



EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF BRUSSELS IV (LAEKEN)

# PHILOSOPHY DAY

**CHANGE** • *THINKING THE WORLD, THINKING TOGETHER*

03 & 04 MARCH 2021 • ONLINE

# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



## Programme

**09:00 - 09:45**

Opening Ceremony

**10:15 - 11:15**

EDI Preliminary Round

**11:30 - 13:00**

General Assembly I

**13:00 - 14:30**

Lunch Break

**14:45 - 15:45**

Workshop I

**16:00 - 17:00**

Workshop II



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Assemblée Générale I**  
**11:30 - 13:00 (FR)**

**PROF. PHILIPPE VAN PARIJS**

UCLouvain, Chaire Hoover

***Vive les utopies réalistes. Pourquoi nous devons changer le monde et comment nous le pouvons***

Parfois tout semble bloqué, tellement bloqué qu'on est tenté de renoncer, de se retrancher dans sa vie privée. Et pourtant, de la piétonnisation d'une autoroute urbaine à l'introduction d'un revenu universel européen, cela vaut la peine de se mobiliser pour changer le monde, à petite ou grande échelle. Mais pas pour n'importe quelle cause ni n'importe comment. Le Professeur Van Parijs défendra cette thèse en prenant pour illustrations quelques initiatives dans lesquelles il est ou a été personnellement impliqué.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**General Assembly I**  
**11:30 - 13:00 (EN)**

**PROF. ESZTER KOLLAR**

KU Leuven, RIPPLE

***The Political Philosophy of Immigration***

What is the role of ethics and political philosophy in public debates on immigration? The lecture aims to introduce students to key ethical positions and philosophical arguments in order to evaluate the justice and fairness of border policies. We will first discuss fundamental concepts, such as freedom of movement, immigration and the border. We will then examine the question whether states have a right to control their borders and exclude would-be immigrants. Thirdly, we will survey arguments in favor of more open borders and why democratic states have obligations to admit immigrants, such as responding to injustice and human rights violations, and furthering global justice.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Workshop I**  
**14:45 - 15:45**

**MS NINA CERNOS**  
EEB4

***Are People a Product of Their Environment or Is  
an Environment a Product of Its?***

In this presentation I will be exploring how human behavior is affected by the environment that they are brought up in, but also taking a look at the other side of the argument. I will be looking into how the way people act, towards themselves as well as each other, changes in function of the society they live in and how as a result, this society changes around them.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



## Workshop I

14:45 - 15:45

### MR ILAN EINSTOSS PATO

EEB1

#### *The Evolution of Language and the World's Oldest Form of Deception*

This presentation will take a look at the evolution of mankind's greatest asset, language, and one of its subsets, namely Doublespeak, based on Dr. Guy Deustcher's "The Unfolding of Language" and "Doublespeak" by William Lutz.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Workshop I**  
**14:45 - 15:45**

**MS KATRINA ELLENSA**  
EEB4

***The Bloody Taboo: Menstruation  
How Did It Come to Be?***

How did menstruation become a societal taboo? It is clear that that has not always been the status quo, yet why and how did it morph from a process thought to be sacred into something "unholy"? This presentation will take a look at Professor Chris Knight's work as well as at several religions' views on monthly bleeding;



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03-03-2021



**Workshop I**

**14:45 - 15:45**

**MS MARGOT GUILHOT DELSOLDATO &  
MS BENEDETTA SIDOLI**

Scuola per l'Europa Parma (Italia)

*Only by doing good does one experience it*

Simone Weil and the experience of action.





# PHILOSOPHY DAY

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## Workshop I

14:45 - 15:45

**MR KALOYAN KIRYAKOV**

EEB4

### *Land Disputes and Irredentism*

Can irredentism be justified? Does the land belong to its original inhabitants? Is it right to take back property that had been taken from you? What happens to the new inhabitants? Should there be a change in the territory's ownership or should the change be reverted? Is a nationality linked to a certain group of people or a piece of land.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Workshop I**  
**14:45 - 15:45**

**MR VICTOR KRASTEV**  
EEB4

***What Causes Change in the Human Mind?***

What makes us human? Can people change? I will comment on how our thoughts are formed, addressing the questions, What is a paradigm and how can you change it? Explaining how and why everyone is different. I will also consider how the power of the thought differentiates us from animals and how it makes us human. Then I will move on to a discussion of habit and its power on us. Throughout the presentation, I will refer to philosophers like Aristotle and Descartes.



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03-03-2021



**Workshop I**

**14:45 - 15:45**

**MR FRANCISCO MONTEIRO**

EEB1

*TBA*

TBA



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Workshop II**  
**16:00 - 17:00**

**PROF. REMMON BARBAZA**

Ateneo de Manila University (Philippines)

***The Pandemic, the City, and the Animal in Us***

This talk will engage the students in a reflection on how the pandemic has provided an opportunity for us to examine our way of life, particularly city life, and how revisiting the question of our animality can be a good starting point.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Workshop II**  
**16:00 - 17:00**

**PROF. XAVIER DE SCHUTTER**

ULB, CIERL, Athénée Royal d'Auderghem

***L'initiation : une mutation de régime existentiel***

L'initiation offre la possibilité d'un changement en profondeur de l'individu. Cette mutation suppose une mort symbolique suivie d'une renaissance initiatique. Elle suppose également un scénario rituel. Ce dernier présente des invariants depuis l'Antiquité (Les Mystères d'Eleusis, le culte d'Isis et Osiris, l'orphisme, le culte de Mithra, etc.).



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Workshop II**  
**16:00 - 17:00**

**PROF. CEDRIC JULIENS**  
HELV

***Promis, demain, je m'y mets***

Nous avons tous désiré changer des choses dans notre vie. Mais que ce soit par manque de courage ou de clairvoyance, l'objectif a semblé reculé avec nos premiers efforts. C'est que le changement est comme le feu pour l'humain : il fascine et fait peur. Nous analyserons ce rapport d'effroi et fascination à l'aide de plusieurs outils en sciences humaines et du théâtre.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Workshop II**  
**16:00 - 17:00**

**DR LOUIS MILLER**  
EEB4

***Progress and the Past: Stories We Tell Ourselves***

Modern political ideologies began to be formed in the 19th century. This workshop will examine the degree in which a certain view of history, and of human action in history, is central not only to Marxism but to the liberalism of John Stuart Mill, and to modern worldviews in general.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Workshop II**  
**16:00 - 17:00**

**PROF. ANGELOS MOUZAKITIS &  
PROF. VASILIKI TSAKIRI**

Uni. of Crete & Hellenic Open University (Greece)

***The Other as a Source of Change for Myself***

Emmanuel Levinas, an eminent philosopher of the 20th Century argued that in order to become truly ethical we have to place the protection of others before our interests and even before our lives. In his works he introduced an extreme notion of responsibility to the "other" that might seem unrealistic judged by the moral standards prevalent in contemporary societies, yet it is also indispensable as guiding principle in a swiftly changing, conflict-ridden global environment.





# PHILOSOPHY DAY

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**Workshop II**  
**16:00 - 17:00**

**PROF. CHARLIE RENARD**

Institution Saint Joseph, Le Havre (France)

***Rester soi-même ou changer : faut-il choisir ?***

Cet atelier porte sur le changement dans son rapport à l'identité personnelle. Après une présentation de l'animatrice, les participants échangeront dans un premier temps en petits groupes autour d'un support qui leur sera proposé (texte, photos, œuvre d'art, articles de presse...) puis se réuniront afin de partager le fruit de leurs réflexions. Le deuxième moment prendra la forme d'une discussion à visée philosophique (DVP) dans lequel chacun contribuera par le dialogue à la construction d'une intelligence collective.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

03-03-2021



**Workshop II**  
**16:00 - 17:00**

**DR ANDREW SOH**

Ateneo de Manila University (Philippines)

***The Good is Being in Place (Jushandi 居善地):  
Rethinking Our Place in the World with Insights  
from the Daodejing***

Drawing on insights from the Daoist philosophy text, Daodejing, this presentation makes the case for an ecological ethics of weiziran (為自然) that exhorts us to dwell rightly in our relationship with the natural environment in order to counter the loss of our sense of place in the world.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



## Programme

**09:30 - 10:30**

EDI Finals

**11:00 - 12:30**

General Assembly II

**12:30 - 13:45**

Lunch Break

**14:00 - 15:00**

Workshop III

**15:30 - 16:30**

Awarding & Closing Ceremony



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**Assemblée Générale II**  
**11:00 - 12:30 (FR)**

**PROF. THOMAS BERNS**

ULB, Centre Perelman

***Penser entre les concepts***

Après avoir défini, à la suite de Deleuze, la philosophie comme l'activité d'inventer des concepts, je montrerai combien la question du changement nous amène à penser entre les concepts, depuis les tensions et les écarts qui les séparent et les définissent. A titre d'exemples, je me servirai d'une part de la théorie du mouvement chez Aristote et d'autre part de la différence entre la conception ancienne et moderne de la liberté.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**General Assembly II**  
**11:00 - 12:30 (EN)**

**PROF. ELENI MANOLAKAKI**

Athens University (Greece)

*The Philosophers' Sway between Change and Immutability*

Does change require or depend on immutability? We can conceive of change in the properties a thing or a person, as long as it is the same thing or person that changes properties. Would knowledge be possible if everything is changing? Is the aim of science to reveal an immutable order in an ever-changing world? From Heraclitus' doctrine of universal flux and the Eleatic doctrine of the immutability of Being philosophers theorize in terms of change and immutability by imposing a dialectic sway between the two. We examine the various forms that the dependence between change and immutability takes, that is, as conceptual dependence, epistemological dependence, scientific dependence and question the possibility of applying such forms of theorizing to social reality. What would social change consist in? Could there be social immutables? Could there be knowledge of the social world and what is worthy striving for?



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**Workshop III**  
**14:00 - 15:00**

**MS ANASTASIA BALASI**

EEB2

***The Times They Are a-Changin'? Sexual Harassment, Dress Codes, and School Policy***

A working group at EEB2 has been engaged in discussions about creating school policies on sexual harassment (which would include rules about a dress code). They have been studying the policies in the different European Schools. In their deliberations, they have been tackling questions such as, "How is harassment defined?" "To what extent can a school create a safe environment without negatively policing the bodies of its students?"



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**Workshop III**  
**14:00 - 15:00**

**PROF. ALEXIS FILIPUCCI**

ULiège

***La dialectique ou le mystère de l'anneau d'or***

Dans cet atelier, nous tâcherons de comprendre ce qu'est la dialectique en en investigant les diverses conceptions. Est-elle une méthode pour découvrir la vérité ou se situe-t-elle au contraire au sein du réel lui-même ? A-t-elle un objet spécifique ? Peut-on vraiment la comprendre ? Etc. En chemin, nous convoquerons des exemples communs pour illustrer ces différentes perspectives et nous ferons l'une ou l'autre incursion dans le monde bouddhique, chez les experts de la "Voie du milieu" (*madhyamaka*).



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**Workshop III**  
**14:00 - 15:00**

## **PROF. MIRIAM FOCACCIA**

Università di Bologna, Centro Studi e Ricerche  
Enrico Fermi di Roma (Italia)

***Nella città di Ipazia***

***Il pensiero scientifico al femminile***

Nel 1732 la prima donna al mondo sale su una cattedra universitaria: è Laura Bassi, una fisica, e siamo a Bologna. Fu proprio nel corso del Settecento che profonde trasformazioni investono i tradizionali modelli comportamentali dell'universo femminile: alcune donne iniziarono a conquistare nuovi ruoli sul piano della istruzione e dell'educazione scientifica. Fu allora che le donne cominciarono a "popolare la scienza". Da allora, il percorso delle donne nella scienza è stato disseminato di sforzi e di fatiche, di primati raggiunti e di eccezionali competenze portati avanti da queste "belle menti", vere e proprie protagoniste della scienza. Dalla lettura delle storie di alcune di loro e dalla presa di coscienza della loro presenza, l'augurio è che le donne possano essere sempre più numerose tra i ricercatori e gli studiosi impegnati nei più svariati ambiti della ricerca, e che le "figlie di Minerva" possano arrivare a quella parità che non perdono la speranza di raggiungere.





# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**Workshop III**  
**14:00 - 15:00**

**PROF. GAELLE JEANMART**

ULiège

***Changer de regard sur la notion de changement?  
Modèle occidental et modèle chinois pour  
penser la décision***

Dans un texte de Borges, on trouve la mention d'une *encyclopédie chinoise* qui propose un classement qui vous paraîtra probablement loufoque des animaux en : a) appartenant à l'Empereur, b) embaumés, c) apprivoisés, d) cochons de lait, e) sirènes, f) fabuleux, g) chiens en liberté, h) inclus dans la présente classification, i) qui s'agitent comme des fous, j) innombrables, k) dessinés avec un pinceau très fin en poils de chameau, l) etc., m) qui viennent de casser la cruche, n) qui de loin semblent des mouches. Ce qui fait le charme exotique ou l'étrangeté de ce classement, c'est l'impossibilité pour nous d'organiser le monde animal selon de telles catégories. Il en est de même quand nous agissons. Nous mobilisons des règles dont nous ne sommes même pas conscients. Or, pour penser le changement, il peut être très utile de rendre explicite les règles qui président à nos prises de décision. En m'appuyant sur le travail du sinologue et philosophe F. Jullien, je vous propose dans cette conférence de confronter la façon chinoise de penser la décision à notre façon occidentale, comme on pourrait confronter les principes d'organisation de l'encyclopédie chinoise à nos encyclopédies, qu'on pense *rationnelles* ou *objectives*. Ce n'est pas seulement instructif, c'est aussi utile, parce que la décision est au cœur de nos vies, sorte de principe de liberté, possibilité de se donner des objectifs et de chercher à les atteindre. Bref, penser la décision est capital pour savoir comment conduire sa vie. Et la penser en prenant conscience de nos catégories mentales est encore plus important : c'est retrouver une ouverture plus grande vers des possibilités d'action et de développement qui sortent du machinal.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**Workshop III**  
**14:00 - 15:00**

**MR MATTHEW PYE**  
EEB2

## ***Plato Tackles Climate Change***

When you look at an ancient bust of Plato, he seems aloof, distant. What could a stony-faced Philosopher from an alien culture and ancient mindset say to us about the modern climate crisis? Indeed, his theory of the Forms can seem maddeningly abstract, and his endorsement of a totalitarian regime does not give us a good first impression, if we are looking for a Philosopher to help us think through the very material and democratic knots that we wrapped up in over climate change. But, as you are probably aware by now in Philosophy. The surface of things is often misleading. Common sense is often mistaken. And so it is with Plato and Climate Change. Plato went through two major traumas in his early life. Behind the stony-faced bust there is a man who had to wrestle with dramatic and deeply painful experiences - the death of Socrates his teacher, and the war with Sparta. Behind the booming Athenian society, with all its incredible advances in art, culture, architecture, politics (... and all the rest), there were some major cracks that would be exposed. This lecture is about the boom and bust. Or perhaps more accurately, the bust in the boom. If we enter into dialogue with Plato carefully, the lessons that he learnt from the weaknesses of democratic rule and from his probing beneath the surface of things actually turn out to be sharply, wonderfully relevant for our modern climate crisis. The lecture will take place, "down at the Pireaus". See you there.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**Workshop III**  
**14:00 - 15:00**

**DR FRITZ SENN**

Zurich James Joyce Foundation (Switzerland)

***Joyce: The Literary Incarnation of Change***

This talk, which will be given by one of the most knowledgeable readers of the Irish writer James Joyce, will not be a formal lecture but “a thematic ramble”, which is Mr. Senn’s preferred way of communication with the public.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**Workshop III**  
**14:00 - 15:00**

**DR MARTIN STONE**  
EEB1

## ***What Is to 'Change Your Mind' Morally?***

We often talk about changing our minds on matters of both fact and opinion, and in doing so we often make reference to issues relating to evidence, or to other some consideration relating to feeling or a broader set of beliefs. With regard to changing one's mind on matters of belief, the process seems relatively straightforward since it appears that I can substitute an old belief, which previously I believed to be true but is now revealed to be false, for a new belief which can be demonstrated to be true. The transition from an old belief to a new belief appears to be relatively uncomplicated. But what is it to change one's mind morally? Does something similar occur? And what are the underlying processes that might characterize an agent's change (be it subtle or dramatic) of moral perspective? In this short presentation, these questions will be discussed with reference to the views of Aristotle, Hume, and Kant, philosophers who are selected because of their contrasting views on this issue. By putting these three thinkers into a critical conversation, it is to be hoped that some light can be shed on changes of opinion in morality, and how this issue is relevant to a more general understanding of ethics.



# PHILOSOPHY DAY

04-03-2021



**Workshop III**  
**14:00 - 15:00**

**MR KRISTOF VAN ROSSEM**

KU Leuven, Odisee Univ. College

***Philosophizing with Children and the Youth /  
Socratic Dialogue***

This workshop is intended to be highly interactive. Participants will be encouraged to share stories and observations, personally pick out intriguing words or concepts, craft well-phrased second-order questions, then critically explore their own thinking and that of others about a communally chosen question or subject matter.





EEB4

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