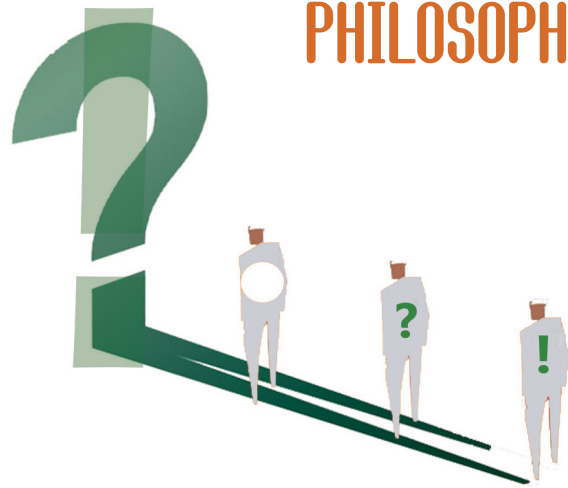# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

SLOVAK PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION AT SAS
invites
to An International Scientific Philosophical Conference

PHILOSOPHICAL WAYS OUT OF UNCERTAINTY – FORMS OF RESPONSIBILITY

October 20 – 22, 2021; Stará Lesná, Slovakia
Congress Centre of the Slovak Academy of Sciences Academia

APPLICATION FORM
HERE

Since the time of Ulrich Beck, the term 'risk' has become an integral part of social sciences, humanities and philosophical discourse. Concepts such as 'uncertainty' and 'crisis' have followed suit. We have been experiencing their most recent manifestations globally and continuously since the outbreak of the novel coronavirus that has led to a social, moral, economic, and cognitive uncertainty. The history of philosophy presents a diverse range of ways how to overcome these forms of uncertainty and their consequences. An integral part of them are therapeutic and curative practices, the search for moral security in the face of the uncertainty of the world, as well as efforts to ensure stability in social and political philosophical concepts. Equally important is the philosophical coping with cognitive uncertainty by means of logic and rational thinking, which safely navigates one in the tangle of nonsense, absurdities and half-truths.

Responsibility foreshadows many philosophical ways out of uncertainty: a human is not yet another blind causal factor in the world. Responsibility for one's actions, which is one of the most important aspects of interpersonal interaction, takes many forms, ranging from causal and epistemic responsibility to moral and legal responsibility; from individual to collective responsibility; from prospective to historic responsibility and from direct individual responsibility to vicarious responsibility. We are able to distinguish actions that are our own from the actions of others, as well as from events that lie outside the causal reach of any human being. It is the basis of what we expect from others - and at the same time what others expect from us; it is closely connected to human abilities and the area of our safe competence. Many non-trivial questions can be asked in this context: What is the conceptual relationship between a moral agent and a bearer of moral responsibility? Who can be morally responsible? Is responsibility restricted to adult humans with sufficient capacities? Alternatively, can we extend the sphere of moral responsibility to children or artificial intelligence?

The main aim of the conference is to map and rethink the scope of philosophical analysis that would allow us to adequately deal with (various forms of) uncertainty and responsibility. We want to ask which philosophical concepts and conceptions are sufficient in this context and which have to be rethought and reconceived. Can philosophy cure us? Can it navigate us through the realm of morality and offer opportunities for a better social world? Can philosophy diminish destructive forms of uncertainty and create constructive strategies to overcome them? Can philosophy provide meaningful and useful answers relevant beyond academia?

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