kapodistrian University of Athens, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, to transcribe and digitalize the correspondence of Gawen William Rowan Hamilton and Charles James Napier, two British officers who were deeply involved in the Greek War of Independence. Initially, the project will transcribe and make accessible to the public their correspondence for the crucial period between the fall of Missolonghi (April 1826) and the surrender of the Acropolis (October 1827), with the eventual goal of including the entire collection. The collection will be a valuable source of information on British official and unofficial policy toward the Greek Revolution and in the Eastern Mediterranean in particular.

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## Past Events – Talks

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- Professor **Stavros Drakopoulos** gave a talk on “[The Economics of Happiness and its Relation to Psychology: Historical and Methodological Aspects](#)”, in the framework of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Conference of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS), which took place in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia, **June 2024**.

- Emeritus Professor **Jean Christianidis** and Assoc. Professor **Petros Bouras-Vallianatos** took part as invited speakers in an event for the wider public entitled “[Ancient Science: Myths and Realities](#)”,

which took place at the Botanical Garden of Kefalonia in Argostoli on **16 July 2024**. Talks were also given by Professor **Maria Mavroudi** (Berkeley) and Assoc. Professor **Sophia Xenophontos** (AUTH). The event was attended by approximately 80 people. It was organised in the framework of the research program “The Doctor of the Soul: Medicine and Practical Ethics in Galen” funded by the Wellcome Trust of the United Kingdom, with Sophia Xenophontos as the Scientific Director

and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki as the Host.



*Audience and speakers, «Ancient Science: Myths and Reality»*

- Assistant Professor **Katerina Vlantoni** presented the paper entitled “**Testing during public health crises: on the socio-medical configuration and appropriation of viral testing technologies**” in the International Conference EASST-4S 2024 “making and doing TRANSFORMATIONS”, which took place in Amsterdam, **16-19 July 2024**.

- In **July 2024**, the MSCA postdoctoral researcher **Vanessa Seifert** presented her talk “**The changing meaning of discovery in chemistry**” at the Biennial meeting of the History of Philosophy of Science (HOPOS24). She also presented her work “**What are chemical reactions**” at the Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and Mind Association that took place **13-14 July 2024**. She participated in the symposium **Metaphysical Naturalism 2.0** which was presented at the conference of the British Society for the Philosophy of Science (BSPS2024). Together with **James Ladyman** she presented their work “**Scale relativity in the metaphysics of science**” at the first international workshop on the **Metaphysics of Chemistry** that took place in Louvain-la-Neuve the **22-24 July 2024**.

Her talks were supported by the Horizon-MSCA project [CReaCaL: Chemical Reactions as Causes and Laws](#) (project number 101064082). Finally, she was invited by the National Italian Chemical Society to give a talk on “**Gender Balance**” during the XXVIIIth Congress of the Society.

- Assoc. Professor **Petros Bouras-Vallianatos** organised together with Professor **Matteo Martelli** (University of Bologna) a two-day international workshop at the Kostis Palamas Building entitled “**New Perspectives on MS Bononiensis 3632**” (**18-19 July 2024**). The purpose of the workshop was to bring together researchers from France, Germany, Greece, the United Kingdom, the USA, Italy, and Canada in order to study for the first time perhaps the most mysterious and voluminous late-Byzantine scientific manuscript currently in the University Library of Bologna. The event took place in the framework of the research program “**Making And Consuming Drugs In The Italian And Byzantine Worlds (12th–15th C.)**”, directed by P. **Bouras-Vallianatos** and funded by the Wellcome Trust of the United Kingdom.



*Participants, New Perspectives on MS Bononiensis 3632*

- Members of the [Go-Just](#) research programme took parts in the following conferences:

-22nd STS ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Critical Issues in Science, Technology and Society Studies, **6-8 May**, Graz. **Stathis Arapostathis** and **Vasiliki Karantzavelou**, “**Assets, Commodities and Sustainability: Knowledge politics and the perils of assetization in food transition**”.

-ESST-4S Conference, Making and Doing Transformations **16-19 July**, Amsterdam. “**Liquid gold: Constructing Greek olive oil as a health protective asset**”, **Stathis Arapostathis** and **Vasiliki Karantzavelou**.

-15th International Sustainability Transitions Conference, Oslo, Norway, **16-19 August 2024**. “**Incumbency between RES and hydrocarbons: Decarbonizing energy or ‘greening’ incumbents?**”, **Dimitris Lagouvardos**, **Stathis Arapostathis**, and **Yannis Fotopoulos**.

-11th Tensions of Europe Conference, University Viadrina, Frankfurt/Oder, Germany, **19-21 September 2024**: “**Seeds, Breeds and the multiple faces of Productivism in Greek Agriculture, 1920-2000**”, **Sotiris Alexakis**, **Stathis Arapostathis**, and **Yannis Fotopoulos**.

“**Infrastructuring the Water State in Greece: Regional Imaginaries of Productivism and Water Management in Thessaly, 1950-2023**”, **Stathis Arapostathis**, **Yannis Fotopoulos**, **Dimitris Lagouvardos** and **Vasiliki Karantzavelou**.

“**Framing and Representing Science, Sustainability and Public Health in Greece: The Social Construction of**

**Olive Oil**”, **Vasiliki Karantzavelou**.

- The [World Congress of Philosophy](#), organised every four years, took place at Sapienza University, Rome, **1-8 August 2024** with the participation of 5000 delegates. The presence of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at the conference was particularly strong, and the largest of any other department in our country. The following colleagues were participates in symposia and sessions: **Stelios Virvididakis**, **Panagiotis Thanassas**, **Stavros Ioannidis**, **Chrysostomos Mantzavinos**, and **Eleni Manolakaki**. **Anthony Hatzimoysis** gave one of the main plenary talks and **Vasso Kindi** was elected a member of the governing committee of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies.



*Professor Anthony Hatzimoysis in the plenary session of the World Congress of Philosophy*

- Professor **Chrysostomos Mantzavinos** gave a talk on **1 August 2024** at the Regular Meeting of the International Academy for the Philosophy of Sciences, of which he is a Corresponding Member. The event took place in Rome and speech was entitled “**The Constitution**

of Science”.

- A Book Symposium took place (30 August, 2024) in the framework of the Annual Conference of the European Network for Philosophy of the Social Sciences, in Bergen, Norway, dedicated to the new book of Professor **Chrysostomos Mantzavinos** entitled “[The Constitution of Science](#)” (Cambridge University Press) with the following participants: Professor **Philip Kitcher**, John Dewey Professor Emeritus, Columbia University and Professor **Emmanuel Picavet**, Director of the Center de Philosophie Contemporaine de la Sorbonne. The panel was chaired by Professor **Eleonora Montushi**, University of Venice Ca' Foscari.



*Professor Chrysostomos Mantzavinos in the presentation of his book*

- Dr. **Emmanouil Protonotarios**, a member of the Department’s Special Teaching Staff, attended the annual European Conference on Visual Perception (ECPV 2024) held on August 26-29 in the city of Aberdeen, where he presented research titled “Dot clouds’ perceived area for varying regularity is greater than that of respective convex

hull polygons”. The abstract was submitted in collaboration with graduate student **Kalliopi Protogeraki**, whom he supervises as part of her Master’s Thesis in the Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program in Cognitive Science.

- Professor **Theodore Arambatzis** gave a talk on “**Styles of Scientific Practice: The Importance of Scale**,” 11th European Society for the History of Science Conference, Barcelona, 7 September 2024. The talk was co-authored by Emeritus Professor **Kostas Gavroglu**.

- The MSCA postdoctoral researcher **Vanessa Seifert** together with MSCA postdoctoral researcher **Giacomo Giannini** (University of Dusseldorf) co-organised on the 23-24th of September 2024 the workshop entitled “[Metaphysics of Science](#)”. The workshop took place at the Palamas Building of the University of Athens. Guest speakers were **Francesca Bellazzi**, **Nina Emery**, **Alison Sutton Fernandes**, **Robin Hendry**, **Tom Rosseter**, **Stathis Psillos**, and **Tobias Wilsch**.

- The 2nd annual [Contemporary Philosophy meets Philosophy of Science](#) (26-27 September 2024) conference organized by the English-language MA in Contemporary Philosophy/Philosophy of Science took place, with the participation of important guest speakers: **Alex Byrne** (MIT), **Helen Beebee** (Leeds), **Lilia Gurova** (Sofia), **María Jiménez-Buedo** (Madrid), **Michela Massimi** (Edinburgh), **Thomas Sattig** (Tübingen), **Stavros Ioannidis**, **Antonis Hatzimousis**, **Stathis Psillos**, as well as a round table for the

forthcoming monograph of **Chryso-  
stomos Mantzavinis**, [\*The Constitution of  
Science\*](#) (Cambridge University Press).

- An event in honour of Emeritus Professor **Stelios Virvidakis** took place on **14 October** at the Amphitheater “A. Argyriadis” in the Central Building of the University of Athens for the recognition of his contribution to the Department of History and Philosophy



*Stelios Virvidakis (right), Professor Anthony  
Hatzimoysis (left) and Emeritus Professor  
Vasso Kindi (centre).*

of Science and for the presentation of a volume dedicated to him entitled “[\*\*Ways of Philosophers Honorary Volume for Stelios Virvidakis\*\*](#)” edited by V. Kinti and F. Paionidis. Athens: Ekkremes Publications, 2024.

- Professor **Katerina Ierodiakonou** participated in the 16th SEAAP Conference, “Galen: **Quod Animi Mores**” with a talk on Chapter 4 of the Galen treatise on **19 September 2024** at the Institute of Philosophy of the University of Zagreb in Croatia. She also gave a talk on “**Reconsidering Aristotle’s Notions of Incomplete and Natural Virtues**” at the International Conference “Passions, désirs, vertus. Aristote et ses commentateurs”, which took place at the Sorbonne-Université in Paris on **3, 4, and 5 October 2024**.

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## Forthcoming Events – Talks

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- **Departmental Talk Series: “[Science and Religion](#)”**. Central University Building, Amphitheatre “Ioannis Drakopoulos”, 30 Panepistimiou street, 7-9pm on Tuesdays.

-29 October, **Rebecca Flemming** (University of Exeter): “**Airs waters places and other models of Hippocratic religiosity**” (Amphitheatre “Alkis Argyriadis”).

-12 November, **Stelios Virvidakis** and **Michalis Filippou** (PHS, NKUA): «**Φιλοσοφία, φυσική επιστήμη και θρησκεία**».

- 10 December, **Gerasimos Merianos** (National Hellenic Research Foundation) and **Petros Bouras-Vallianatos** (PHS, NKUA): «**Ιατρική και αλχημεία: Δύο πρόσφορα ερευνητικά πεδία για τη σχέση επιστήμης και θρησκείας στο**

**Βυζάντιο**».

-14 January, **Isidoros Katsos** (Theology, NKUA): «**Ορθόδοξη θεολογία και επιστήμη: Ένας διάλογος υπαρκτός και συνάμα ανύπαρκτος**».

-11 February, **Efthymios Nicolaidis** (National Hellenic Research Foundation), «**Η εικόνα της φύσης των χριστιανών θεολόγων από τον τέταρτο μέχρι τον έκτο αιώνα μ.Χ.**».

-11 March, **Stavros Ioannidis**, (PHS, NKUA): «**Θρησκεία και εξελικτική θεωρία**».

-8 April, **Zenon Tsikrikas** (Universität Tübingen): «**“falsum index sui et veri”**. **Μια αντίληψη της αλήθειας στην επιστήμη με θρησκευτική χροιά**».

-13 May, **Alexandra Barmprouti** (Oxford Brookes University): «**Το ανθρώπινο σώμα υπό το πρίσμα της χριστιανικής βιοηθικής: Η σχέση**

της ιατρικής επιστήμης με τη θρησκεία».

-10 June, **Kostas Tampakis**, (National Hellenic Research Foundation): «**Αθεία και μελέτη της φύσης: Ιστορικές και ιστοριογραφικές προσεγγίσεις**».

• We are pleased to announce the continuation of the **Monthly Seminar Series of the MSc in Cognitive Science**, which began last year and includes presentations by graduates of the Programme. The idea of this initiative is to enhance communication between people who have similar interests and a common background, to give current students the chance to explore potential alternatives they can pursue, to exchange ideas, to initiate collaborations and to create a sense of community. These seminars have an informal format with questions during the lectures and discussion of personal trajectories. The speakers build on their research, but also give a broader view of their field without too much emphasis on technical details. This year's seminars will be held according to the schedule below, at 6pm, in the new building of the HPS department (room 2). The series will continue for the entire 2024-25 academic year and the rest of the schedule will be announced in a future newsletter.

-18 October, **Πένυ Μπούνια** (2018): “**Curiosity and exploration across development**”.

-1 November, **Vassilis Pelekanos** (2008), “**Study of auditory and higher cognitive brain areas in aging and dementia: neuroimaging data in monkeys and big data in humans**”. -20 December, **Laoura Ziaka** (2014), “**From “strooping” to “shoking”: how large is the gap**

**between research on cognitive control and on violent criminal behaviour”** .

• The [Athens Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy](#) is being organised for the second year 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 Thursdays at 7 pm, at the Elli Lambridi Philosophical Library (9 Ypsilantou Str., 10675 Athens). Each talk lasts between 30 to 40 minutes, followed by an extensive, open, and focused critical discussion, which can last up to 60 minutes. – The programme for the academic year 2024-25 is as follows:

-14 November, **Vassilis Karasmanis**: “**Plato's theory of recollection and his model of knowledge in the *Meno* and the *Republic***”.

-12 December, **Pavlos Kontos**: “**Aristotle on the Unity of Virtue**”.

-16 January, **Giouli Korobili**: “**On the Intersection of Medicine, Astronomy and Meteorology at the Time of Orion**”.

-20 February, **Scarlett Kingsley**: “**Drink or Be Doused': Diogenes Laertius, Empedocles, and Tyranny at the *Symposium***”.

-20 March, **Pantelis Basakos**: “**The art of judgment**”.

-10 April, **Francesca Pentas-suglio**: “**Desiring Reason, Epistemic *Erōs*: The Legacy of Socrates' Erotics**”.

-15 May, **Federico Maria Petrucci**: “**The Philosophical Outlook of the *Critias***”.

• The Seminar of the Division of Philosophy and Theory of Science and Technology hosts a series of lectures as follows (New Building, PHS, 7pm):



- 26 November, **Aristides Hatzis**: «Τι είδους φιλελεύθερος ήταν ο Μπάιρον; Εκδοχές του πρώιμου ευρωπαϊκού επαναστατικού φιλελευθερισμού (1815-1830)»

-17 December, **Chrysostomos Mantzavinos**: «Περί φιλίας».

- 18 February, **Stefanos Regkas**: tbc

-18 March, **Marialena Karabatsou**: tbc

- 20 May, **Valantis Stergiou**: «Περί της αξίας των τυπικών μεθόδων στη φιλοσοφία της επιστήμης».

- Starting this academic year, the **Interdisciplinary Research Seminar “Διεπιδημῶν”** will have its monthly meetings to discuss the topic **“State and public health in the shadow of epidemics (19th-21st century): approaches from history and the research fields of STS and critical medical humanities”**. The aim of the Seminar is to discuss the structures, practices and logics of health governance, (bio-)medical science and technology, social representations and (re)actions and body politics and subjectivity, both in their national and international dimension and in their spatial and temporal development, through the example of Greek public health. The Seminar is organised by **Thanasis Barlagiannis**, Researcher at the Research Center for the History of Modern Greece at the Academy of

Athens, and **Katerina Vlantoni**, Assistant Professor in the PHS Department. The seminar will be conducted in the Greek language except in cases of invited speakers from abroad.

The seminar is open to the academic community, health professionals and the broader public interested in the health-state relationship. Its format is mixed: the talk, of about 30 minutes, is followed by a free discussion to promote the exchange of ideas. The Seminar takes place in the Corridor of the Academy of Athens Building (28 Panepistimiou) one Thursday every month and lasts two hours (18:30 – 20:30). Participation is free and no pre-registration is required. For more information, visit this [link](#). The Seminar Program for 2024:

- 17 October 2024: Presentation of the seminar and research programs – Athanasios Barlagiannis, Katerina Vlantoni (in Greek).

-14 November 2024: **“History of epidemics and the state: some thoughts”** - **Kostas Kostis**, director of MIET (in Greek)

- 12 December 2024: **“The tyranny of absence of diagnosis: from post-traumatic hystero-neurasthenia to long COVID”** - **Ilana Löwy**, emerita research director, Cermes3, CNRS (UMR 8211), Unité Inserm 988, EHESS, Université Paris Cité (in English)

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## Summer School

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- **Vladimiro Katranidis**, **Yannis Stephanou** and other academics and doctoral students from the universities of Bucharest, Marseille, Rome and Tübingen organise, through the CIVIS

alliance of European universities, the summer school **“Let’s Prove It! Reasoning in Different Contexts”**. The school concerns the use of logic in theoretical contexts (as in science and

philosophy) and in practical contexts (as in communication, argumentation and education). It includes an online part, which will develop from **1 March to 30**

**June 2025**, and a physical part, which will take place in Athens on 7-11 July 2025. The application period runs from 16 September to 31 October 2024. More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

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## Publications of Members of the Department

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- **Articles:**

- Bouras-Vallianatos, P. and F. Käs. 2024. "[Treating with minerals in the Middle Ages: the rare substance \*mūmiyā\* \(pitch-asphalt\) and its medicinal uses in Byzantium](#)," *Medical History* (First View): 1-14.

- Bouras-Vallianatos, P. 2024. "[Examining a Previously Unknown Pharmacological Potpourri: A New Witness to Late Byzantine Therapeutics and Its Expansion through Appropriations from the Islamicate and Latin Medical Traditions](#)," in *A Key to Locked Doors*, eds. F. Käs, J. Kley, F. Hedderich. Leiden: Brill, 450-504.

- Gotsis, G. 2023. "[Βιβλιογραφικό δοκίμιο πολιτικής θεωρίας και φιλοσοφίας](#)," *Revue Hellénique des droits de l' homme: Dikaiomata tou Anthropou*, Vol. XXV No 98/2023, 803-32.

- Stephanou, Y. 2024. "Substitutional Quantification in Truth-Theories for Modal Languages," *Studia Logica*, online first. The paper is freely available for a limited number of downloads at this [address](#).

- Tympas, T. 2024. «[Τεχνολογία, Καπιταλισμός, Ιστορία: Ο ασίγαστος πόθος μιας τεχνητής νοημοσύνης, τὰ συσσωρευόμενα πάθη τῶν πλασμάτων τῆς φύσης](#)», *ΘΕΟΛΟΓΙΑ* 95, 1, 369-77.

- Tympas, T. 2024. «Για την πολύτιμη ιστορία των νερόμυλων και των ανε-

μόμυλων», Πρόλογος στο Στέλιος Μουζάκης, Στέφανος Νομικός, Γιώργος Σπέης, [Νερόμυλοι και υδροκίνητοι μηχανισμοί του τόπου: Ένα ταξίδι στον κόσμο της υδροκίνησης και του πολιτισμού μας](#), Thessaloniki: Arteon Ekdotiki.

- **Book reviews:**

- Drakopoulos, S. Review of: John Komlos (2023) *Foundations of Real-world Economics: What every economics student needs to know* (3rd ed.), New York and London: Routledge. In: *Spoudai Journal of Economics and Business*, vol. 74(1-2), 93-5.

- Gotsis, G. [Review of: Yamada, T. \*Civil Society and Social Science in Yoshihiko Uchida\*. Springer, Singapore, 2022, pp.117](#). In: *Neusis: A Biannual Journal for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology* (September 2024). Vol. 30 No. 2 (2024), 123-32.

- Gotsis, G. [Review of: Kærgård, N. \(ed.\) \(2023\). \*Market, Ethics and Religion: The Market and its Limitations\*](#). Cham: Springer, pp. VIII+303. In: *Historiein/ Ιστορείν*, Vol. 21, No 2 (2024).

- **Views:**

- Arapostathis, S. 2024. «[Η καινοτομία ως πρόβλημα](#)», *Protagon.gr*.

- **Interview.** Aris Hatzis. 2024. «[Κύριος επικίνδυνος είναι ο δεξιός λαϊκισμός, που είναι η νέμεση του φιλελευθερισμού](#)» *Οικονομική Επιθεώρηση*.

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## Postgraduate Programmes

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• The English-language postgraduate programme [The Athens MA in Ancient Philosophy](#) is now entering its second year of operation at the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, in collaboration with three other Greek universities (AUTH, Patras, and Crete). The programme's first year was a great success, with the twelve enrolled students having completed their courses and now preparing their diploma theses. For the academic year 2024-25, The Athens MA in Ancient Philosophy received 34 applications and is expected to enrol 17 students from seven different

countries: USA (4), China (4), Germany (2), Austria (1), UK (1), Iran (1) and Greece (4).



*Farewell Dinner for the students of the first year of the Program's operation.*

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## "Vana Grigoropoulou" Prize

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• The "**Vana Grigoropoulou**" Prize 2022-2023 (€1,000), for the best post-graduate thesis completed by students of the "MSc in History and Philosophy of Science and Technology", Department of

History and Philosophy of Science, was awarded to Mr. **Vladimiros Katranidis** for his dissertation on "**Deflationary Considerations on Scientific Realism**".

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## Alumni News

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• **Despina ("Emelina") Chatzakou**, an alumna of the PHD undergraduate programme, received one of the most prestigious [scholarships of the Union of Greek Shipowners](#). Emelina, who obtained her degree with distinction (8.74), will continue her studies in political theory at the University of Amsterdam (where she was accepted). Ms. Hatzakou reports the following about her success: "This year, in addition to completing my undergraduate studies, I also achieved a long-term goal, receiving an offer

from some of the most competitive graduate programmes in my field; Political Science. Thanks to the guidance of my professors, I was able to identify



*Scholarship Award Ceremony, Union of Greek Shipowners*

the appropriate next steps, and I was accepted to the University of Amsterdam, where I will begin my graduate studies in Political Theory. This endeavour is supported by the

Hellenic Shipowners Union that offered me a generous scholarship, giving me the ability to fully concentrate on my studies”.

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## Completed Doctoral Theses

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- **Pertsas, Georgios.**

**Title:** [E-government as technopolitics: digital technology and state transformation in Greece.](#)

**Language:** English

**Supervisor:** Prof. Telis Tympas

**Date:** 2023

**Abstract:** This dissertation focuses on the relation between modern states and technology. Its main research question concerns the ontological nature of state formation and state power investigated from the perspective of the technical materialities that perform them. The research is further focused on the case of the Greek state and its digital transformation through the development of e-government projects. It is argued that such projects are not politically neutral technical interventions, but are imbued with politics. This is why e-government projects are analyzed using the concept of technopolitics. The topic is approached mostly from the perspective of Science and Technology Studies (STS). Nevertheless, theoretical inspiration and concepts are also drawn from other disciplines like the History of Technology, Historical Sociology, Political Theory and Political Science as well as Public Administration theory. The thesis is comprised of seven chapters. Three of them are mainly theoretical, where the conceptualization of the state, e-government and

public administration is discussed from an STS perspective. In the last three chapters, the three empirical case studies are analyzed, regarding recent e-government projects in Greece. These include: the Interoperability Center, the G-cloud Infrastructure and the E-prescription system. The empirical data are drawn mainly from interviews conducted with civil servants and users of information systems (i.e. physicians) and from policy documents on e-government (e.g. National Strategies, Action Plans). Other data sources include legislation, parliament minutes on e-government projects and legislative frameworks, press releases and public notices by Ministries, state agencies and other organizations.

- **Voskeritsian, Takvor.**

**Title:** [Radical Science Journal and Undercurrents: aspects of the British radical science movement.](#)

**Language:** Greek

**Supervisor:** Prof. Kostas Gavroglu

**Date:** 2023

**Abstract:** The 1960s and 1970s mark the development of the radical science movements in the United States, Great Britain and elsewhere. These movements critique the abuse of science, its mode of production and specific characteristics of its content. My PhD focuses on the British radical science movement and specifically on two of its major journals: *Radical Science Journal* and *Undercurrents*.

*Radical Science Journal* drew ideas mainly from the work of Karl Marx and the Marxist tradition and attempted to undermine the established notion of scientific “neutrality”. The dissertation explores *Radical Science Journal’s* ideas during the 1970s as well as its historical and theoretical connections to the School of Edinburgh and the Sociology of Scientific Knowledge. It brings forth the fact that the ideas of the social construction of science was proposed in a different way from other mediums apart from the established field of Science and Technology Studies. *Undercurrents* expressed the movement’s ecological and fringe ideas. The articles in *Undercurrents* were related to alternative technologies, self-sufficiency and fringe science. The dissertation focuses on fringe science, namely a form of alternative science which incorporated values and ideas from occultism, metaphysics and the New Age of that period. The study of *Undercurrents* as a medium of fringe ideas defines a new aspect of radical science which has been understudied by the existing literature on radical science movements.

• **Dalla, Maria.**

**Title:** [Dialogue between Church and State on the legislation of abortion related issues from 1978 to 1986.](#)

**Language:** Greek

**Supervisor:** Prof. Theodore Arabatzis

**Date:** 2023

**Abstract:** The objective of this research is the study of the dialogue between the Greek Orthodox Church and the Hellenic State regarding legislation issues related to abortions. The study

timeframe set is the eight years starting with the voting of a crucial legislation in 1978, that brought under the spotlight the issue of abortions and paved the road towards legalization, and ends with the voting and enforcing of the Hellenic Law 609/1989, with which abortions were legalized. In order to understand the rationale and the historical context, the research focuses on the study of the institutional route of the legislation of abortions, the Women’s Movement acts, the reactions of the Greek Orthodox Church, the role of Mass Media (especially the printed media) and the impact that the legislation procedure had on the relation between the Greek Orthodox Church, the Hellenic State and the Women’s movement. The essence of the dialogue is studied through the classification and analysis of the arguments and counter-arguments, that were posed during the study timeframe. On the Greek Orthodox Church’s behalf, the arguments were collected from Circulars and Sermons, Memoranda and Recommendations of official Synodal Committees, resolutions from public protests, pamphlets from Metropolises and religious organizations, telegrams and writings of defenders of the ecclesiastical position, both from clergy and laity. From the perspective of the Greek State, the research focuses on law proposals, minutes of Parliamentary Committees, amendments that were tabled (whether they were incorporated into the final text of the law or not), and minutes of the Plenary Meetings of the Greek Parliament or of the respective Parliament Section. From the present conclusions are drawn regarding the ter-

ms and the character of the dialogue, the essence, scope and breadth of the arguments and their evolution during the period of interest. Finally, the study analyzes and evaluates the factors that contributed to the legalization of

abortion in Greece and depicts the society of the period studied, namely its moral code, social and ideological anchors, the social status of women and the gradual assimilation of progressive ideas in the Greek society.

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