Current Topics in the Philosophy of Science

The four papers assembled in this special issue on the philosophy of science *were originally presented at The Inaugural Conference of the East European Network for Philosophy of Science (EENPS) in June 24-26, 2016, in Sofia (Bulgaria). The driving idea behind initiating this network and making such a conference a reality was to bring the philosophers of science working (primarily, though not exclusively) within the former 'Eastern Block' together and enhance their co-operation with other colleagues not just from East European countries but also from other European countries and countries outside Europe. Even though the present papers are but a fragment of the conference's contributions, they clearly witness the quality and fruitfulness of the inaugural conference in particular and the EENPS's agenda in general.*

The papers figuring in this special issue of Organon F *address some of the topics that are currently discussed in the philosophy of science. Namely, Lilia Gurova's "A Reason to Avoid the Causal Construal of Dispositional Explanations" goes in line with non-reductionist (and non-causal) accounts of dispositional explanations. Gurova's paper provides an argument against a general treatment of dispositional explanations as causal ones and offers also a positive reason to account for the distinctiveness of dispositional explanations. Mario Günther's "Learning Conditional and Causal Information by Jeffrey Imaging on Stalnaker Conditionals" presents a unified account of learning uncertain conditionals and causal information modelled by Jeffrey imagining on Stalnaker conditionals. Moreover, his paper also comes with what seems to be a general solution to Douven's (2012) examples and the Judy Benjamin Problem. Duško Prelević's "Hempel's Dilemma and Research Programmes: Why Adding Stances Is Not a Boon" paper addresses two distinct approaches to Hempel's dilemma with respect to physicalism. Prelević argues for construing physicalism rather as a (Lakatosian) research programme than as a stance. Finally, in "The Role of Priors in a Probabilistic Account of 'Best Explanation'", Anton Donchev argues for a probabilistic interpretation of the 'best explanation' in terms of both, likelihoods and priors of alternative hypotheses with an emphasis on taking priors seriously. He also invites us to have a closer*

look at those conditions where Inference to the Best Explanation and Bayesian Confirmation Theory lead to the same (kind of) conclusions.

We believe that these papers make a vivid contribution to the corresponding areas of philosophy of science. We thereby thank the authors for being interested in submitting their papers to this special issue. It was a pleasure for both of us to be involved in the process of preparing and elaborating this issue.

We'd also like to thank Marian Zouhar, the editor-in-chief of Organon F*, for inviting us to edit this issue. We are extremely grateful to our reviewers, for their excellent suggestions and criticisms, and an inspiring co-operation during the whole process. From the beginning, we've been receiving a great support and encouragement from our colleagues in the EENPS' Steering Committee, especially from Daniel Kostić and Lilia Gurová and from the EPSA (European Philosophy of Science Association) Steering Comitee, especially from Stephan Hartmann and Roman Frigg who stimulated the efforts of initating the network and organizing the inaugural conference. Thank you!*

As a special bonus, we are happy to include in this volume also an interview with Professor Joseph Agassi, on occasion of his astonishing jubilee, by Zuzana Parusniková (Institute of Philosophy, Czech Academy of Sciences). This is a magnificent occasion for us and Organon F *to wish professor Agassi all the best, especially strong health and fresh intellect, for the up-coming years.*

Moreover, we are also delighted to include two book reviews – the former by Martin Zach, and the later by Jaroslav Peregrin. Both of them fit nicely into this issue.

So, without any further ado, we invite you to enjoy the reading!

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References

Douven, I. (2012): Learning Conditional Information. *Mind & Language* 27, No. 3, 239-263.