

EDITORIAL

Philosophy, Culture and Traditions (PCT) is a publication of the World Union of Catholic Philosophical Societies. A multilingual philosophical journal, it will appear annually in print format, but selected papers, along with a supplementary volume, will be published in an electronic format.

Philosophy, Culture and Traditions draws on the important contribution of Catholic Christianity to philosophy. Since it aims at the fruitful exchange of ideas among philosophy and religious and cultural traditions., it will also include studies outside the Catholic Christian traditions.

The journal publishes manuscripts in all areas of philosophy, although each issue will contain a number of articles devoted to a specific theme of particular philosophical interest. (It is for this reason that the theme of the first number is *Dialogue and Traditions*). To encourage dialogue and exchange, the journal will include scholars from Africa, America, Asia, and Europe, and will represent a range of philosophical traditions.

Of course, some may ask ‘Why another philosophy journal?’

The aim of the *World Union* is to bring scholars from the Christian Catholic traditions into contact and exchange with one another, but equally with philosophers from other religious and cultural traditions. More broadly, its aims are (i) *to initiate and develop contacts with individuals and associations who are engaged philosophical research and study in, or in areas related to, the Catholic Christian tradition—and particularly with those who, for social or political reasons or on account of geographical location, have not been able to do enter into close relationship with philosophers elsewhere;* ii) *to serve as a conduit of information about meetings, conferences, and other matters of common interest;* iii) *to help, when asked, and as far as possible, in organizing and sponsoring lectures and educational exchanges, particularly in those regions where there is an interest in the Catholic Christian philosophical traditions;* iv) *to help, when asked and as far as possible, in the publicity and organisation of conferences on themes consistent with the work of the World Union and, especially, with world congresses of Christian philosophers*

Most philosophy journals have little interest in drawing explicitly on religious and cultural traditions, or in pursuing an exchange of ideas between philosophy and these traditions--and some might even be said

to be opposed to this. Again, while some philosophy journals are published by Christian philosophical organisations or through Catholic universities, *Philosophy, Culture and Traditions* aims explicitly to promote exchanges between religious traditions and cultures, and philosophy. And *Philosophy, Culture and Traditions* will be thematic.

This orientation reflects the intentions of the encyclical *Fides et ratio*, and the view that there can be a mutual benefit of philosophy and traditions without interfering with the proper autonomy of the philosophical enterprise itself.

Articles appearing in the journal will be of a serious scholarly character and more than just commentaries on issues of contemporary concern. Nevertheless, *PCT* is open with regard to methodology and approach.

The supplementary volume, published on the Internet, will include more general articles, discussion notes, interventions, as well as a selection of articles from the printed volume. The aim of this supplementary volume is to provide additional opportunities for the exchange of ideas.

The World Union hopes that *PCT* will provide a useful and appropriate means of bringing scholars from across the globe into closer contact with one another--particularly in a way that draws on insights and values to be found in the Catholic Christian and other religious and cultural traditions.

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