

Editorial

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You have in your hands—or possibly on a webpage loaded in your browser—the first issue of the *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* (EJPS). EJPS is a blind-refereed journal for all areas of philosophy of science, staffed by a truly international editorial team. Few other journals meet this description, and for this reason alone it should be welcomed to the increasingly international world of philosophy of science. But EJPS aims to be something more than just another front-line journal with very high standards.

A colleague of ours has argued that philosophy of science should be regarded as “the continuation of science by other means”; we agree with this characterization. In their attempt at gaining an understanding of our place in the universe, philosophy and science are inseparable. There is in fact no way to clearly demarcate the content and the doing of science from philosophy, nor any way to do good philosophy without input and impact from the sciences. The more we can do to open gates in the disciplinary fences between philosophy and the sciences, the better work in both domains will be. To paraphrase Einstein’s paraphrase of Kant, science without philosophy is blind, and philosophy without science is empty.

For these reasons, we will occasionally publish themed issues dedicated to topics that can advance our aims of establishing deeper connections between philosophy and real science, or which study the impacts of science on the manifest image of the world, thereby opening new areas of discussion for philosophy of science as a whole. We therefore invite philosophers and scientists who want to build new bridges between the two disciplines to think of EJPS as the natural place to send their work.

In 2011 irrationality and anti-scientific attitudes are perhaps as internationally widespread and dangerous as they were when the Vienna Circle began to meet. Despite the presence of a common European currency, our present economic and ecological crises demand new and extraordinary creative efforts both in science and

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technology, efforts which philosophy can and ought to contribute to sustain. It would be desirable for philosophers to not stand idly on the sidelines, but to speak out publicly against irrationality and the folly of ignoring the best methodology to ascertain empirical facts (think, for example, of the need to evaluate more carefully our present evidence for global climate change). We think that in current challenges of this sort philosophy of science should play a leading role, and EJPS will try to support the engagement of philosophy with the wider public sphere as well.

It is in this sense that we hope to carry forward the European traditions in philosophy of science and natural philosophy, associated with names such as Einstein, Weyl, Cassirer, Schlick, Neurath, Carnap, Popper and Reichenbach. The analytic philosophical tradition that partly arose with the works of these European philosophers today is still alive also in continental Europe, and is gaining strength year by year. Europe has now an organism to promote this tradition in philosophy of science: *EPSA*, the *European Philosophy of Science Association*. EJPS is its official journal, and its partner in fomenting a stronger, more diverse, and more scientifically and socially relevant international community of philosophers of science. We look forward to your joining us!

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EJPS