

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the readers of *Lexicon Philosophicum: International Journal for the History of Texts and Ideas*, the new online journal published by the CNR's *Istituto per il Lessico Intellettuale Europeo e Storia delle Idee* (CNR-ILIESI)!

Lexicon Philosophicum publishes original contributions in the field of history of philosophy and related subject areas (especially history of science, history of religion and theology, intellectual history) including both essays or articles and short notes. In addition, a special attention will be paid to innovative approaches and methods for the analysis of texts as offered by the digital humanities and the semantic Web technologies. Issues will usually consist of invited papers, a peer-reviewed articles section, an interview, and a section of shorter contributions (including book reviews) prepared or requested by the editorial board. Occasionally, manuscripts and unpublished texts can also be edited or rare texts be re-published in view of their relevance and interest. Established by the CNR-ILIESI and the EC-supported project *Agora: Scholarly Open Access Research in European Philosophy* (2011-2014), *Lexicon Philosophicum* is co-edited by Antonio Lamarra and Roberto Palaia from CNR-ILIESI with one issue per year.

As new in terms of the editorial format, this journal has a history and a background, which are rooted in a previous experience. From 1985 to 2010, indeed, a series of 12 printed volumes has been published under the same title of *Lexicon Philosophicum*, which was intended to collect contributions mostly produced by researchers and collaborators of the

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former *Centro di Studio per il Lessico Intellettuale Europeo* (until 2001) or later of the ILIESI but also by external scholars in various ways linked to the activities of those research groups. Previously published volumes included indexes and concordances of philosophical texts, studies on philosophical and scientific terminology, reflections on the digital technologies for textual analysis, monographic studies on history of ideas. Now, in continuity with this story but on a wider scenario, the online journal aims at proposing contributions in the field of history of texts and ideas with a special focus on language and terminology and with a sharp interest in digital technologies. We believe that, in a largely changed context, the best way to continue with renewed enthusiasm along the path undertaken nearly thirty years ago consist in maintaining the basic methodological inspiration, while facing new cultural and technological challenges.

Just as we were reflecting on the evolution of *Lexicon Philosophicum* into a periodical, the *Agora* project started which envisages, among others, the launching of online journals. Our institute is deeply involved in this project. Hence the idea to take the opportunity of a profound renewal of our editorial initiative by publishing an online journal to host scholarly contributions to be linked, when possible, to primary sources available in a digital format. The aim of the *Agora* project, indeed, is to foster the setting up of textual platforms, which can meet the scholars' demands in terms of data quality and connectivity, to facilitate textual annotations and semantic interlinking, to improve the dissemination of research results in the field of European philosophy, to advance Open Access publishing and to develop peer review procedures. Journals launched in the framework of the project are expected to meet such characteristics, insofar their content is semantically interlinked with digital resources made available by the partners of the project: as a consequence, contributions published by *Lexicon Philosophicum* will be connected with relevant primary sources contained in the platforms *Ancient Philosophy* and *Modern Philosophy* of the ILIESI portal *Daphnet*. Submitted papers will be assessed by means of a double blind review

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procedure and, if recommended for publication, for a one-month time they will also be available on a special page of the journal site for further comments by registered users. In this way, both authors and editors can take benefit from a wider range of suggestions and points of view, when preparing the final version of the articles. Printed volumes might also be published in the future in the form of *Supplementa of Lexicon Philosophicum* in case of special editorial initiatives such as monographic collections of essays or proceedings of workshops organized by the journal.

The journal is run from an Open Journal Systems (OJS) platform, which was opened in 2011 and is managed by CNR-ILIESI. The whole editorial process – from the submission of papers, the reviewing assignments and the editors' decisions to the pre-publication of articles for open review and commenting – proceeds through the OJS platform. Preparing this Inaugural Issue took longer time than we imagined, because of various organisational and administrative reasons; as a consequence, it happens to be published at the very end of the year, whereas the second as well as the following issues of the journal are expected to be published in the first months of the year.

The launching of this journal involved in various ways a rather large number of persons. We wish to thank the former CNR President, Luciano Majani and the present President Luigi Nicolais, as well as the members of the CNR Executive Board, who endorsed the proposal to establish this journal and decided to entrust the editorial care of it to the ILIESI. We are aware that without the kind availability of the distinguished members of the journal's Advisory Board and without the collaboration of the reviewers, who agreed to anonymously evaluate articles submitted to a still non-existing journal, this issue would never have been published. Even more, therefore, we are grateful to the authors who, by entrusting to the journal their contributions, accepted to share with us such a hazardous challenge. All the members of the editorial board have contributed generously to the realization of this issue and especially Cristina Marras, who take care of the peer-review procedures: we are really grateful to each of them. Finally, we are fully

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aware that the warmest thank must be addressed to Tullio Gregory, with whom we owe a special debt first for having accepted to include the printed volumes of *Lexicon Philosophicum* within the prestigious series of books published by the research Centre he led and then for encouraging and sustaining us when trying to undertake this new adventure in the digital world. His idea of a European intellectual lexicon, as a peculiar object of study, will remain for this journal a cultural horizon and a source of inspiration as well.

Antonio Lamarra
Roberto Palaia