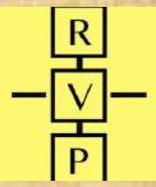




Council for Research in Values and Philosophy



RVP Newsletter — 2022

Message from the Executive Director:

Time flies. The year of 2022 has gone half way. The Council for Research in Values and Philosophy (RVP) did not cease its activities despite the restriction of the global pandemic, but rather has been getting more active in different fronts: its annual international seminar, its special research project, its regional conferences (online format), and books in its publication series.

Specifically, the Council conducted its first online annual seminar which lasted 10 months, August 2021-June 2022. After the end of usual five-week seminar sessions, August 16-September 17, 2021, most seminar participants from many countries across the world asked to add more sessions. Once a month they met online to discuss draft papers of the participants on issues related to the seminar theme “Nations, States and the Transformation of Boundaries.” The first few pages of this newsletter provide a detailed report about the 10 month-long seminar. The 2022 annual seminar will focus on “Political Order and the Ethics of Peace” with participants from more than 15 countries. It will be held both online and in person.

As usual, the Council collaborated with different universities in various countries and co-organized a set of regional conferences on issues important to each specific area. For instance, suffering understood in Islamic experience, challenges of democracy in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, religious and cultural identities in Southeast Asia, the relationship between China and the world, etc. A special one-day conversation was dedicated to **Charles Taylor** on the occasion of his birthday anniversary.

A multi-year research project “Understanding the Signs of Our Times: Philosophical and Theological Perspectives” began in October 2021. It was planned to have both a set of online seminars and in person conferences. It is a joint project of the Council and the CUA McLean Center for the Study of Culture in collaboration with the Gregorian University in Italy and the University of Erfurt in Germany. This project focuses on the philosophical and theological thought of **Romano Guardini**, one of the important theologians in the 20th century.

In 2021, six books were published in the Council’s publication series “Cultural Heritage and Contemporary Change.” The full text of all RVP publications are available on its website.

In order to think through the theme of the 25th World Congress of Philosophy “Philosophy across Boundaries” to be held in Rome, August 1-8, 2024, the Council plans to have its traditional pre-Congress conference to be held in Rome and invites those who are interested in the effort to discuss related issues from different philosophical traditions.

The Council wishes to express its deep appreciation to those who have dedicated their time and wisdom to the effort and have been willing to make their generous contributions to various activities over the years. The Council also wants to invite all to think and work together to deepen our understanding of peoples, cultures and civilizations in these complex times.

Hu Yeping
June 29, 2021

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR (2021)

Washington, DC

August 16, 2021-June 25, 2022: “**Nations, States and the Transformation of Boundaries.**” It was the first time for the Council to conduct its annual international seminar online. This was due to the global pandemic of the Covid-19 which prevented seminar participants from coming to Washington to attend the seminar in person. However, after the usual five week seminar ended in September 2021, most seminar participants asked to continue meeting once a month till June 2022.

The goal of the 2021 seminar was to promote a sustained research on political realities, such as nations and states, ethnicity and identity, nationalism and cosmopolitanism. Such issues as power and political cohesion, law of the state and the people, the meaning of borders and the conditions for international cooperation were the major concern for the seminar investigation. The seminar analyzed some of the mechanisms that determine the life of the citizen within the modern state and studied the formation and consolidation of the nation-state and how new forms of state-building and international governance might transform the system of political order based on the idea of sovereign nations.



João J. Vila-Chã (Professor of Philosophy, Gregorian University, Rome) conceptualized and directed the 2021-2022 online seminar. At the opening session, **John A. Kromkowski** (former Director of the CUA McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values; Professor of Political Science, CUA Department of Politics) spoke about the history of the RVP seminars. Seminar participants came from such countries as Argentina, Brazil, Germany, India, Kyrgyzstan, Kenya/Uganda, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, Russia, Slovakia, USA and Zimbabwe/Rwanda. Three morning sessions (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays) often lasted more than three hours (9.00am to 1.00pm or 9.30am to 1.30pm).

Seminar participants included **Ernest Beyaraza** (Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Nairobi, Kenya/Uganda), **Ogla Burukina** (Russian State University for the Humanities, Russia), **Barbara I.**

Chernykh (People's Friendship University of Russia, Russia), **Denis Chistyakov** (People's Friendship University of Russia, Russia), **Cholpon Alieva Erikovna** (International University of Kyrgyzstan and "Ala-Too" International University, Kyrgyzstan), **Pavol Dancák** (University of Presov,



João J. Vila-Chã



Ernest Beyaraza



Oğla Burukina



Barbara I. Chernykh



Denis Chistyakov



Cholpon A. Erikovna



Pavol Dancák



Mamuka Dolidze



John Farina



Lisa Häberlein



Leslie Anne Liwanag



Maximiliano Llanes



Piyali Mitra



Asha Mukherjee



Basia Nikiforova



Jean Gaëtan Nyurahayo



K. Gopinatha Pillai



Robson R. Gomes Filho



Solís N. Yves B. Roger



Marta Joanna Turkot



Lawrence Ogo Uguwanvi



Katarína Valčová



Al Franjon M. Villaroya

Slovakia), **Mamuka Dolidze** (Tbilisi State University, Georgia), **John Farina** (George Mason University, USA), **Lisa Häberlein** (Graduiertenkolleg Menschenrechte und Ethik in der Medizin für Ältere, Germany), **Leslie Anne L. Liwanag** (Visayas State University, Philippines), **Maximiliano Llanes** (Ministry of Education of the Holy See, Pontifical Foundation Gravissimum Educationis, Vatican City/Argentina), **Piyali Mitra** (University of Calcutta, India), **Asha Mukherjee** (Visva-Bharati University, India), **Basia Nikiforova** (Lithuanian Culture Research Institute, Lithuania), **Jean Gaëtan Nyurahayo** (Arrupe Jesuit University, Zimbabwe/Rwanda), **K. Gopinathan Pillai** (Santhigiri Research Foundation, India), **Robson Rodrigues Gomes Filho** (Universidade Estadual de Goiás, Brazil), **Solís Nicot Yves Bernardo Roger** (Prepa Ibero, Mexico), **Marta Joanna Turkot** (University of



Szczecin, Poland), **Lawrence Ogbo Ugwuanyi** (University of Abuja, Nigeria), **Katarína Valčová** (Comenius University of Bratislava, Slovakia), **Al Franjon M. Villaroya** (Visayas State University, Philippines).

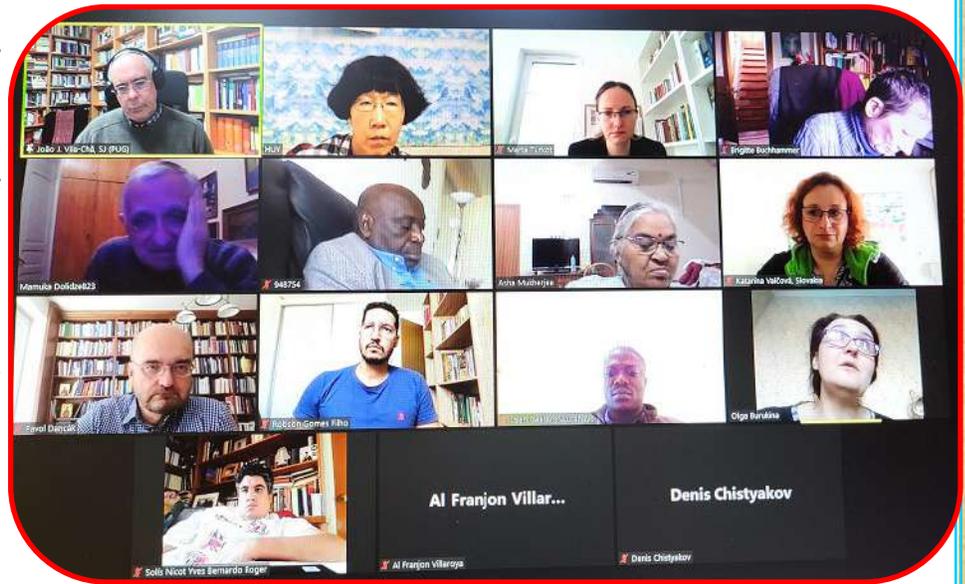
During the five-week seminar, participants read and discussed related materials selected by **Vila-Chã**. **Burukina** and **Solís** presented *Nations and Nationalism since 1780: Programme, Myth, Reality* by Eric . J. Hobsbawm; **Chernykh** and **Chistyakov** discussed *Nationalism* by Elie Kedourie; **Liwanag** and **Villaroya** discussed *The History of the Race Idea: From Ray to Carus and Race and State* by Eric Voegelin; **Dancák** and **Valčová** spoke respectively on *Nations Matter: Culture, History, and the Cosmopolitan Dream* by Craig Calhoun and *Nations: The Long History and Deep Roots of Political Ethnicity and Nationalism* by Azar Gat and Alexander Jakobson; **Mitra** and **Turkot** presented *Visions of Empire: How Five Imperial Regimes Shaped the World* by Krishan Kumar; **LLanes** and **Gomes Filho** focused on *Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity, and Poverty* by Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson; **Pillai** and **Mukherjee** shared their reading on “Imperialism, Nationalism,



Chauvinism” by Hannah Arendt and Charles Taylor’s “Nationalism and Modernity”; **Nyurahayo** and **Ugwuanyi** talked about *The Virtue of Nationalism* by Yoram Hazony; **Häberlein** summarized Michael Mann’s “The Autonomous Power of the State: Its Origins, Mechanisms and Results.”

After the five-week seminar sessions, most of the seminar participants asked to continue the conversation. In the follow-up sessions (once a month) those who took part presented their draft

papers: **Beyaraza** “Nations, States and Transformation of Boundaries from National Harmony to State Hegemony”; **Burukina** “Political Methods of Forming National Identities: Comparative Analysis of the Taiwanese and Ukrainian Cases”; **Chernykh** “The Approach to the Modern Humanism Problem: Integral Humanism and Self-Cultivation Concept”; **Chistyakov** “Social and Political Dimensions of Nation-Building:



The Cases of Katechon and Ressentiment in 21st-Century Russia”; **Dancák** “The Transformation of Borders in the Context of the War in Ukraine”; **Dolidze** “Free and Easy Sailing under the Flag of Homeland”; **Erikovnav** “History and Philosophy of the Formation of the Kyrgyz People”; **Gomes Filho** “Catholicism as National Religion: Catholic Nationalism and the Fight against Protestantism in Goiás, Brazil, at the Beginning of the 20th Century”; **Liwanag** “Islamic Traders: Exploring the Pathways and Stumbling Blocks in the Identity Construction of Selected Maranao Traders at the Quiapo Muslim Town in Manila, Philippines”; **Llanes** “Pathways to Greater Social Justice among Nations: A Contribution from South America”; **Mitra** “Cultural Nationalism and Spiritual Nationalism: A Consideration from Eric Hobsbawm and Swami Vivekananda”; **Mukherjee** “Indian Brand of Open Secularism and the Role of Religion: Dynamics and Challenges”; **Solis Nicot** “Beyond Borders and Theirs Limits: Catholic Church, Fratelli Tutti and the Transnational Approach”; **Turkot** “Tension Between the Nation-State and the Global System: The Case of Contemporary Poland on the Threshold of the 21st Century in the Context of the Covid19 Pandemic”; **Valčová** “Human Dignity and the Value of Human Life in the Framework of the Transformation of Boundaries: Slovak Experience”; **Villaroya** “Global Religious Consciousness: Ecological Conscience and the Other.”



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES (2021)

Washington, DC

January 16, 2021: **“Meaningfulness of Human Suffering in Islamic Experience.”** This was conceptualized and organized by **Karim Douglas Crow**, Research Fellow of the CUA McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values. According to the conference thematic, in major Muslim states violent conflicts often fuel many challenges, such as massive refugee displacements, natural calamities and now the global Pandemic, all of which have impacted Muslim societies. In these circumstances, the meaning and implications of suffering takes on an increased significance. The presenters examined the ethical, personal and social implications of suffering, drawing on historical and contemporary experiences from the Islamic tradition. Three keynote speakers focused on: 1. What does Islam teach about the significance and purposes of suffering and calamity: both natural



Karim Douglas Crow

or man-made, and individual or communal? 2. How may Muslims reflect upon the widespread occurrence of suffering in their societies today? What lessons can they draw from this? 3. What does global intensification of suffering signify for humans now? **Crow** moderated the entire session. Keynote speakers included **Gholamreza Aavani**, Iranian Society for Philosophy, Iran; **Ali Abdul-Amir Allawi**, Minister of Finance and Deputy Prime Minister, Iraq; **Chandra Muzaffar**, International Movement for a Just World, Malaysia. Three scholars responded: **Nasrin Rouzati**, Manhattan College, NY; **Etin Anwar** Hobart and William Smith Colleges, NY; **Reza Shah-Kazemi**, Institute of Ismaili Studies, England. **John A. Kromkowski** spoke at the concluding session.



John A. Kromkowski



Gholamreza Aavani

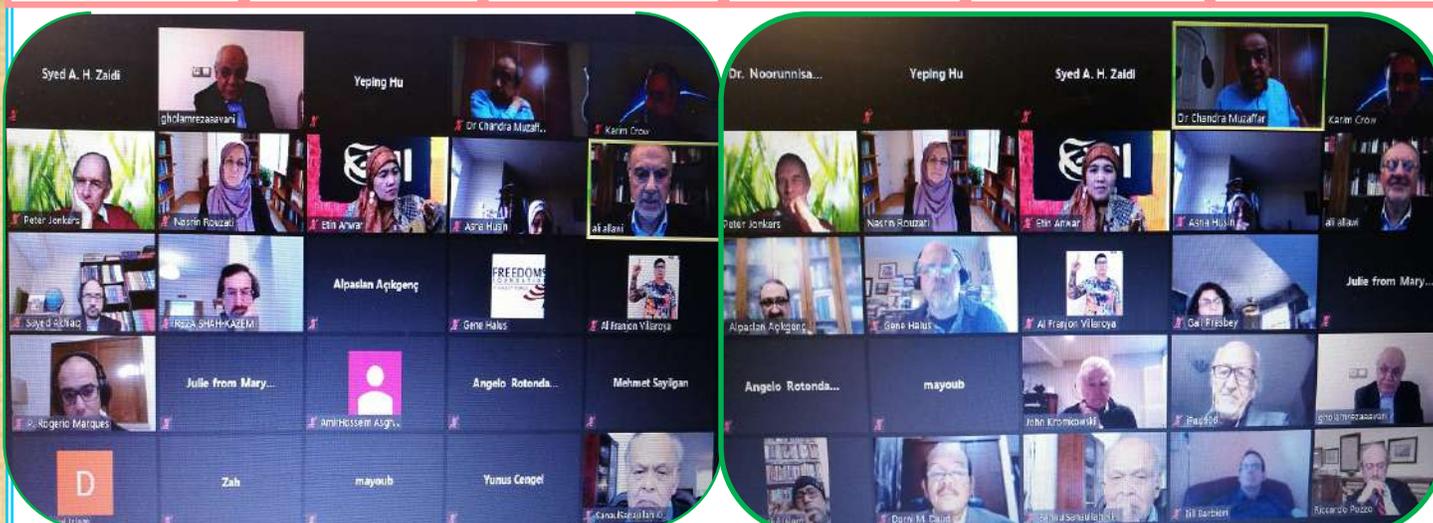
Ali Abdul-Amir Allawi

Karim Douglas Crow

Chandra Muzaffar

Etin Anwar

Reza Shah-Kazemi



Washington, DC

April 23, 2021: **"The Myth of Disenchantment and the Power of the Sacred."** This was planned and organized by **William A. Barbieri**, Director of the CUA McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values. Originally, the event was planned as an in-person meeting in April 2020; due to the pandemic, it was postponed and conducted online. The main speaker was **Hans Joas**, Professor



William A. Barbieri



Hans Joas



Charles Taylor



José Casanova

of Sociology of Religion at the Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany; **Charles Taylor**, Professor of Philosophy at McGill University, Canada and **José Casanova**, Professor of Sociology at the Georgetown University, USA, gave their comments and responses on the theme. The focus of the discussion was about the question: Does modern European secularization truly have a long prehistory in a process of "disenchantment," as Max Weber famously maintained? This is posed by contemporary criticisms of the secularization thesis. An exploration of this line of inquiry helps illuminate a number of significant difficulties with Weber's narrative of disenchantment. It also opens up the path to an alternative sociological account of religion and self-transcendence in the modern age. This theory of the interplay of moral universalism and "the power of the sacred" reveals both perils and opportunities for our times.



Kyiv, Ukraine

May 31, 2021: **“Challenges to Democracy in a Time of Great Changes.”** This was planned and organized by **Denys Kiryukhin**, Professor of Philosophy at Skovoroda's Institute of Philosophy, Ukrainian National Academy of Sciences, Ukraine. He took part in the RVP 2013 annual seminar on “Justice and Responsibility: Cultural and Philosophical Considerations.” **Svitlana Shcherbak**, Professor of Philosophy from the same Institute co-organized the event. Speakers included **Anatol Lieven**



Anatol Lieven



Pavlo Kutuyev



Sanjeev Kumar H. M.



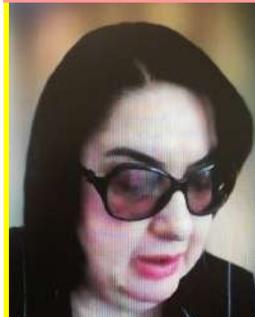
Andrew Yeo



Denys Kiryukhin



Mikhail Minakov



Tinatin Bochorishvili



Grivas M. Kayange



José Casanova



Svitlana Shcherbak

Lieven (Georgetown University Qatar, Qatar) “Why Democracies Fail: The Contingent Nature of Political Systems,” **Pavlo Kutuyev** (National Technical University of Ukraine, Ukraine) “Democracy and State Capacity: How to Build Developmental State in a Democratic Environment,” **Sanjeev Kumar H. M.** (University of Delhi, India) “The Shrinking Democratic Space in the age of Authoritarian Populism: The Islamophobic Discourse of Hindu Nationalism and the making of the Illiberal Public Culture in India,” **Andrew Yeo** (Catholic University of America, USA) “Nationalist Polarization and Weak Institutional Norms: Democratic Ceilings in South Korea,” **Mikhail Minakov** (Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, USA) “30 Years of Democratization in Ukraine,” **Tinatin Bochorishvili** (University of Georgia, Georgia) “Contemporary Challenges of Democracy in Georgia,” and **Grivas M. Kayange** (University of Malawi, Malawi) “African Neoliberal Democracy and the Collapse of the Corporation.” **José Casanova** gave the concluding remark.



Bucharest, Romania

June 4-5, 2021: **"The Concept of Love and Its Meaning in Mystical-Theological, Literary and Philosophical Contexts."** This online conference was planned and organized by **Wilhelm Dancă**, Professor of Theology, University of Bucharest, Romania. He took part in the RVP 2008 international seminar on "History and Cultural Identity." This two-day event was conceptualized in four areas: (1) modern philosophy of love, (2) ancient and medieval philosophy of love, (3) theological understanding of love, and (4) literary and sociological approaches. It was conducted in both English and Romanian. **Aurel Percă** (Roman-Catholic Metropolitan Archbishop of Bucharest, Romania) gave the opening remark. Keynote lectures were given by **Wilhelm Danca** "The Nature of Love: The Connection between Human Love and Divine Love"; **Cornelia Helfrich** (Fundación Idente de Estudios e Investigación, Germany) "The Concept of Love in Fernando Rielo"; **Santiago Acosta-Aide** (Technical Private University of Loja, Ecuador) "The Mistical Poetry of Fernando Rielo"; **Ludwig Nagl** (Professor of Philosophy, University of Vienna, Austria) "Discourses on Love and Mysticism in American Pragmatism"; **Herta Nagl-Docekal** (University of Vienna, Austria) "This Worldly Religion of the Heart. The Relevance of Hegel's Concept of True Love for Today's Social Theory and Philosophy of Religion."



Wilhelm Dancă

Gabriela Tănăsescu and **Cornelia Eșianu** moderated the first English session "Modern Philosophy on Love." Speakers included **Errol Boon** (Utrecht University of the Arts, Netherlands) "The Finite Passion for Infinite Love. Or What Does It Mean by the Promise of Everlasting Love?"; **Cornelia Eșianu** (University of Vienna, Austria) "The Figure of the Refugee as an Identity Breaker and an Opening Towards Transcendence in the Form of Love"; **Rebecca Reichenberg** (Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium) "The Becoming God: The Concept of Love in the Philosophy of F.W.J. Schelling"; **Elodie Gontier** (Lycée Polyvalent Evariste Galois, France) "Self-love, Others and Christian Love in Kierkegaard's Books"; **Gregor Damschen** (University of Oldenburg, Germany) "Towards a Unified Theory of Personal Love"; **Francesco Ragni** (Universita Roma Tre, Italy) "Figures of Transcendence in Günther Anders: *Musik, Liebe, Technik*"; **Gabriela Tănăsescu** (Romanian Academy, Romania) "Love of Neighbor and the Augustinian Foundations of Hannah Arendt's Political Thought"; **Annika Hand** (German Society for French-Language Philosophy, Germany) "Self-giveness and Literary Expression as Commitment"; **Brigitte Buchhammer** (University of Vienna and Linz, Austria) "Beyond Commodification and Naturalization: Sexuality and Love as a Challenge for Feminist Philosophy"; **Lou Agosta** (University of Chicago, USA) "Empathy is the New Love."



Petru Dimitriu and **Wilhelm Dancă** moderated the second English session “Ancient and Medieval Philosophy.” Presenters were **Mircea Dumitru** (University of Bucharest, Romania) “The Universal and the Individual. Aristotle on Substance and *Philia* (Friendship-Love)”; **Maria Schwartz** (University of Augsburg, Germany) “Philosophical Eros, Tyrannical Eros and Pleasure (*hêdonê*) in Plato”; **Stephan Hecht** (Fordham University, USA and Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität München, Germany) “The Concept of Mystical Love in Philo of Alexandria”; **Michael Wladika** (International Theological Institute Trumau, Austria) “Plotinus and St. Augustine: Love as Unifier, Love as Triunfier”; **Stefano Marchionni** (Pontifical Gregorian University and Liceo Scientifico “E. Torricelli” in Rome, Italy) “Love as the Fulfillment of the Rational Creature. Anselm of Aosta’s Reflection and Testimony”; **Ioana Gogeanu** (University of Bucharest, Romania) “Truth, Identity, and Difference in Walter Hilton’s ‘Love Unformed’: The Scale of Perfection”; **Claudia Melica** (Università Roma Sapienza, Italy) “On Love. Hegel’s Interpretation of Eckhart’s Mysticism”; **Irene Breuer** (University of Wuppertal, Germany) “Aristotle and Husserl on the Ethical Value of Love”; **Lauren Edwards** (York University, Canada) “The Unnecessary Presumably Necessary Beloved”; **Gertrude Postl** (Suffolk County Community College, USA) “From Mysticism to Psychoanalysis: Julia Kristeva’s Love for Teresa of Avila.”



“On Love. Hegel’s Interpretation of Eckhart’s Mysticism”; **Irene Breuer** (University of Wuppertal, Germany) “Aristotle and Husserl on the Ethical Value of Love”; **Lauren Edwards** (York University, Canada) “The Unnecessary Presumably Necessary Beloved”; **Gertrude Postl** (Suffolk County Community College, USA) “From Mysticism to Psychoanalysis: Julia Kristeva’s Love for Teresa of Avila.”

Dan Siserman and **Ana Maria Răducan** moderated

the third English session “Theological Understanding of Love.” The following speakers presented their papers: **Daniel Barbu** (University of Bucharest, Romania) “Love: The Riddle of History Solved”; **Ana Maria Răducan** (Institute for Advanced Studies in Levant Culture and Civilization, Romania) “Searching for the Divine Love. Symeon the New Theologian”; **Emanuel Sălăgean** (University of Bucharest and Adventus University of Cernica, Romania) “The Value of Love in Terms of Ontological, Epistemological and Social Harmony in George F. McLean’s Writings”; **Leyla Tajer** (HELP University, Malaysia) “The Necessity of Self-Love in The Journey of Self-Awareness: Investigating in Rumi’s Mathnawi”; **Sreekala M Nair** (Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, India) “Union of the Self and the Other in Mystic Love: Exploring the Philosophical Footings of Andal’s Bridal Mysticism”; **Iuliana Lupeanu** (University Ovidius of Constanța, Romania) “The Meaning of True Sacrifice in the Minor Prophets’ View”; **Liana Gehl** (University of Bucharest, Editor ARCB Publishing House, Romania) “The Last Letter. On the Correspondence between Vladimir Ghika and Jacques Maritain”; **Ruxandra Dreptu** (UAP Romania and Association Internațională des Critiques d’Art, Romania) “Was There Love in Paradise? Adam and Eve. Paintings of the Lost Love Story”; **Alexandru Cânda** (Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania) “Love in the Time of Love. Revealing Meaning, Mystical Exaltation and Fulfilling Delight”; **Tone Svetelj** (Hellenic College, USA) “Transforming Power of Touching.”

Cosmin Spaschi and **Liana Măjeri** moderated the first Romanian session. Speakers included **Gabriela Blebea Nicolae** (Univ. București) “Responsabilitatea iubirii și iubirea responsabilă”; **Lucian Nicolae** (Univ. București) “Căderea din Eros. Agape sau criza socratică din *Banchetul*”; **Liana Măjeri** (Univ. “Babeș-Bolyai” Cluj-Napoca; Univ. “Eberhard-Karls” Tübingen, Germany) “Alain Badiou și reinventarea iubirii: de la contingență la proiect”; **Claudia Marta** (Univ. “Babeș-Bolyai” Cluj-Napoca) “Iubirea ca s(u)punere. Badiou, Marion, Deleuze despre iubire și numire”; **Paul Mercier** (Univ. “Babeș-Bolyai” Cluj-Napoca) “Triumful deznădăjduirii prin iubire: a simți Misterul cu Gabriel Marcel”; **Radu-Alexandru Dincă** (Univ. București) “Despre posibile modalități de ameliorare a formelor de nebunie în relațiile interumane prin filosofia lui B. Spinoza”; **Cosmin Spaschi** (UAIC Iași) “Dimensiuni ale iubirii în operele lui Giordano Bruno: de la erosul mundan la erosul



divin”; **Daniela Anton** (Univ. Bacău) “Iubire, stadialitate și șlefuire în devenirea sinelui”; **Cristian Bălănean** (Episcopia Greco-Catolică Oradea) “*Theophilia* și *philanthrōpia*. Reflecții aristotelice și tomiste.”

Ștefan Beca and **Lorena Stuparu** moderated the second Romanian session. Following scholars presented their papers: **Alexandru Ronai** (Univ. Politehnica din București) “Ipostazele spirituale în piesa didactică *Sfânta Johanna a Abatoarelor* de Bertolt Brecht”; **Nadejda Ivanov** (CȘ Institutul de Filologie Română “Bogdan Petriceicu-Hașdeu”) “Problema experienței religioase și a iubirii în romanul *O lume se destramă* de Chinua Achebe”; **Nicoleta Constantin** (Univ. București; Muzeul Național al Satului Dimitrie Gusti) “Iubirea – eros și agape – la Mircea Eliade”; **Lorena Stuparau** (Romanian Academy) “Iubire și căutare inițiativă în romanul *Noaptea de Sânziene* de Mircea Eliade”; **Ileana Stănculeasa** (Univ. București, fost consilier în Secretariatul de Stat pentru Culte) “De la eros la agape: Abélard și Héloïse”; **Mihaela Voicu** (Univ. București) “Regina sau Graalul? Conflictul între două iubiri în romanul *La Queste del Saint*”; **Roxana Zanea** (Colegiul Național Octav Onicescu) “Reprezentări ale Fecioarei Maria în cultura goticului francez”; **Marta-Elise Andro** (Univ. București) “Un stil de viață născut din iubirea creștină”; **Carmen Potra** (Teologie, Asistentă medicală) “Când viața stă de vorbă cu moartea. Datorie și caritate în îngrijirea bolnavului incurabil”; **Ștefan Beca** (Univ. București) “Iubirea aproapei – o preocupare între dreptate și caritate.”



Jakarta, Indonesia

June 23, 2021: **"The Meaning of Cultural and Religions Identity in the Pluralistic and Globalized World."** This was planned and organized by **Mikhael Dua**, Professor of Philosophy at the Atma Jaya Catholic University, Jakarta, Indonesia and **Nurrohman Syarif**, Professor of Islamic Study at the Islamic State University, Sunan Gunung Djati, Bandung, Indonesia. Both of them took part in the RVP 2019 seminar on The Meaning of Democracy: Foundations and Contemporary Challenges." **Anna Marietta Da Silva**, Lecturer of Linguistics at the Atma Jaya Catholic University of Indonesia, opened the conference with a ceremony. **Dua** gave the opening remarks introducing the thematic of the conference. The first session on "Local Wisdom" was moderated by **FX Armada Riyanto**



Anna Marietta Da Silva



Michael Dua



FX Armada Riyanto

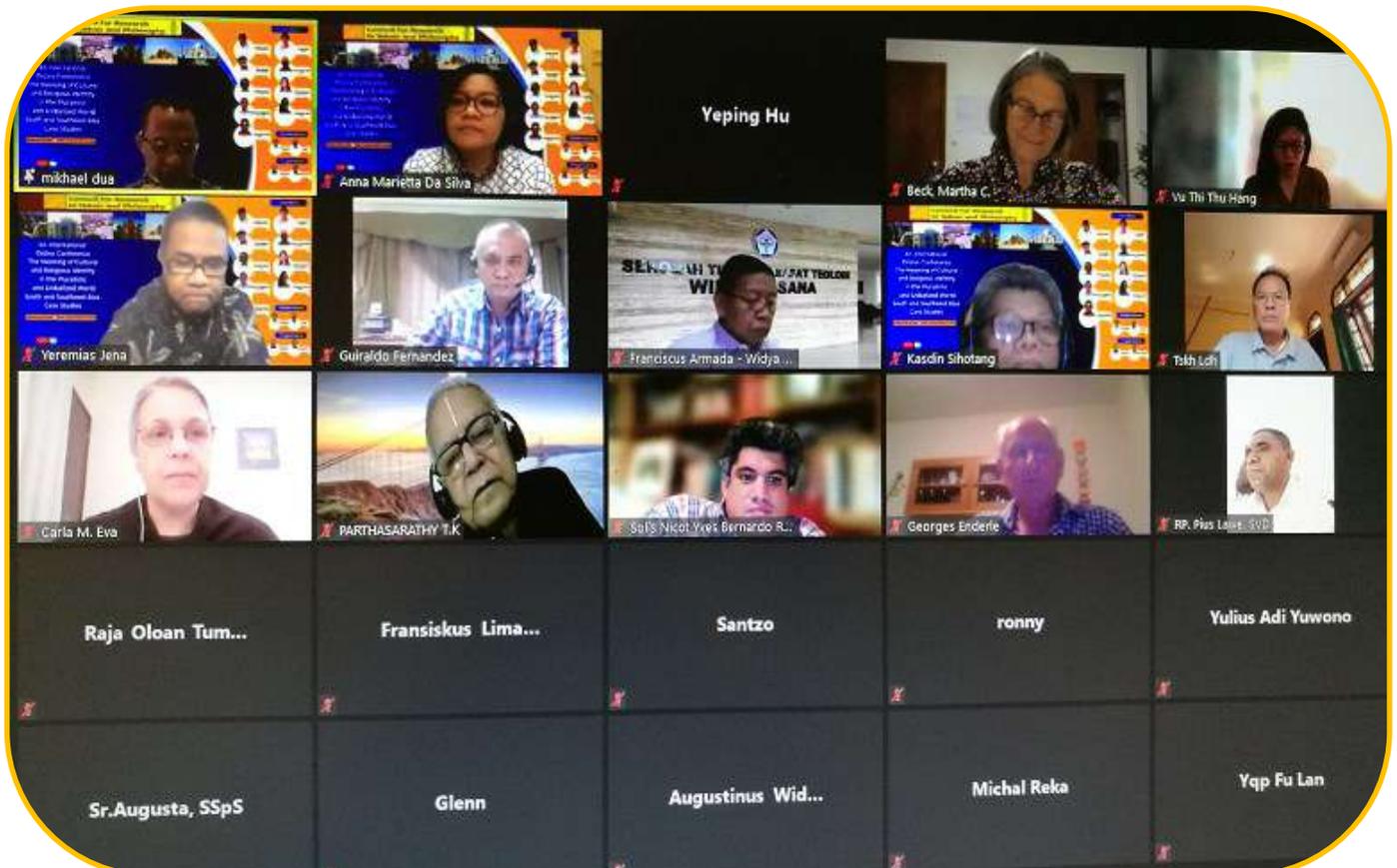


Yemerias Jena



João J. Vila-Chã

(Malang School of Philosophy and Theology, Indonesia). Speakers included **Alois Agus Nugroho** (Atma Jaya Catholic University) "Local Wisdom and Phronetical Wisdom"; **Martha Beck** (Lyon College Batesville, USA) "Weaving Together a Global Civilization That Nurtures Justice and Peace"; **Christine Carmela R. Ramos** (Mapua Institute of Technology, Philippines) "Reflections on Filipino Concept of Loob in the Global Realm"; **T. K. Parthasarathy** (University of Madras, India) "Understanding the Good Life"; **Hadje Sadje** (The University of London, UK) "Multiple Religious



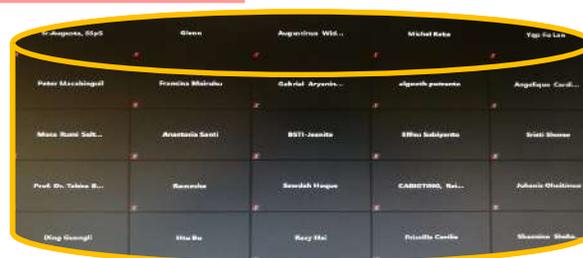
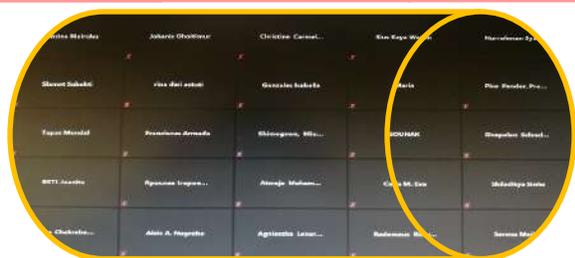
Belonging, Rethinking Religious Identity in the Global Rise of Religious Fundamentalism.” **Yeremias Jena** (Atma Jaya Catholic University) moderated the second session “Cultural and Religious Identities.” The following scholars presented their papers: **Achmad Charris Zubair** (Gadjahmada State University, Indonesia) “Islam and Indonesian Cultures: A Dynamic Encounter”; **Thummapudi Barathi** (S. P. Mahila University, India) “Christianity in an Indian Social Context”; **Sreekala Nair** (Nalanda University, India) “Reforming Hinduism to Retain Religious Identity: The Kerala Model.” **João J. Vila-Chã** concluded the event, which ended with a local music performance.



Alios Agus Nugroho **Martha Beck** **Christine C. R. Ramos** **T. K. Parthasarathy**



Hadje Sadje **Achmad Charris Zubair** **Thummapudi Barathi** **Sreekala Nair**



**Council for Research
in Values and Philosophy**

Speakers

An International Online Conference
The Meaning of Cultural and Religious Identity
in the Pluralistic and Globalized World
South and Southeast Asia Case Studies

Jakarta, June 23, 2021, 09.00 – 16.00 UTC/GMT +7 hours

LIVE ZOOM

A.C. Zubair
INDONESIA

João J. Vila-Chã
ITALY

Martha Beck
USA

C.R.R. Ramos
FRANCE

Alios A. Nugroho
INDONESIA

Sreekala Nair
INDIA

T. Parthasarathy
INDIA

Moderators

Organizers

Shanghai, P.R. China

July 24, 2021: “China and the World in the Context of Global Changes.” This online seminar was planned by **Liu Yong**, Professor of Political Sciences at the School of Marxism, Tongji University, Shanghai, China. He was a visiting scholar during the year of 2012-2013 and took part in the 2013

seminar “Justice and Responsibility: Cultural and Philosophical Considerations.” **Xu Rong**, Dean of the School of Marxism of Tongji University, moderated the opening session. **Lu Peiming**, Vice President of Tongji University and **Min Hui**, Vice Director of Shanghai Municipal Education Commission and **Hu Yeping** spoke at the opening session. Foreign speakers included **Dennis McNamara** (Georgetown University, USA) “Grass-roots Organization in the Pandemic: The Significance of Grid Coordination 网格协调 for Global Health Policy”; **William Sweet** (St Francis Xavier University, Canada) “Pandemics, the



Desire for Security, and Global Governance”; **Pham Van Duc** (Social Philosophy Philosophical Association of Vietnam, Vietnam) “The Concept of Good Society: Confucian and Vietnamese Perspectives” (represented by **Tran Tuan Phong**, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences); **Asna Husan** (Ar-Raniry State Islamic University, Indonesia) “Cultural Dialogue between Islam and China: Historical Significance and Contemporary Challenges”; **Ernest Beyaraza** (Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya) “Regionalism Challenges Beckon One Belt and One Road to Africa”; **Ananta Kumar Giri** (Madras Institute of Development Studies, India) “Dialogue of Civilizations and Cross-cultural Understanding: China, India and the Calling of Planetary Conversations”; **Yevhen Laniuk** (Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine) “Power in the Digital Age: Social Credit System in the Prism of Panopti Studies”; **Etienne Van Camp** (KU Leuven, Belgium) “China at the Crossroad.”



Chinese Scholars from many universities across China shared their insights and experiences: **Xie Chao** (Shanghai Lixin University of Accounting and Finance, Shanghai) “Global Changes and the Construction of China's Knowledge System”; **Ouyang Kang** (Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan) “Unprecedented Global Changes and the Future Trend of Humanity”; **Ai Silin** (Tsinghua University, Beijing) “Three Dimensions of the New Road of Chinese-style Modernization”; **Wang Yiwei** (Renmin University of China, Beijing) “Three Dimensions of a Community



Xie Chao



Ouyang Kang



Ai Silin



Wang Yiwei



Lui Gongfang



Wang Yonggui



Wu Hongzhang



Shen Yi



Song Chaolong



Jiang Hong



Dong Hui



Zhou Zhiqiang



Li Zhen



Zhao Yingcheng



Hu Daping



Pang Lisheng



Zhang Banghui



Wang Qiang



Zhang Runzhi

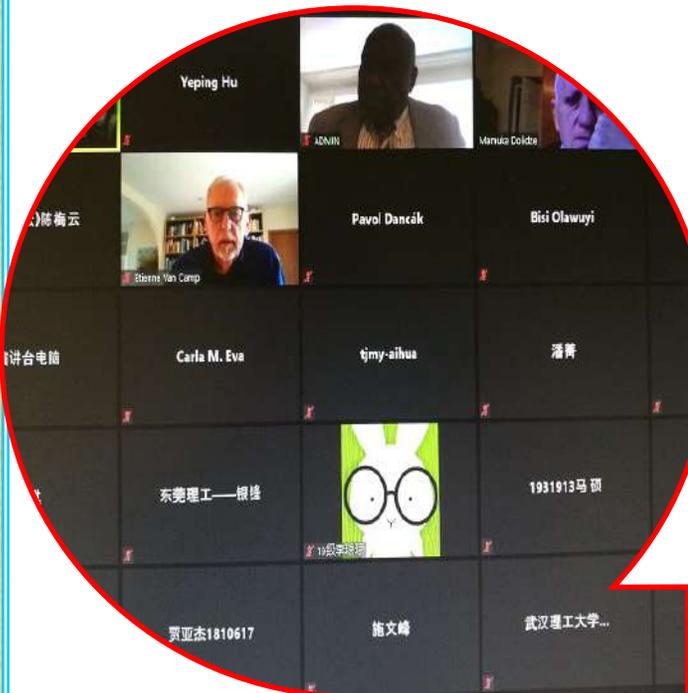


Zhang Jing

with a Shared Future for Humankind”; **Liu Tongfang** (Zhejiang University, Hongzhou) “How to Understand and Restart the Relationship between China and the World?”; **Wang Yonggui** (Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing) “Common Values for the Construction of a Community with Shared Values”; **Wu Hongzhang** (Jinlin University, Jinlin) “‘Kant Problem’ in Marx’s Theory of World History”; **Shen Yi** (Fudan University, Shanghai) “Cognition of Global Changes and Competitions of World Superpower”; **Song Chaolong** (Peking University, Beijing) “Division of the East and the West in World History and Cooperation under the Socialist System in the 21st Century”; **Jiang**

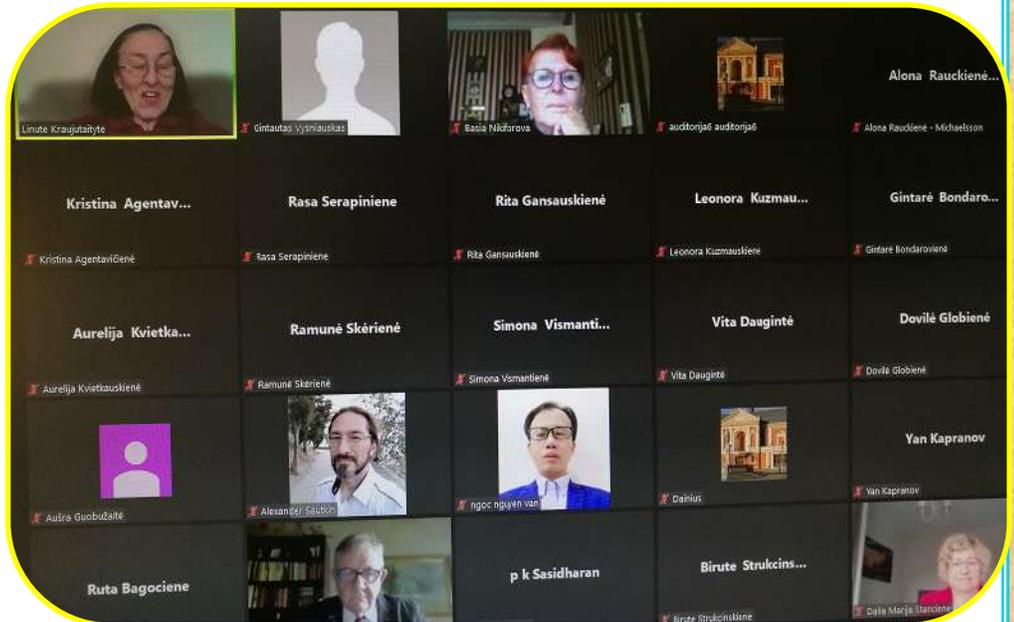


Hong (Yunnan University Kunming) "China and the World Understood from Cultural Perspectives"; **Dong Hui** (Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan) "Global Changes and China's National Security"; **Zhou Zhiqiang** (Liberation Daily, Shanghai) "A Community with a Shared Future for Humankind: An Important Interface for Building a New International Discourse System"; **Li Zhen** (Tongji University) "How Can Humankind Share Their Destiny?"; **Zhao Yingcheng** (Journal of Research on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics, Beijing) "Chinese Models of Modernization"; **Hu Daping** (Nanjing University, Nanjing) "China's Road and New Forms of Civilization"; **Pang Lisheng** (Northeast Normal University, Changchun) "The World Meaning of a Chinese Model of Modernization"; **Zhang Banghui** (Chongqing University, Chongqing) "The Unique Road Pioneered by the Chinese Community Party in the Past Century"; **Wang Qiang** (Northwest University, Xi'an) "Chinese Stories of Development in the New Era"; **Zhang Runzhi** (Beijing Normal University, Beijing) "Historic Experience and Significance of the Anti-corruption Movement within the Communist Party of China."



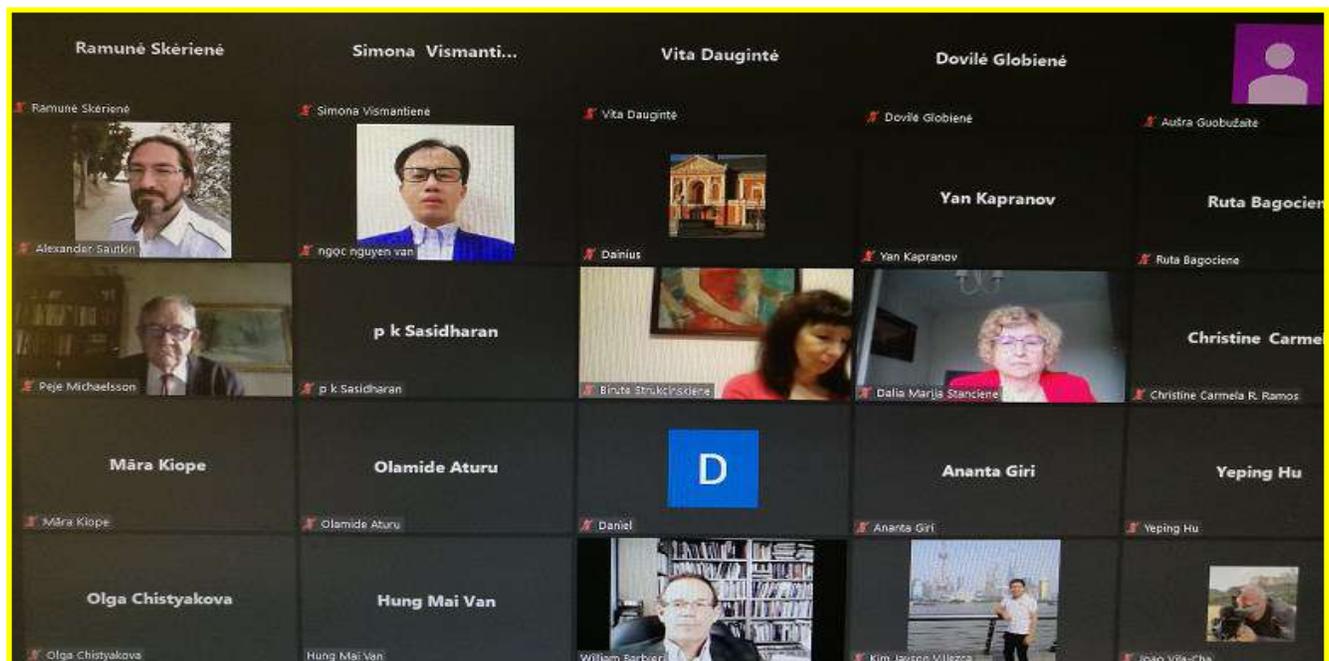
Klaipeda, Lithuania

October 4-5, 2021: **“Well-Being, Artificial Intelligence and the Ethical Challenges.”** This online event was initiated by **Dalia Marija Stančienė**, Professor of Philosophy of Klaipeda University, Klaipeda, Lithuania, who took part in the RVP 2012 Spring seminar on “Role of Religions in Public Discourse: Recent Development in the Thought of Jurgen Habermas.” **Stančienė** and her colleagues from her University **Arvydas Martinkėnas**, **Alona Rauckienė-Michaelsson**, **Gintautas Vyšniauskas**, **Algimantas Kirkutis**, **Audronė Suokaitė**, **Dainius Aponkus**, **Juozas Ivanauskas**, **Tatjana Žuravliova** along with **Aleksander Sautkin** from Murmansk Arctic State University, Russia, planned and conceptualized for the two day conference. From the



Klaipėda University, **Artūras Razbdauskas** (Rector), **Aelita Skarbaliene** (Dean of Health Sciences Faculty) and **Alona Raycjuebe-Michaelsson**, (Director of Health Research and Innovation Science Center) gave opening remarks. **Stančienė** and her colleagues **Alona Rauckienė-Michaelsson**, **Gintautas Vyšniauskas**, **Peje Michaelsson**, **Basia Nikiforova**, **Gintautas Vyšniauskas**, **Linutė Kraujutaitytė**, **Linutė Kraujutaitytė** and **Alona Rauckienė-Michaelsson** moderated different sessions.

Speakers included scholars from Klaipeda University: **Algimantas Kirkutis** “Innovative Future of Lifestyle Medicine”; **Gintautas Vyšniauskas** “Wellbeing for Whom?”; **Dalia Marija Stančienė** “Ethical Challenges in Artificial Intelligence System”; **Linutė Kraujutaitytė** “Feminist Approaches on Victimization”; **Viney Prakash Dubey** “24-Hour Movement Behaviours and Mental Health among Adolescents”; **Birutė Strukčinskienė** “Nordic Cultural Construct Sisu: How to



Develop Perseverance and Resilience for Wellbeing and Health Promotion?"

Scholars from other Lithuania universities in different cities also presented their papers: **Saulius Keturakis** (Kaunas University of Technology) "Artificial Intelligence as a Historian, a Plagiarist, and a Philosophical Zombie"; **Basia Nikiforova** (Humanities Lithuanian Culture Research Institute) "Framing Bioethics in Religious Context"; **Tomas Kavaliauskas** (Vytautas Magnus University) "Social Responsibility for Artificial Intelligence: The Case of Memory Ownership and Privacy Control in a Smart Phone"; **Tomas Sodeika** (Vilnius University) "Human Being in the Age of His Technical Reproducibility: Can a God still Save Us?"; **Lina Vidauskytė** (General Jonas Žemaitis Military Academy of Lithuania) "Artificial Intelligence, Infantilization, and Helplessness of Society."

A number of scholars from universities of other countries shared their research findings on the related issues: **Yan Kapranov** (Kyiv National Linguistic University, Ukraine) "Human Brain and Mind in the Context of Artificial Intelligence Engineering: Philosophical Reflections"; **Sofia G. Simitzi** (Hellenic Open University, Greece) "Humanism versus Transhumanism: Philosophical Reflections on the Post COVID Era"; **Lajos András Kiss** (College of Nyíregyháza, Hungary) and **Aleksandr Sautkin** (Murmansk Arctic State University, Russia) "Medicalization of the Body, Practices of Its Modification and Bioethical Paradoxes of Posthumanism"; **Béla Mester** (Institute of Philosophy, Budapest, Hungary) "Health and Illness as Metaphors of the Reflections to the Modernity"; **Māra Kiope** (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the University of Latvia, Latvia) "The Image of Human Being in the Age of Anthropological Transformation"; **Olga Chistyakova** and **Denis Chistyakov** (Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, Russia) "Eastern Church Fathers on Being Human as a Traditional Humanism of Contemporaneity" and "Biotechnology and Bioethics in Contemporary Philosophy: The Cases of Nick Land and Curtis Yarvin."

William A. Barbieri spoke on behalf of the RVP and also presented a paper on "Forms of Moral Life and Human Well-Being"; **Dalia Marija Stančienė** and **Alona Rauckienė-Michaelsson** spoke at the concluding session.



Shenyang, P.R. China

October 24, 2021: “**Global Governance and Unprecedented Global Changes: Cooperation, Openness and Mutual Benefit.**” This online seminar was planned by **Xie Xiaojun**, Dean of the School of Marxism, Liaoning University Shenyang, China, and moderated by her colleagues, Vice Deans **Wang Ximen** and **Wang Xiaohong**. **Gao Liang**, General Secretary of the School, and **Hu Yeping** gave an opening remark.



Xie Xiaojun



Gao Liang



Wang Ximen



Wang Xiaohong



Michael Zürn



Genevieve Meyers



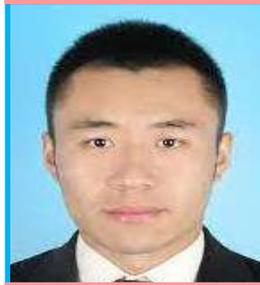
Viktor Yelenskyi



S. Panneerselvam



Fang Guangshun



Chen Wenxu



Zhang Zhidan



Liu Yong



Qu Hongbo



Ma Qinan



Li Xinyu



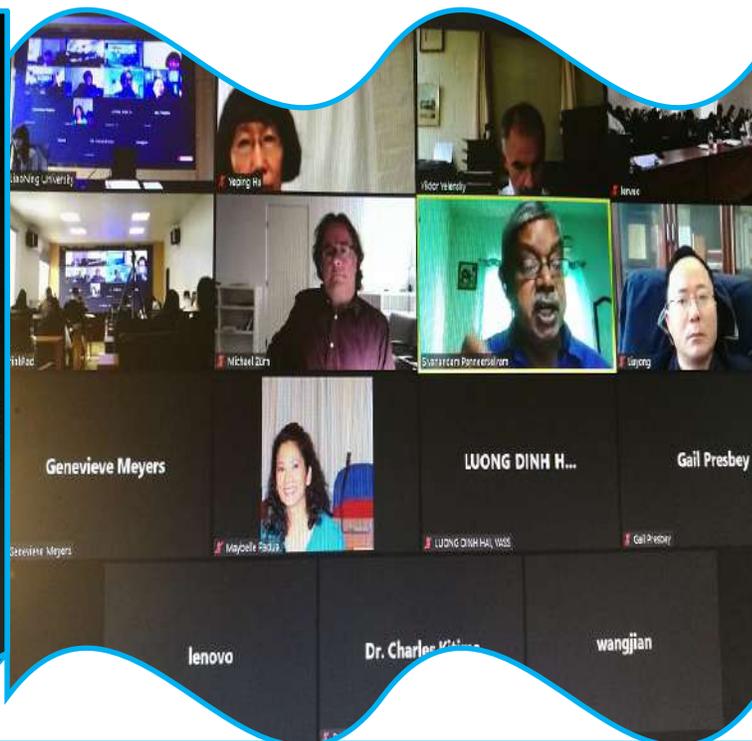
Zhao Chang

Four foreign scholars presented their papers: **Michael Zürn** (Berlin Social Science Center, Germany) “Theory of Global Governance: Authority, Legitimacy, and Contestation”; **Genevieve Meyers** (University of Detroit Mercy, USA) “Globalization and Global Governance: An African Perspective”; **Viktor Yelenskyi** (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Ukraine) “Religion and Geopolitics in a Globalized World: A Ukrainian Perspective”; **Sivanandam Panneerselvam** (University of Madras, India) “Hermeneutic Understanding of Cultures and Civilizations: Indian Experience.”

The following scholars from Shenyang city spoke: **Fang Guangshun** (Liaoning University)

“New Development of Marxist Political Parties in the New”; **Fang Guangshun** (Liaoning University); “New Development of Marxist Political Parties in the New Era”; **Qu Hongbo** (Shenyang Aerospace University) “China’s Contribution to the Reform of the Global Governance System”; **Li Xinyu** (Shenyang Normal University) “Reflections on Education in China’s Colleges and Universities in a Complex Century”; **Ma Qinan** and **Zhao Chang** (Liaoning University of Traditional Chinese Medicine) “Some Key Issues on the International Dissemination of Chinese Traditional Culture” and “Distinctive Features and Methodological Significance of China's Modernization Program.”

A few scholars from other cities also shared their ideas: **Chen Wenxu** (Peking University, Beijing) “New Challenges of Global Public Crisis in Governance and Chinese Wisdom *in the 21st Century*”; **Zhang Zhidan** (Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai) “Influence of Thoughts of a Community in a Shared Future of Humankind”; **Liu Yong** (Tongji University, Shanghai) “Global Changes and Global Governance.”



Washington, DC

November 20, 2021: "**Conversations with Charles Taylor.**" This online event was planned and organized by **William A. Barbieri** and **Hu Yeping**. It was a celebration of **Taylor's** 90 birthday. Scholars, from different countries across the world, who have been working closely with him, presented their personal and academic reflections on **Taylor's** work. For instance, **José Casanova** (Georgetown



William A. Barbieri



Charles Taylor



Peter Dale Scott



José Casanova



Hans Joas



Rajeev Bhargava



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William Sweet



Peter Jonkers



Philip J. Rossi



João J. Vila-Chã



Holger Zaborowski



Ruth Abbey



University, USA), **Hans Joas** (Humboldt University, Germany), **Rajeev Bhargava** (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India), **Maeve Cooke** (University College Dublin, Ireland), **Herta Nagl-Docekal** and **Ludwig Nagl** (University of Vienna, Austria), **Anthony Carroll** (College of the Resurrection Mirfield, Great Britain), **Peter Dale Scott** (Poet-scholar and Diplomat, Canada), **William Sweet** (St Francis Xavier University, Canada), **Peter Jonkers** (Tilburg University, Netherlands), **Philip J. Rossi** (Marquette University, USA), **João J. Vila-Chã** (Pontifical Gregorian University, Italy/Portugal), **Dilip P. Gaonkar** (Northwestern University, USA/India), and **Ruth Abbey** (University of Notre Dame, USA/Australia), and **Holger Zaborowski** (University Erfurt, Germany).



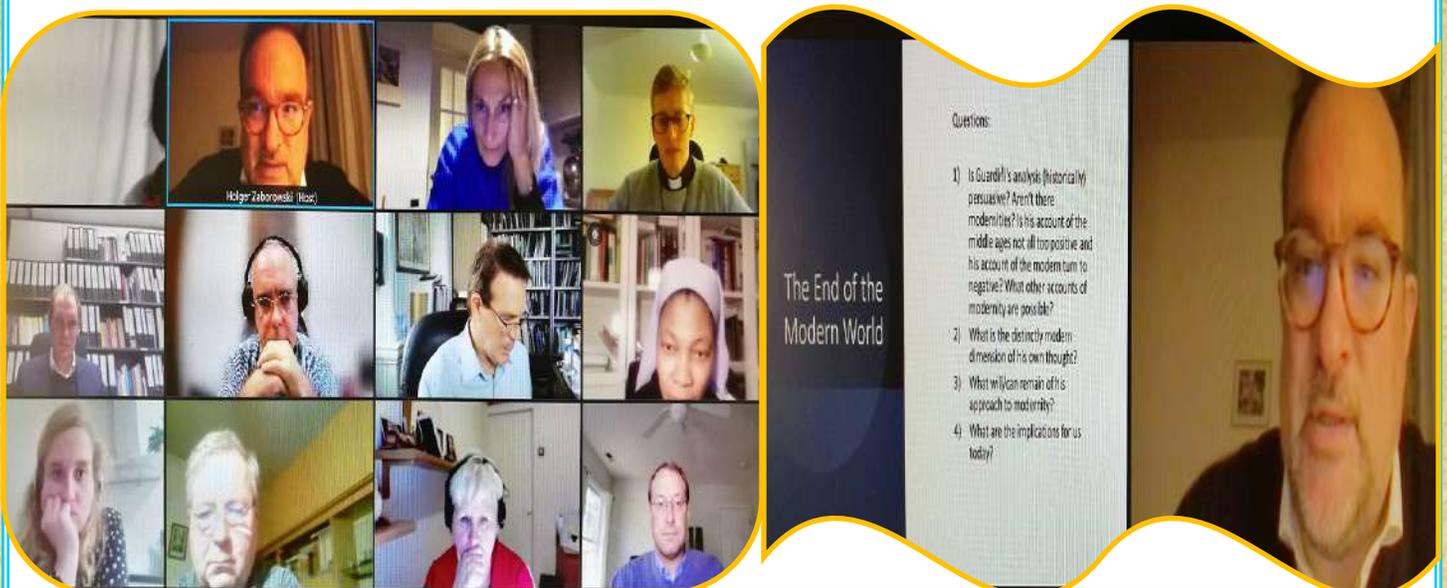
A SPECIAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Washington, DC

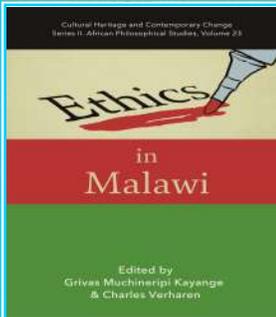
“Understanding the Signs of Our Times: Philosophical and Theological Perspectives.” This special research project was a collaboration with the Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome, Italy and the University of Erfurt, Erfurt, Germany. It was initiated during the global pandemic which brought not only deep anxieties and fears but also profound quests and search for root causes and answers for our challenging situations -- socio-political, cultural, ecological, etc. In order to understand the uniqueness and specificity of our times and to look for some resources that may help us deepen our understanding, this project intended to explore the philosophical-theological writings of a special feature, **Romano Guardini**, one of most important Catholic intellectuals in the 20th century. The goal was not just to focus on **Guardini** himself or one particular religious tradition but to look into urgent issues and challenges the entire humanity is facing today. **Guardini**'s philosophical and theological insights could provide us with a specific perspective to study and diagnose the contemporary conundrums and to inspire us to develop new insights and thoughts compatible and corresponding to the complex and globalized world in our times. The focus of this project was as follows: the crisis of the modern world, the impact of technology, morality and spirituality. A set of online seminars was conducted and will continue in the following years to study four most important works written by **Guardini**: (1) *The End of the Modern World*, (2) *The Letter from Lake Como*, (3) *The Virtues: On Forms of Moral Life*, and (4) *Spirit of Liturgy*. Two in-person conferences were also planned to be held at the University of Erfurt on “Modernity, Culture and Person” and at the Gregorian University on “Spirituality and Religious Experience.”

The project was coordinated by **William A. Barbieri**, **Yvonne Dohna Schlobitten**, Professor of Theological Aesthetics and **João J. Vila-Chã**, Professor of Philosophy from Pontifical Gregorian University, Italy and **Holger Zaborowski**, Professor of Philosophy from University of Erfurt, Germany.

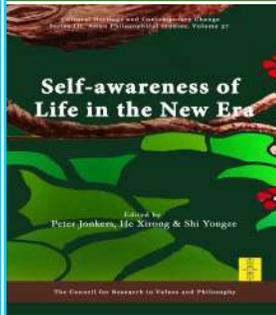
The first session with two online seminars led by **Zaborowski** to discuss Guardini's book *The End of the Modern World*, on October 18 and November 1, 2021. After Zaborowski's reading, participants shared their views and understandings on issues related to the crisis of modernity and especially our contemporary world. Other sessions will be conducted in 2022 and 2023. Two in-person conferences in Germany and Italy were planned to be held after the set of online sessions.



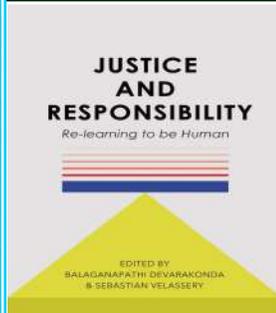
NEW PUBLICATIONS (2021)



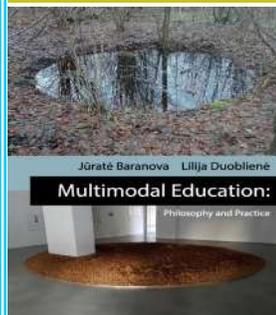
II.23 *Ethics in Malawi*
Grivas Muchineripi Kayange and Charles Verharen, eds.
ISBN 9781565183445 (paper)



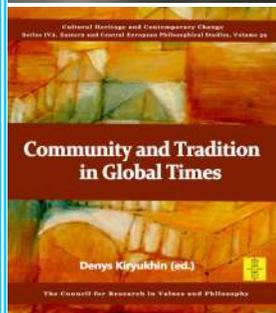
III.37 *Self-Awareness of Life in the New Era*
Peter Jonkers, He Xirong and Shi Yongze, eds.
ISBN 9781565183421 (paper)



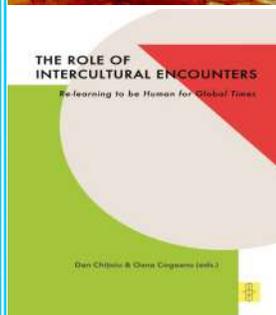
IIIB.17 *Justice and Responsibility: Re-learning to be Human*
Balaganapathi Devarakonda and Sebastian Velassery, eds.
ISBN 9781565183283 (paper)



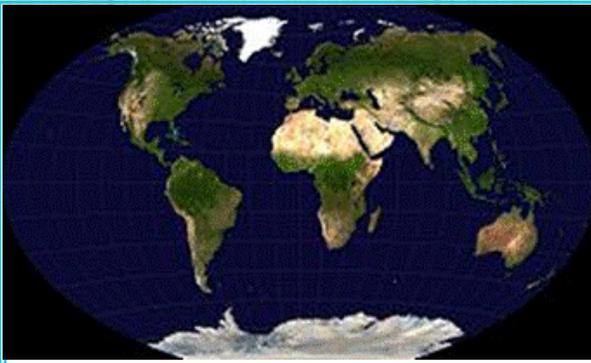
IVA.58 *Multimodal Education: Philosophy and Practice*
Jūratė Baranova and Lilija Duoblienė, eds.
ISBN 9781565183490 (paper)



IVA.59 *Community and Tradition in Global Times*
Denys Kiryukhin, ed.
ISBN 9781565183469 (paper)



IVA.60 *The Role of Intercultural Encounters: Re-learning to be Human for Global Times*
Dan Chitoiu and Oana Cogeana, eds.
ISBN 9781565183476 (paper)



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Goals:

To understand and appreciate the cultures and values that shape aspirations and motivate actions.

To understand one's own and other cultures and develop a positive yet critical appreciation thereof.

To build cooperation among peoples by providing horizons that heal deep tensions and promote peace and friendship on a global scale.

Objectives:

To mobilize research teams to study the nature, interpretation and development of cultures and to apply them to the challenges of contemporary change.

To publish and distribute the results of these efforts.

To organize extended seminars for deeper exploration of important issues and regional conferences for the coordination of the effort.

Operations:

Annual international seminars in Washington DC inviting international scholars and representatives of the research teams to apply the resources of the cultural traditions to contemporary issues.

Regional meetings for mutual critique and planning by research teams, and periodic world conferences for exchange of results on a global level.

Publications of the results of this research and critical reflection, and a distribution worldwide with the complete texts available on the website as well as through the usual book outlets.

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