

**THIRD SOFIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ONTOLOGY — 2012
(SICO'12)**

Dynamic Being

(21 — 24 June 2012; Sofia, Bulgaria)

I. Conference description:

The idea: The conference is meant to bring together scholars working on dynamic aspects of ontological issues. The idea is to try to establish important commonalities between process research, research concerning interactions between mind and world, as well as their possible formalizations with the objective of enabling further interdisciplinary research.

The aim: The aim of the conference is to explore some outstanding contemporary trends in ontology, especially those connected with the contemporary results in dynamic ontology. Particularly important will be analytic and continental perspectives on dynamic ontology; dynamic approaches to mind, language and cognition; and formal aspects of processes.

Topics: The idea and the aim of the conference suggest three main overlapping topics:

1. Contemporary results in dynamic ontology.

One of the most important characteristics of the present day ontological investigations is the growing interest in, and emphasis on, the dynamic aspects of being and on the processuality of being itself. A deeper understanding of dynamics is relevant not only for the main philosophical trends of analytic and continental philosophy, but also for recent developments in process philosophy that attempt to overcome at least some of the conflicts between both traditions. Possibilities of contemporary computer technologies will be discussed for the development of dynamic ontologies in a wide sphere of applied areas, including mind, language and cognition. The present subtopic will be focused on these new tendencies in the ontological research and on the comparison of these tendencies with traditional ontological investigations.

2. Dynamic approaches to Mind, Language, and Cognition.

Contemporary theories of mind and knowledge emphasize the importance of the interaction between mind and world in explaining the nature of mind or knowledge. Embodied cognition, relational conceptions of perceptual experience and knowledge in general, as well as ecological rationality, are some of the relevant conceptions. Other philosophers are more interested in dynamic phenomena described by science, such as the theory of evolution and cognitive development. The present subtopic aims at revealing useful commonalities between such kinds of theories.

3. Formal aspects of processes.

Recently we have experienced a dynamic turn in our understanding of logic and knowledge. Now they are predominantly conceptualized in processual terms and the exploration of their patterns of change gave us significant new insights in their respective theoretical fields and proper understanding of their social aspects. These trends can be seen as complementary to the current approaches in dynamic ontology.

Expected results: The discussions will lead to the publication of selected papers by a high-quality publisher. This volume will:

- improve our understanding of dynamic and process ontology;
- improve our understanding of the dynamic approaches to mind, language, and cognition;
- successfully argue that process philosophy can provide better conceptual tools for overcoming the conflict between analytic and continental ontology, at least in some respects;
- provide better understanding of the formal aspects of processes;
- provide better possibilities for interdisciplinary co-operative work between scientists and ontologists.

II. Organizers:

Institute for the Study of Societies and Knowledge — Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

Department of *Philosophy* of the Philosophical Faculty of SU “St. Kl. Ohridski”

Bulgarian National Science Fund

Bulgarian Ontological Society

III. Local Organizing committee:

1. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vesselin Petrov (ISSK — BAS) — head
2. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aneta Karageorgieva (SU “St. Kl. Ohridski”)
3. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dimiter Dimitrov (TU – Sofia)
4. Assist. Prof. Dr. Marina Bakalova (ISSK-BAS)
5. Assist. Prof. Dr. Rosen Lutskanov (ISSK-BAS)
6. PhD student Dimitar Ivanov (SU “St. Kl. Ohridski”)

IV. Program committee:

1. Prof. Francois Beets (Belguim)
2. Prof. Frank Veltman (The Netherlands)
3. Prof. Heinrich Herre (Germany)
4. Prof. Helmut Maaßen (Germany)
5. Prof. Johanna Seibt (Denmark)
6. Prof. John Sowa (USA)
7. Prof. Michel Weber (Belgium)
8. Prof. Nenad Miscevic (Slovenia)
9. Prof. Roberto Poli (Italy)
10. Prof. Timothy Williamson (UK)
11. Prof. William Hamrick (USA)
12. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vesselin Petrov (Bulgaria)

V. Invited speakers:

1. Prof. Helmut Maaßen (Germany)
2. Prof. Johanna Seibt (Denmark)
3. Prof. John Sowa (USA)
4. Prof. Michel Weber (Belgium)
5. Prof. Nenad Miscevic (Slovenia)
6. Prof. Roberto Poli (Italy)

VI. Provisional schedule:

(to be presented)

The conference itself will be held on 21-23 June; the last day 24th June is reserved for a cultural program (excursion outside Sofia). Details in the second announcement.

VII. Conference abstracts and papers:

Submission of abstracts: approximately 500 words

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 1 March 2012

Notification of acceptance: 15 April 2012

Submission of papers: up to 3000 words

Publication: A collection of papers will be published in a high-quality publishing house.

VIII. Registration and accommodation:

Registration fee: 25 Euro, payable at the beginning of the conference. The Organizing committee does not cover any costs (Hotel, Meals, and Travel) of participants. Invited speakers' participation costs for Hotel and Meals will be covered.

Accommodation and hotel: "Slavyanska beseda", web address: <http://slavyanska.com/>

IX. General Information:

Place: Sofia University, central building, Hall 1

Date: 21 — 24 June 2012

Working language: English

Contact persons (phone, e-mails): Vesselin Petrov, e-mail: petrov.vesselin@gmail.com

Web-site: <https://sites.google.com/site/dynamicbeingconference2012/>

e-mails: sico.conference.2012@gmail.com ;

petrov.vesselin@gmail.com

Second announcement: 1 May 2012

X. Useful information:

Sofia: Sofia is the capital of Bulgaria with a population of about 2 million people. The city is very old; its origin is about 2000 years ago. There are many museums and historical buildings to visit. Very close and easily reached is the mountain of Vitosha (in 1 hour with the transport from the centrum of the city). There is a lift to the top of the mountain, from where there is a beautiful view of the whole city, as well as to the mountain of Rila. Easily reached is also the mountain of Rila (about 140 km from Sofia), on which is located the greatest and one of the oldest monasteries in Bulgaria — Rila monastery. On the other hand, the second town in Bulgaria — Plovdiv — is in 120 km from Sofia; it has an interesting old part with a big amphitheatre from the ancient Greek time in very good condition. All these and many other facts make Sofia a very interesting place to visit. Cultural events will be organized during the conference.

Letter of invitation: An official letter of invitation will be sent upon request to the contact person.

Visa: Bulgaria is a member of the European Union; so, the visa rules for the EU are also valid for Bulgaria.

Climate: June is the beginning of the summer in Bulgaria. Usually we enjoy a temperature around 25-30⁰ C.

Bank information: Bulgarian money are called ‘lev’. Bulgaria has a currency board which means that lev is fixed to the Euro: 1 Euro is equal to 1,95 leva.

Sofia airport code: ‘SOF ‘

Sofia Airport Terminal 1

To the Sofia University and Hotels:

- **Public Transportation: Bus 84** (due to construction works is currently with changed itinerary and travels longer. One way tickets price: 1 BGN (Lev) p. passenger + 1 BGN p. suitcase): You have to get out on **Eagle’s Bridge stop** and walk 5 min to the University;
- **Taxi options (recommended for getting to your hotel):** Please find and address at Terminal 1 Exit the Desks of either ‘**OK SUPERTRANS**’ or ‘**91280**’ Taxies. Normally, you will be charged less than 10 Euro (20 BGN) to the University & around 10 – 12 Euro (20- 24 BGN) to the hotels; Please, see below details of authentic Taxi logos.
ATTENTION: Please, do not search, or accept any offers for Taxi transportation but for the ‘**OK SUPERTRANS**’ (**OK CYHIEPTPAHC-9732121**) or ‘**91280**’ Desks’ offers and directions!

Sofia Airport Terminal 2:

To the Sofia University:

- **Public Transportation: Bus 284** (One way tickets price: 1 BGN (Lev) p. passenger + 1 BGN p. suitcase): You have to get out on **Eagle’s Bridge stop** and walk 5 min to the University;

Direct public transportation to the recommended hotels is unavailable;

- **Taxi options (recommended for getting to your hotel):** Please find and address at **Terminal 2 Exit the Desks** of either ‘**OK SUPERTRANS**’ **9732121** or ‘**91280**’ **Taxies**. Normally, you will be charged less than 10 Euro (20 BGN) to the Sofia University & around 10 to 12 Euro (20-25 BGN) to the hotels; Please, see details of authentic Taxi logos:



ATTENTION: Please, do not search, or accept any offers for Taxi transportation but for the ‘**OK SUPERTRANS**’ (**OK СУПЕРТРАНС-9732121**) or ‘**91280**’ **Desks**’ offers and directions!

XI. Sponsors:

Bulgarian National Science Fund

The full list of sponsors will be clear after finishing the negotiations with them.

XII. FAQ:

The information page on our website about the conference is still under construction. It will feature a “Frequently asked questions” section.

Last updated: October 18, 2011