



Call for Papers

1st Online Conference of the European Association for Chinese Philosophy (EACP)

“Chinese Philosophy: Paths between Convergence and Divergence”

Friday, December 3, 2021

The 1st Online Conference of the European Association for Chinese Philosophy (EACP) will take place online on December 3, 2021.

As previously announced, due to the ongoing pandemic, the 4th Biennial Conference of EACP has been postponed to the year 2023. However, our community of scholars needs opportunities to meet and exchange research outputs before that time, thus the board – although convinced that online conference could never substitute a face-to-face meeting – has decided to organize an online conference in the meantime.

The conference’s theme is “Chinese Philosophy: Paths between Convergence and Divergence”.

It is usually acknowledged that Chinese philosophy bloomed during the Warring States, in an epoch of cultural and political division when thinkers or masters roamed from one state to the other, trying to present their ways of thinking and governing to the different rulers. Therefore, despite the anti-historic and monolithic Orientalist interpretation of China, this philosophy arose thanks to the richness of the divergence of thoughts. Simultaneously, since the Han, the Chinese Empire showed a holistic attitude aiming at composing those divergences, often at the price of homologation. However, thanks to the disrupting and enriching effect of Buddhist thought, refined syncretic schools arose as that of the Song and Ming Neo-Confucians. Furthermore, since the first Jesuits

entered China, the meeting with Western thought has presented both divergent and convergent streams, which continues to be the case nowadays. Contemporary philosophy in China shows this divergence-convergence paradigm constantly at work.

Despite this paradigm being in common with other civilizations' histories, Chinese thought provides a very peculiar view on the question of divergence-convergence which contributes to a more prolific transcultural definition of the paradigm. This peculiar view – which we can differently name correlative thought, nonduality of opposites, relational thinking, binary categories system, etc. – took a large variety of forms in the long history of Chinese thought. One of the most renowned and influential is the *yin-yang* 陰陽 theory, but the paradigm is also evident in Han historiography, Huayan Buddhism, naturalist poetry, and Neo-Confucianism, not to mention contemporary New Confucianism, where we can find extraordinarily relevant and innovative instances of this paradigm. In this conference, speakers are invited to discuss their research to shed new light on the richness of this correlative intellectual attitude from any perspective: metaphysical, ethical, historical, theoretical, linguistic, rhetorical, esthetic, etc.

Scholars interested in Chinese philosophy and philosophy in China are invited to submit proposals for individual papers or panels to the organizers of the conference: Selusi Ambrogio <selusi.ambrogio@unimc.it>, Mercedes Valmisa <mvalmisa@gettysburg.edu>, and Jan Vrhovski <jan.vrhovski@ff.uni-lj.si>.

Abstracts should be no more than 250 words. Panel proposals should include the title and a brief description of the panel and the names, affiliations, email addresses of the participants, and the titles of each participant's presentation with 250 words abstracts. The **deadline for submission is October 31, 2021**. Notice of acceptance of proposals will be sent to your email address by November 21, with instructions for how to access and links to the conference.

The official languages of the conference are English and Chinese.