

Alkis (Alkiviadis) Gounaris

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

Dr. Alkis (Alkiviadis) Gounaris was born in Athens, Greece. He teaches philosophy in postgraduate and lifelong learning programs. His areas of expertise are the Philosophy of Human Cognition and Artificial Intelligence, Philosophy of Cognitive Sciences, Ethics, Metaethics and Applied Ethics.

He studied Sports Sciences and then Philosophy at the University of Athens. From the same University he earned a master's degree in Ethics and a PhD in Philosophy of Mind under the supervision of Prof. Theodosios Pelegrinis. His PhD thesis, titled "Intentionality and the Emergence of Meaning" attempts a naturalistic approach to the human cognition, combining classical phenomenological theories with contemporary theories of emergence. According to this hypothesis, the cognitive procedure that we use to call "the meaning", is an emergent property of a certain system that includes each thinking subject together with its world.

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

PhD	PhD Degree in Philosophy of Mind, Department of Philosophy National and Kapodistrian University of Athens 2010
MA	Master's Degree On 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 - Publications - Announcements in Areas of Expertise:
Philosophy of Mind and Cognition, Philosophy of Cognitive Sciences and AI**

- 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. Symposium: Philosophy of Artificial Intelligence: Needs for New Foundations. 4th National Conference on the Philosophy of Science, Athens, Greece. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.21523.12325
- 2014 Can we talk about Intentionality in Eliminative Materialism? The point of view of Embodied Cognition Theories. 3rd National Conference on the Philosophy of Science, Athens, Greece. 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. 4th National Conference on Cognitive Science, Athens Greece. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.17433.67681
- 2012 A Naturalistic Explanation of Meaning within Embodied Cognition Theories. 2nd National Conference on the Philosophy of Science. Athens, Greece. 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. 3rd National Conference on Cognitive Science. Paros, Greece.
- 2011 Heidegger, Neurosciences and the Exemption from the Descartes' Error. Philosophy and Neurosciences: Dasein Lab Workshop. Athens, Greece. 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 - Announcements and Papers on Ethics and Politics:

- 2020 Personal responsibility and the puppets. Original publication in LIFO. (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 publication in LIFO. (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. Chrysopoulos) ISSN 1105-154X.
- 2019 Who's to blame, when HAL kills again? *Ithiki*. v.12. pp. 4-10 ISSN 1790-6121
- 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, University of Patras (co-authoring Dr. Youli Papaioannou)
- 2015 Is There Ethical Business? The quest for values in social entrepreneurship. Workshop: Ethics, values and economy: the role of social entrepreneurship. Municipality of Athens
- 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. 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 and Environment, organized by the University of Athens and the Messinian Prefecture
- 2006 Social Ecology and Communalism in Murray Bookchin’s Philosophy. Digital Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Environmental Ethics (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
- 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 notion of Absolute Values and the naturalistic fallacy. 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

Other Publications and Announcements:

- 2020 Philosophy as therapy: Series on issues of philosophical discourse during the global crisis of COVID-19. 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 (co-authoring: V.Baka) (05/02/2020)
- 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. Dasein Lab Workshop

Teaching Activities:

- 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
- 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 | Philosophy and Ethics of Technology | Postgraduate Program on Ethics | Faculty of Philosophy, Pedagogy and Psychology | Department of Philosophy | National and Kapodistrian University of Athens | Greece

- 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:

- 2020 President of the Organizing Committee of the First International Interdisciplinary Conference on Artificial Intelligence entitled Me and AI: Human Concerns Artificial Minds. Organization: The NKUA Applied Philosophy Research Lab in collaboration with the Hellenic Artificial Intelligence Society. 31 March - 02 April, Technopolis City of Athens
- 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 for 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, 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 for Ethics, Athens, Greece
- 2006-2010 Founder and member of the Board of the Hellenic Society for Ethics | www.ethics.gr

Memberships - Fellowships:

- 2019 -Today Member of the PPE Lab of NKUA
- 2018 -Today Lifetime Member of the Aristotelian Society UK

- 2018 - 2019 Research Fellow | “Progress in Practice” Research Institute | Hellenic Parliament
- 2015-Today Research Fellow of the NKUA Applied Philosophy Research Lab
- 2011-Today Member of the Hellenic Cognitive Science Society
- 2006-Today Member of the Hellenic Society for Ethics

Other Activities:

Besides his academic duties he writes scripts and he is a research consultant in documentary films. In 2011 his documentary titled “Only Words Continue” won the Grand FIPRESCI Award at the Thessaloniki Film Festival. In 2016 his documentary about mental health titled “Ψ - Psy” was an official selection of the Berlin Filmbox Festival.