

The Economists' Philosophy Day – A celebration of philosophical reflection in economic science - 20 Nov. 2025

In deference to the work of all inquisitive minds, past and present, who have embraced philosophical reflection to understand the consequential events for people's wellbeing, the *Journal of Philosophical Economics* in partnership with *The Working Group on Economic Philosophy and Ethics in the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Philosophie (DG Phil)* announce this call for the fourth edition of the [Economists' Philosophy Day](#).

In October 2005, the UNESCO General Conference proclaimed the third Thursday of November every year 'World Philosophy Day' recalling that 'philosophy is a discipline that encourages critical and independent thought and is capable of working towards a better understanding of the world and promoting tolerance and peace.'

It is in this spirit that the organizers propose to celebrate Economists' Philosophy Day by organizing online plenary sessions on scientific communication dedicated to the philosophical landmarks through which our science has been challenged, for better or for worse. For this edition, this call invites contributions in the theme of

The Past of the Futures: Inquiries Through the Lens of Economic Philosophy

A fundamental assumption underlying many approaches in economics, ethics, and philosophy is that human action involves taking future-oriented decision-making thereby influencing the conditions for the realization of future states. From this perspective, human action connects the past and the future; and human beings, endowed with scientific knowledge or simply obvious reasoning, can achieve some control over future states of affairs. An epistemic, an ontological, and a pragmatic problem can be associated with this premise. The *epistemic problem* concerns the relevance and validity of the knowledge that actors have gained or can gain about the social world. The *ontological problem* is based on assumptions about the nature of the social reality in which we act. Does this reality allow for a connection between the past and future based on human action? The *pragmatic problem* has to do with how our projects change because we act as part of the world, observe how we and others act, and make predictions about future states based on that observation. The common denominator of all problems is that something that is of our making cannot be independent of us.

Through the lens of economic philosophy, the aim of this call for papers is to explore how theories or approaches in disciplines such as economics, philosophy, or ethics have

dealt with the three problems mentioned above. Submissions should provide innovative and thought-provoking perspectives that align with the theme of the symposium including but not limited to

- 📖 The relationship between uncertainty and human existence, and how uncertainty can be the basis for a broader understanding of temporality and meaning.
- 📖 The role of moral theories for the understanding of epistemic problems.
- 📖 The difference that taking the lifeworld perspective can make in understanding human action.
- 📖 How contemporary challenges (e.g., climate change, technological development, economic inequities) reshape philosophical approaches to uncertainty.

Proposals of approx. 500 words are expected by **April 25, 2025**. After acceptance, authors are invited to submit the full version of their study for peer-review. Proposals will be sent to editor@jpe.ro and Michaela.Haase@fu-berlin.de. Paper presentations can also be proposed in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Working Group on Economic Philosophy and Ethics, taking place from September 18–20, 2025, in St. Gallen, Switzerland ([Past of Futures CfP.pdf](#)).

Organizers

Journal of Philosophical Economics, Bucharest University of Economic Studies

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*The Working Group on Economic Philosophy and Ethics in the Deutsche
Gesellschaft für Philosophie (DG Phil)*