

Alkis (Alkiviadis) Gounaris

Doctor of Philosophy
Research Fellow and Adjunct Lecturer
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Alkis (Alkiviadis) Gounaris holds a PhD from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and has been teaching for a number of years in Postgraduate Programs of the Philosophy Department of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, as well as in NKUA Continuous Education and Training and other Lifelong Learning Programs. He specializes in the fields of the Philosophy of Human Cognition and Artificial Intelligence, Ethics, Meta-Ethics and Applied Ethics. He initially studied Sports Science at the School of Physical Education and Sport Science and then Philosophy at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Athens. From the same university he obtained a postgraduate degree in Ethics and a doctorate in the research direction of the Philosophy of the Mind, under the supervision of Professor Theodosis Pellegrinis. In his thesis titled "Intentionality and the Emergence of Meaning" a naturalistic interpretation of the human cognition is attempted, combining classical phenomenological approaches with contemporary theories of emergence. He is a research fellow of the NKUA Applied Philosophy Research Lab and a member of the PPE Lab of the University of Athens.

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Education

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| PhD | PhD Degree in Philosophy of Mind, Department of Philosophy National and Kapodistrian University of Athens 2010 |
| MA | Master's Degree in Ethics, Faculty of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology National and Kapodistrian University of Athens 2007 |
| BA | University Degree in Philosophy, Faculty of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology National and Kapodistrian University of Athens 2006 |
| BSc | University Degree in Sport Science, School of Physical Education and Sport Science National and Kapodistrian University of Athens 1997 |

Research in the Philosophy of Mind and Cognitive Sciences Publications - Announcements

- 2020 Why do we need a Unified Theory of Embodied Cognition? Presentation for the 94th Joint Session of the Mind Association and the Aristotelian Society | University of Kent, 10-12 July 2020 (Open Session). DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.11933.74729
- 2018 Why Embodied Artificial Intelligence is not so Embodied? *Proceedings of the XXIII World Congress of Philosophy*, V. 45, Philosophy of Cognitive Sciences, pp 9-14 (co-authoring Georgina Abou Elkheir) DOI: 10.5840/wcp23201845911
- 2016 Information at Ockham's Razor. Announcement at the Symposium: Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence: Needs for New Foundations. (participants: Vincent Müller, Alkis Gounaris, Doukas Kapantais and Petros Tzelepidis). 4th National Conference on the Philosophy of Science, University of Athens (Faculty of Methodology, History and Theory of Science, 12/16). DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.21523.12325
- 2014 Can we talk about Intentionality in Eliminative Materialism? An answer from the point of view of Embodied Cognition Theories. Announcement at the 3rd National Conference on the Philosophy of Science, University of Athens (Faculty of Methodology, History and Theory of Science, 27-29/11/14). DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.18587.11041
- 2013 Human Cognition and Artificial Intelligence: Searching for the fundamental differences of meaning in the boundaries of metaphysics. Announcement at the Symposium: Humans and Robots. 4th National Conference on Cognitive Science, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (6-8/6/13). DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.17433.67681
- 2012 A Naturalistic Explanation of Meaning within Embodied Cognition Theories. Announcement at the 2nd National Conference on the Philosophy of Science, University of Athens (Faculty of Methodology, History and Theory of Science, 29/11-1/12/12). DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.12610.22723/1
- 2011 Heidegger and Motorcycle Riding: The notions of embodied cognition and skillful coping as a research topic in Cognitive Sciences. Announcement at the 3rd National Conference on Cognitive Science (6/2011). Hellenic Cognitive Science Society in collaboration with the postgraduate studies program "Basic and Applied Cognitive Science" of the Faculty of Methodology, History and Theory of Science, of the University of Athens

- 2011 Heidegger, Neurosciences and the Exemption from the Descartes' Error. Presentation at the workshop titled: Philosophy and Neurosciences. Dasein Lab, Athens. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.21334.70727
- 2011 Intentionality and the Emergence of Meaning. *Philosophia*. Annual Journal of the Research Centre for Greek Philosophy of the Academy of Athens, v.41. pp 319-321. ISSN 1105-2120
- 2010 Heidegger and Artificial Intelligence. Preface in the Greek translation of the paper: Dreyfus, H. (2007). Why Heideggerian AI Failed and How Fixing It Would Require Making it More Heideggerian. *Philosophical Psychology*, (Routledge) Vol. 20, No. 2, 247-268

Publications, Articles & Announcements on Ethics and Political Philosophy:

- 2021 Towards Moral Machines: A discussion with Michael Anderson and Susan Leigh Anderson, *Conatus - Journal of Philosophy*, vol. 6, Is. 1, 31 June 2021, pp. forthcoming (co-authoring G. Kosteletos)
- 2020 Can we literally speak about moral machines? Announcement at the 6th National Conference on the Philosophy of Science, University of Athens (Department of History and Philosophy of Science, 12/20) DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.13671.47520
- 2020 Licensed to Kill: Autonomous Weapons as Persons and Moral Agents. *Personhood*. Hellenic-Serbian Philosophical Dialogue Series (co-authoring G. Kosteletos) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.12681/aprlp.49.925>
- 2020 Personal responsibility and the puppets. Original digital publication in LIFO 04/05/2020 (co-authoring K. Gravas)
- 2020 Virus views: Every crisis is an opportunity. *New Philosopher*. Original digital publication newphilosopher.com 05/04.20 (co-authoring K. Gravas)
- 2020 COVID-19 Crisis and Personal Responsibility. Original digital publication in LIFO 16/03/2020 (co-authoring K. Gravas)
- 2019 Iron Man vs Aristotle: Transhumanism, the Limits of Human Nature and the Politics of Prescription Eyeglasses. *Theologia*. Official Journal of the Church of Greece. v.90.3 pp.121-161 (co-authoring P. Chryssopoulos). ISSN 1105-154X
- 2019 Who's to blame, when HAL kills again? *Ithiki*. v.12. pp. 4-10. ISSN 1790-6121. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.12681/ethiki.22772>

- 2019 Providing Patient Health Information: Rights, Obligations and Duties: 3rd Interdisciplinary Symposium on the Quality of Life and Death and Decisions in the Health Care System. School of Health Sciences & Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Patras (co-authoring Dr. Youli Papaioannou)
- 2012 Corporate Social Responsibility. Express Newspaper Supplement 6/12 pp.16-17
- 2012 Six Easy Pieces of Political Philosophy. Original digital publication koutipandoras.gr
- 2012 Is There Ethical Voting? Original digital publication koutipandoras.gr
- 2008 Diagnostic Criteria on Psychiatric Ethics. *Journal of Hellenic Society of Phenomenological and Existential Analysis and Psychotherapy*. v4, pp.61-65 ISSN: 1790-5575
- 2008 From Business Ethics to Forced “Fair Play”. In: *Business Ethics*. pp. 191-210. Athens: Sakkoulas A. Publications. ISBN 978-960-15-2009-4
- 2008 Business and Moral Responsibility. *CSR Review* [the Corporate Social Responsibility Magazine]. v3. pp.66-67. ISSN 1791-5708
- 2008 Sexual Deviations: The Problem of Normality and Ethical Tolerance. Announcement at the Dasein Lab Workshop
- 2007 Psychiatric Ethics: An Introduction to Ontological and Ethical Problems of Mental Health. University of Athens. Dissertation on Ethics, Faculty of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology, Department of Philosophy, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (to be published - revised)
- 2006 An approach to the meaning of the term “physei” in Aristotelian political theory - connections with modern ecology. Proceedings of the Symposium: Nature - Values - Environment, organized by the University of Athens and the Messinian Prefecture
- 2006 Social Ecology and Communalism in Murray Bookchin’s Philosophy. PGPEP announcement, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, in the digital proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Environmental Ethics (Athens, 19/6/2010)
- 2006 Terrorism, Civil Disobedience and the Right of Resistance in Modern Democracies. PGPEP announcement, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- 2006 The ontological foundation of Environmental Ethics in Heidegger. PGPEP announcement, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- 2006 Heideggerian Ecophenomenology: Dasein-centrism or Deep Ecology? PGPEP announcement, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

- 2005 The concept of Kantian Perpetual Peace and the Convergence of Ethics and Politics. *Ithiki*. v.1. pp.23-31. ISSN 1790-6121. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.12681/ethiki.22638>
- 2005 Terrorism and Armed Violence: Conceptual Differences, Ethical Valuation and Observation of the phenomenon in “Democracy”, focusing on the Greek experience. PGPEP announcement, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- 2005 Wittgenstein: Lecture On Ethics: The influence of Paul Ernst. PGPEP announcement, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- 2005 Wittgenstein: Lecture on Ethics: The notion of Absolute Values and the naturalistic fallacy. PGPEP announcement, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

Other Publications, Articles & Announcements:

- 2020 The Example of Greece, critical presentation of the book by George Politis on the Bookpress portal
- 2020 Philosophy as therapy: Series on issues of philosophical discourse during the global crisis of COVID-19, linked to classic or contemporary bibliographic references. Original digital publication <https://bookpress.gr/fakeloi/i-filosofia-os-therapeia>
- Philosophy as therapy: The jungle and the calculator of pleasures
- Philosophy as therapy: Selfish man, altruistic market
- Philosophy as therapy: Kant in the emergency room
- Philosophy as therapy: The society of the plague
- Philosophy as therapy: Aristotle and the communovirus
- Philosophy as therapy: The red herring argument
- Philosophy as therapy: Godzillas in the mist
- Philosophy as therapy: After the end of certainty
- Philosophy as therapy: Death and the meaning of life
- 2020 Artificial Intelligence: Life in the second half of the chessboard. Original digital publication bookpress.gr (20/03/2020)

- 2020 It's the freedom of speech, stupid! Original digital publication bookpress.gr (11/03/2020)
- 2020 What is it like to be a machine? Original digital publication bookpress.gr (10/03/2020)
- 2020 Children and Philosophy. Original digital publication bookpress.gr (05/02/2020) (co-authoring: V. Baka)
- 2020 The Algorithm of Digital Humanism. Original digital publication bookpress.gr (25/01/2020)
- 2018 The Mission Box, without Aris Alexandrou. Presentation in the context of theatrical performances at Studio Mavromichali (26/10/2018)
- 2015 Why do we need philosophy today? *The Teacher's Guide to Philosophy*. Institute of Educational Policy. Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs. pp. 49-51 (Original digital publication filosofia.gr)
- 2013 Hannah Arendt and the Banality of Evil. Original digital publication bookpress.gr
- 2013 Talking with Alice: Philosophy as an Answer to Stupidity. Original publication bookpress.gr
- 2012 Foucault and the Barbarian Invasions. Original digital publication koutipandoras.gr
- 2012 Philosophy for the masses vol.2. Original digital publication bookpress.gr
- 2011 Marquis de Sade: The Ethics of Evil. *Eleftherotypia* Newspaper. 5.2.11, Vivliothiki supplement v.641
- 2011 Cognition and Reality. *Litteraterra*. v.4. pp. 47-62. ISSN1792-0892
- 2011 Prostíbulo Poético (Poetry and Philosophy). Original digital publication bookpress.gr
- 2010 Inception: The Metaphysics of a blockbuster film. Original digital publication bookpress.gr
- 2010 Philosophy for the masses. Original digital publication bookpress.gr.
- 2010 Sein zum Tode. Original digital publication filosofia.gr
- 2009 The classical arguments for the proof of existence and inexistence of God. Announcement at the Dasein Lab Workshop

Teaching Activities:

- 2021 What is Mental Health? A detailed introduction to the range of basic philosophical theories and the ethical issues they entail. Presentation at the online educational seminar of the Attica Prefecture and the First Psychiatric Clinic of the University of Athens - Aeginiteio Hospital which is organized in collaboration with the Applied Philosophy Research Laboratory of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (scheduled for March 2021)
- 2021 Contemporary Ethical Problems of Artificial Intelligence. Presentation at the educational seminar titled: Artificial Intelligence, a Co-discovery. Aikaterini Laskaridis Foundation in collaboration with the Hellenic Artificial Intelligence Society (11/02/2021)
- 2021 Lecturer at the Postgraduate Studies Program of the Department of Philosophy of NKUA, in the direction of Ethics. Course: Ethics and Artificial Intelligence (scheduled for September 2021)
- 2020-Today Lecturer at the Inter-institutional Postgraduate Studies Program “Animals: Ethics, Law, Prosperity”, of the Department of Philosophy of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and the Hellenic Pasteur Institute. Course: Mind and Consciousness in Animals <https://eclass.uoa.gr/courses/PHILOSOPHY834/>
- 2020 What does it mean to be an ethical machine? Announcement in the laboratory on the Ethical Values of Artificial Intelligence. Organization SCIFY, Innovathens, Municipality of Athens (28/02/20)
- 2019 Invited lecturer | The Puzzle of Knowledge | Graduate Course 73ΦΛΣ202 | Department of Philosophy | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens | Greece
- 2018 Invited lecturer | Business Ethics | Athens Development and Destination Management Agency | Municipality of Athens | Greece
- 2017- Today Lecturer | History of Philosophy | Dasein Lab
- 2015 Invited lecturer | Is There Ethical Business? The quest for values in social entrepreneurship. Announcement at the Workshop titled: Ethics, values and economy: the role of social entrepreneurship | Athens Development and Destination Management Agency | Municipality of Athens | Greece
- 2014-2016 Adjunct lecturer | Introduction to Epistemology and the Philosophy of Science | Specialized Educational Programs for Graduate Students | Plato Academy (MIS: 364499) | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens | Greece

- 2013-2015 Adjunct lecturer | Bioethics and the development of Science | Short-term Educational Programs for Adult Citizens | Plato Academy (MIS: 364499) | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens | Greece
- 2012-2015 Adjunct lecturer | Ethics and Technology | Postgraduate Program on Ethics | Faculty of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology | Department of Philosophy | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens | Greece | <http://eclass.uoa.gr/courses/PPP513/>
- 2012-15 Adjunct lecturer | Introduction to Philosophy: Epistemology, Metaphysics, Ethics | Specialized Educational Programs for Graduate Students | Plato Academy (MIS: 364499) | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens | Greece
- 2013 Adjunct lecturer | Philosophy of Language | Specialized Educational Programs for Graduate Students | Plato Academy (MIS: 364499) | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens | Greece
- 2011-2012 Invited lecturer | Pre-graduate and post-graduate courses | Faculty of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology | Department of Philosophy | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens | Greece

Services to the Academic Community:

- 2021-Today Member of the Scientific Committee of the Philosophy, Art, Therapy - PATH Journal
- 2020-Today Reviewer of publications on the Philosophy of Cognition and Artificial Intelligence at the Conatus Journal of Philosophy
- 2020-2021 President of the Organizing Committee of the First International Interdisciplinary Conference on Artificial Intelligence titled Me and AI: Human Concerns Artificial Minds. Organization: The NKUA Applied Philosophy Research Lab in collaboration with the Hellenic Artificial Intelligence Society
- 2006-Today Organizer and Director of the Dasein Lab and the Dasein Philosophy Café (2006-2016). An open to the public educational and philosophy program, affiliated with the Hellenic Society of Ethics and the Postgraduate Program on Ethics of NKUA
- 2013 Organizer and Chair in the Symposium Titled: Humans and Robots: Common Principles and Substantial Differences. 4th National Conference on Cognitive Science, organized by the Hellenic Cognitive

Science Society at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece

- 2013 Chair and Coordinator on the CP57 Philosophy of Mind Session of the 23rd World Congress of Philosophy, Athens, Greece
- 2011 Chair and Coordinator of the works of the “Person - Nature - Society” Conference organized by the Department of Philosophy of NKUA and the Hellenic Society of Ethics, Athens, Greece
- 2006-2010 Founder and member of the Board of the Hellenic Society of Ethics | www.ethics.gr

Fellowships:

- 2020-Today In charge of the scientific events department of the NKUA Applied Philosophy Research Laboratory
- 2020-Today Curator of Ethics and Philosophy of Cognitive Sciences of the Athens Science Festival
- 2019-Today Member of the PPE Lab of NKUA
- 2018-2019 Research Fellow | “Progress in Practice” Research Institute | Hellenic Parliament
- 2015-Today Research Fellow of the NKUA Applied Philosophy Research Lab

Memberships:

- 2021-Today Member of Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy Society
- 2018-Today Lifetime Member of the Aristotelian Society UK
- 2011-Today Member of the Hellenic Cognitive Science Society
- 2006-Today Member of the Hellenic Society of Ethics

Other Activities:

In parallel with his academic duties, he has studied the American and British Novel of the 20th century and from 2008 until 2012 he co-organized with the author Christos Chrysopoulos the Athens International Literary Festival "Dasein Fest".

He also writes screenplays for documentaries, while he was the producer of the award-winning documentary "Only Words Continue" (grand prize of the International Film Critics Association FIPRESCI at the Thessaloniki Film Festival 2011), based on his online project The Confession Session (<https://www.youtube.com/user/theConfessionSession/videos>)

In 2015 his documentary on mental health and psychiatric ethics titled Ψ [Psy] (www.psyfiles.gr), was screened and distinguished at the Thessaloniki Documentary Festival as well as at the international Hellas Filmbox Berlin festival (18-28/8/2016)