



Università  
Ca'Foscari  
Venezia

**PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE:** Meta-Science and Politics: Theories and Practices of Historical Epistemology

**FUNDING PROGRAMME:** Other International funding

**CALL:** Max Planck Partner Group

**DESCRIPTORS:** Meta-science; politics; epistemology; historical epistemology, political epistemology, historiography, history of science; history of philosophy

**HOST DEPARTMENT:** Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

**SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE:** Pietro Daniel Omodeo

**FINANCIAL DATA:**

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 100.000,00	€ 24.000,00

**ABSTRACT:**

This project will strengthen the different strands of this intellectual proposal, make further collaboration and exchange possible and extend scholarship on historical epistemology both theoretically and through new historical enquiries. As for the theoretical challenge, the present project will deal with the theoretical and methodological challenges of political-epistemology along **three entangled lines of inquiry**:

1. **socio-historical,**
2. **historiographical** (relative to history writing) and
3. **epistemological.**

The project *aims* at integrating the existing scholarship in historical epistemology through consideration of the manners in which hegemonic struggles have constantly informed our comprehension of science. Hegemony is here understood as collective agency embedded in socio-historical settings and shaped by shared cultural-political drives. Secondly, it aims to explore cases that enable us to contend with the political economy of knowledge in its making and the praxis of science, in its collective and oriented character.

The scientific *goal* of this endeavor is to produce a historically sound theoretical comprehension of the political dimension of science and meta-science integrated by novel case studies in the history of science.

A series of *biannual meetings* (1<sup>st</sup> year, 3<sup>rd</sup> year and 5<sup>th</sup> year) organized in collaboration with colleagues of the MPI for the History of Science (Berlin) will explore the three relevant areas of the project. First, the theoretical questions will be raised (political epistemology), secondly, their relation to historiographical outlooks will be

assessed (political historiography) and finally, new historical perspectives will be opened up and evaluated (political vistas in socio-cultural history of science).

The expected *outcome* will be a series of publications on political epistemology. They will comprise essays, proceedings and the edition of at least one classic in politically informed history of science (Boris Hessen's unpublished anthology of sources on the scientific revolution). These publications will in part appear as editions open access in the framework of an editorial cooperation with the Venice University Press Edizioni Ca' Foscari and the Edition Open Access endeavor of the Max Planck Society.

The funding of this project will permit to continue and deepen the already existing collaboration with Jürgen Renn and many colleagues conducting their research at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science.

The project is also innovative in blending regional and linguistic expertise with an interdisciplinary study of other aspects of vernacular culture to form a totalizing, holistic understanding of its regional political culture in the 1920s-1930s.

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<b>Planned Start date</b>	<b>Planned End date</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> July 2021</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> June 2026</b>

**PARTNERSHIP:**

<b>1 Max Planck Institute of the History of Science</b>	<b>Berlin (DE)</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>
<b>2 Università Ca' Foscari Venezia</b>	<b>Venice (IT)</b>	<b>Partner</b>