



University of Gdańsk  
In cooperation with the Polish Phenomenological Association

Announces a First Call for Papers  
for the International Conference on the Topic:

# **Phenomenology and Practice**

## **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference on Traditions and Perspectives of the Phenomenological Movement in Central and Eastern Europe**

8–10 September, 2016  
Gdańsk, Poland

*Confirmed invited speakers include:*

**Natalia Artemenko** (St. Petersburg State University)

**Michael Gubser** (James Madison University)

**Dalius Jonkus** (Vytautas Magnus University)

**Carlos Lobo** (Collège International de Philosophie)

Please send paper proposals  
**BY THE DEADLINE OF APRIL 15, 2016**

See below for more information

Chair of the Organizing Committee: **Witold Płotka** (University of Gdańsk)

## Conference Description

Edmund Husserl developed phenomenology mainly as a theoretical project that at the very beginning concerned a refutation of psychologism, and a reform of theory of knowledge (*Erkenntnistheorie*). The problem of practice seemed to be completely marginal, however, Husserl presented an thorough analysis of many questions connected with practical philosophy, i.e., with axiology, ethics, he presented a description of *praxis*, and of practical involvement of a phenomenologist. Starting from his early lectures on ethics, through talks on Fichte, articles about the renewal, and the late project of ethics of love Husserl investigated the problem of practice. The main idea of the conference *Phenomenology and Practice* is to explore the practical consequences of phenomenology in philosophy in Central and Eastern Europe. This purpose stems from a recognition that historical and political circumstances in Central and Eastern Europe have led to a significant reformulation of the ways how to do phenomenology. It is well known that phenomenology was regarded as an idealistic, and bourgeois philosophy. Although some phenomenologists wanted to abandon any political commitment, many of them used phenomenology as a background of their political-practical reformulation of philosophy. Well known examples are Jan Patočka, Józef Tischner, and Karol Wojtyła.

Our further aims include both systematic and historical questions:

- Who could be regarded as key figures of the “practical turn” in phenomenology in Central and Eastern Europe?
- How was phenomenology redefined as a practical philosophy within the phenomenological movement in Central and Eastern Europe?
- How can we understand political and social roles of phenomenology and phenomenologists as a part of the opposition movements before 1989?
- What role did the exile play in supporting, and preserving the phenomenological movement beyond the Iron Curtain?
- Can we say that phenomenology grounds a specific form of ethics?
- If yes, what are the specific problems of this form of ethical phenomenology?
- What is the thematic scope of phenomenology of *praxis*?
- What are the main phenomena connected with practice?
- How, if at all, phenomenology can be practically implemented?

The ultimate aim of the conference is to illuminate practical and ethical dimensions of phenomenology within the phenomenological movement in Central and Eastern Europe.

## Further information

We welcome proposals in **English**.

Please submit an abstract of up to **6.000 characters**  
(including references, your contact address and academic affiliations) to:

**witoldplotka@gmail.com**

**The deadline for submissions is April 15, 2016.**

**A registration fee is 50 €.**

The time limit for speakers is:

**30 minutes for presentation + 10 minutes for discussion.**