

Konstantinos Boudouris, Editor-in-Chief

Proceedings of the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy



In cooperation with the
Greek Philosophical Society
and the

**Fédération Internationale des
Sociétés de Philosophie**

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This online collection contains over 1,700 section papers originally presented at the twenty-third World Congress of Philosophy in Athens in 2013. Each of the 75 volumes corresponds to a section from the conference program. The content of each volume is arranged by language (Chinese, English, French, German, Greek, Russian, or Spanish). All editorial work was supervised and completed in Athens. This collection has been published as a service to the profession by the **Philosophy Documentation Center**, in cooperation with the **Greek Philosophical Society** and the **International Federation of Philosophical Societies**.

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*PROCEEDINGS OF
THE XXIII WORLD CONGRESS OF PHILOSOPHY*

PREFACE

Konstantinos Boudouris

Emeritus Professor of Philosophy,
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

President of the Hellenic Organising Committee for the
XXIII World Congress of Philosophy

THE XXIII World Congress of Philosophy took place in Athens, Greece in August 2013. It was held at the Athens National and Kapodistrian University (The School of Philosophy) from 4th to 10th of August. The School of Philosophy, located near the mount Hymettus, is a great place for International Conferences and World Congresses, especially during the summer, because of its beautiful natural environment and spacious and comfortable rooms.

The XXIII World Congress of Philosophy program included: Plenary Sessions, Symposia, Endowed Lectures, Invited Sessions, Sessions for Contributed Papers, Round Tables, Society Meetings, Student Sessions, Exceptional Sessions and Congress Special Sessions. As far as the Congress Special Sessions were concerned, this Congress had some exceptional events that cannot and would not be found at any other meeting. Four special Philosophical Sessions were held at places where great ancient Greek philosophers lived and worked: at Plato's Academy (which in 2013 happened to celebrate 2400 years since its foundation), at Aristotle's Lyceum (which had been opened to the public for the first time), at the hill of Pnyx where the Athenian democracy was founded and politics was exercised, and at the St. Photini Church, near the river Ilissus where the famous dialogue between Socrates and Phaedrus took place (Plato, *Phaedrus* 279b3–c8).

These *Proceedings of the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy* contain over 1,700 papers from the 75 thematic sections for contributed papers. They provide great insight into the scope, originality and variety of the philosophical approaches and interpretations of each thematic section. Each volume corresponds to one of these sections and they are arranged according to the official

languages of this Congress. Readers should note that all papers from the Plenary Sessions, Symposia, and Special Sessions of the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy were published separately, in both print and electronic formats, as *Selected Papers from the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy: Philosophy as Inquiry and Way of Life* (Philosophy Documentation Center, Charlottesville, 2015). The *Selected Papers* can be found online as a special supplement of the *Journal of Philosophical Research*.

We warmly thank the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, the School of Philosophy and all persons who helped the organization of the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy at all its stages. We extend special thanks to the paper reviewers, the chairpersons and the members of the editorial and publishing committees. This project could not have been completed without them.

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

William L. McBride

President of the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy

It is an honor for me to be invited by Professor Boudouris to contribute this note as a kind of second introduction, in addition to his own, to this very large and impressive collection of papers that were presented at the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy in Athens in 2013. The task of compiling and ordering this huge collection has been an arduous one for all who have been engaged in it, including the editors and editorial assistants whose names are listed here, the Secretariat in Athens directed by Dr. Alexandra Zistakis, the Philosophy Documentation Center under the directorship of Dr. George Leaman, and before them all who were involved in soliciting and vetting the original contributions, not to mention the contributors themselves—a vast and productive philosophical community!

Professor Boudouris' remarks may well evoke a sense of nostalgia among those of us who participated: the Athenian venues of the Congress were as rich as imaginable in memories of Western intellectual history, while the papers included in this collection will constitute—indeed, they already constitute, in their ensemble—precious testimonials to the rich and diverse global intellectual life of philosophers in the early Twenty-first Century. The life of the human mind has been, we are reminded, a great albeit relatively brief adventure thus far (of only a few millennia of which we have any detailed records); the beautiful setting in which these papers were read was once, after all, the locus of one of that adventure's most brilliant moments.

As then-President of the International Federation of Philosophical Societies (FISP), sponsor of the World Congresses, it was my privilege to preside over this one. It would be a mistake to think that, in the time period leading up to it, there were no obstacles, there was no skepticism; but in the end it was, by most accounts, a considerable success. It has always been my wish—as fantastic as some may think it to be—that, especially through such public events as this

World Congress, philosophers can, as a special sort of community, make a serious contribution through their reflections, dialogues, and other interactions to the amelioration of our *world* community. That is one way of interpreting the overall theme of this Congress, “Philosophy as Inquiry and Way of Life.” Even if this aspiration of mine may seem far-fetched, we might consider recalling and extending Socrates’ words, spoken near the end of Plato’s dialogue *Phaedo*, concerning the reward and hope that stem from a life of excellence and wisdom: “καλὸν γὰρ τὸ ἀθλοῦν καὶ ἡ ἐλπίς μεγάλη.”