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## **XII<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Roots of Philosophy**

**5-7 April, 2018**

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences  
University of Split  
Poljana kraljice Jelene 1/III (Peristil), Split

### **Introduction**

Croatian Philosophical Society and the Department of Philosophy at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Split are organizing the international and interdisciplinary symposium *XII<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Roots of Philosophy*, which will take place from April 5 to April 7 2018 in the conference hall of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Split, situated in the front of Peristil, in the center of the magnificent Diocletian's palace, a zero category monument of the global cultural heritage under the patronage of UNESCO which, as a representative piece of Mediterranean cultural heritage, suits the spirit and the purpose of the symposium perfectly.

The Mediterranean is the cradle of western philosophy and science which, together with the Mediterranean heritage of Hebrew-Christian religious tradition sets the foundations of Western European culture and civilization. Western philosophy and science begin their historical development at the start of 6<sup>th</sup> century BC on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean sea, specifically in Asia Minor, in the Greek colonies of Miletus and Ephesus and surrounding islands; it then spreads to Elea and Sicily and reaches its peak in Athens, one of the centers of ancient Mediterranean. Later development of ancient philosophy, from Hellenism to the medieval epoch, through new intellectual centers of Alexandria, Antioch, Carthage and Rome is also crucially related to the Mediterranean. Creation, conflict and mutual permeation of Mediterranean cultures, a distinctive Mediterranean multiculturalism gave an essential mark to the future growth of philosophy in the West. Ancient Greece and Rome, the Hellenistic-Roman heritage, Byzantine world, Oriental Arabic traditions with the mark of the new religion of Islam all blend into Muslim Arabic medieval philosophy, culture and civilization. The Byzantines introduced the Arabs to Greek philosophy, and they, through the mediation of the Crusades and the work of its leading philosophers Avicenna, Averroes and Ibn Haldun returned the forgotten legacy of Aristotelian philosophy back to Europe.

The next aspect relevant to the topics of the symposium refers to the foundation of Croatian philosophy which, both in its beginnings and on its zenith, has its roots in the Mediterranean part of its multiregional

cultural identity. Starting with Hermann of Dalmatia, continuing through Marko Maruliæ and Matija Vlaèiæ Ilirik (Matthias Flacius Illyricus), Frane Petriæ (Franciscus Patricius) and Ruđer Boškoviæ (Roger Joseph Boscovich), to mention only the most significant figures.

Third set of themes congenial to the idea of this symposium relates to the philosophical and interdisciplinary reflection of the peculiarities of the Mediterranean multicultural space which gave birth to the current inter-civilizational tensions threatening to escalate into the clash of civilizations, but also open the possibility of dialogue and reconciliation. That situation naturally suggests the following set of questions discussed at the symposium:

- Do the Mediterranean roots of philosophy influence the origin and development of the contemporary philosophy of the Mediterranean?
- Philosophical reflection of the Mediterranean multiculturalism
- Incentives of the Mediterranean philosophy for the establishment of global ethos as a prerequisite of inter-civilizational dialogue
- Philosophy of the Mediterranean as a globalization paradigm

Those are only some of the initial premises and possible suggestions for the topics of the symposium Mediterranean Roots of Philosophy; not the only ones, of course.

**The conference fee** for the symposium is **50€**.

We invite you to submit your abstracts by mail or e-mail not later than 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 to the following address: [mkf.ffst@gmail.com](mailto:mkf.ffst@gmail.com) (Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Philosophy, Poljička cesta 35, 21000 Split / for *Mediterranean Roots of Philosophy*).

**Prof. Mislav Kukoč, PhD**  
President of the Organizing Committee

