

As part of the Project **Science, Culture and Society**

The project seeks to critically reassess science and the humanities in their respective endeavors to explain, but also to understand the causes, conditions and consequences of artistic, ethical, and religious phenomena in our current European cultures. The revived idea of a scientific philosophy is expected to deliver the required means for realizing this aim. The collaborative research project thereby addresses the huge tension that has grown between public and private worldviews due to the increasing implicitness with which science is commonly accepted to be the exclusive measure of successful social engineering while, on the other hand, religious beliefs, moral convictions and motivations, and artistic experiences still are most highly valued in a private sphere. This tension threatens to burst the coherence of European cultures also because science has developed schemes to explain art and religion by its own means in the last decade or two. Philosophy can play a decisive role in analyzing the relationship between science, art, ethics and religion and help to set up a dialogue between these different cultural phenomena. However, we suggest that to do so it has to go beyond the Kantian distinction of art, ethics, religion, and science and face the challenge posed by recent empirical approaches to these fields. It is the central starting point of the present project that this step may be taken with recourse to scientific philosophy as it has been developed in quite different measures in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, i.e. neo-Kantianism, logical empiricism, phenomenology, and pragmatism.

There is a general consensus that North-American (neo)pragmatism and European Logical Empiricism were converging philosophical traditions, especially after the forced migration of the European philosophers. But the complexity of both philosophical traditions and their origins since the 19th century show a pluralist image of this relation and interaction with an obvious family resemblance. The conference aims at a clarification and specification of the common features and differences of these currents since the beginning of their mutual scientific communication.

Past Events

1–2 February 2013 Workshop

Philosophical and Historical Perspectives on Interdisciplinarity: Beyond the “Two Cultures” Debate

Venue: Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies, Helsinki

12–13 February 2012 Workshop


Science and Religion

Venue: Universität Tübingen

Organiser: **Institute Vienna Circle (IVC), University of Vienna**

Together with: **Helsinki Collegium for Advanced Studies, University of Helsinki** and **Forum Scientiarum, University of Tübingen**, as part of the tri-lateral cooperation project “Science, Culture, and Society”: <http://www.helsinki.fi/science-culture-society/index.html>

Eigentümer und Herausgeber:
Institut Wiener Kreis
Campus der Universität Wien
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www.univie.ac.at/ivc

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International Conference

LOGICAL EMPIRICISM AND PRAGMATISM

November 7–9, 2013

Institut für Zeitgeschichte, Seminarraum 1,
Campus of the University of Vienna



Thursday, November 7

17.00–19.00

Opening Lecture as the 21st Vienna Circle Lecture:

Ilkka Niiniluoto (Helsinki)

Eino Kaila and the Vienna Circle

Location: Senatssitzungssaal, Main Building of the University, Universitätsring

Friday, November 8

Location: Institut für Zeitgeschichte, Seminarraum 1, Campus of the University of Vienna

9.00

Opening: *Friedrich Stadler*

9.10–9.50

Michael Heidelberger (Tübingen)

Heidelberg 1908: A Window for the Reception of Pragmatism

9.55–10.35

Massimo Ferrari (Turin)

William James in Vienna

Coffee Break

11.00–11.40

Sara Heinämaa (Helsinki)

James, Husserl and Wittgenstein: Three Non-reductive Approaches to the Human Mind

11.45–12.25

Donata Romizi (Wien)

Pragmatism and Metaphysics: James and Peirce on Scientific Determinism

Lunch Break

14.00–14.40

Giovanni Rubeis (Tübingen)

Beyond Realism and Antirealism? The Strange Case of Dewey's Instrumentalism

14.45–15.25

Christoph Limbeck-Lilienau (Wien)

Carnap and the Distinction between Semantics and Pragmatics

15.30–16.00 Coffee Break

16.00–16.40

Bastian Stoppelkamp (Wien)

Wilhelm Jerusalem and the Philosophy of Social Reform: Is there an Austrian Pragmatism?

16.45–17.25

Friedrich Stadler (Wien)

Ernst Mach and Pragmatism

[Heuriger \(speakers invited\)](#)

Saturday, November 9

Location: Institut für Zeitgeschichte, Seminarraum 1, Campus of the University of Vienna

9.00–9.40

Heikki J. Koskinen (Helsinki)

Quine, Ontology, and Pragmatism

9.45–10.25

Matthias Neuber (Tübingen)

Feigl, Sellars, and the Idea of a 'Pure Pragmatics'

Coffee Break

11.00–11.40

Maria Carla Galavotti (Bologna)

The Ghost of Pragmatism. An Inquiry into the Foundations of Probability

11.45–12.25

Sami Pihlström (Helsinki)

On the Viennese Background of Harvard Neopragmatism

12.30–13.10

Thomas Uebel (Manchester)

American Pragmatism and the Vienna Circle

13.15: Closing Words

[Lunch](#)