

PRESS RELEASE

Institute of Philosophy, Czech Academy of Sciences

Jilská 1, Praha 1

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ETHICS OF GENETIC ENGINEERING AND A PROBE INTO UNEXPLORED HISTORICAL SOURCES

A PRESTIGIOUS CZECH INSTITUTION ATTRACTS TOP INTERNATIONAL RESEARCHERS

11 March 2025/Praha. Starting this year, the Institute of Philosophy will host two foreign researchers whose projects have succeeded in the prestigious scheme Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships. Over 10,000 applications were submitted in the call, which aims to support excellent projects by top scientists. In the Czech Republic, 25 projects at 11 institutions were supported. This is a great result for the Institute of Philosophy, confirming its place among the most prestigious Czech research institutions.

Rosine Kelz (Germany) will conduct a project titled "Novel Natures? Nature conservation and emerging high impact (bio-)technologies" at the Department of Applied Philosophy and Ethics / [CETE-P](#). She will be supervised by [Prof. Mark Coeckelbergh](#) and co-supervised by [Dr. Iwona Janicka](#).

The project will explore conceptual issues and normative disagreements in the debates about the possible use of genetic modification for nature conservation. The Gene Drives Technology enables the spread of specific genetic modifications within a population of organisms much faster than through natural inheritance. It significantly extends their spatial reach and increases the potential to alter an entire target species population within a relatively short period. The project will concentrate on ethical assessment of this emerging technology. It will also explore the interrelationships between the concepts of 'nature' and 'artificiality'.

Andrea Fiamma (Italy) will undertake a project titled "Philosophical Recommendations at Central European Arts Faculties in the Late Middle Ages" at the Department for the Study of Ancient and Medieval Thought / [TRIPTIC-EU](#). He will be supervised by [Dr. Ota Pavlíček](#).



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The aim of this project is to explore the practice of knowledge transmission in medieval universities through the analysis of the so-called "Recommendation speeches." These were celebratory addresses delivered by university masters on official occasions, such as graduation ceremonies or significant university debates. By mapping and analysing this genre, the project seeks to understand the intellectual practices, methods, and goals of these speeches, an area that has not been systematically studied before. The research will offer new insights into the connections between teaching practices and philosophical, political, and theological ideas within the Faculties of Arts in Central Europe during the Late Middle Ages.

About the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships (MSCA-PF)

The **European [MSCA](#) Postdoctoral Fellowship** supports research training of early career scientists with an emphasis on comprehensive professional and career development. Researchers can carry out their mobility project at an institution located in EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries. The standard duration is 12-24 months.

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