

10th Nordic Conference on Philosophical Practice

Copenhagen, JUNE 3-5, 2022

“PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE: PHILOSOPHICAL PRACTICE IN THE NORDIC REGION”

The 2020 Nordic Conference on Philosophical Practice marks the 10th anniversary of the Nordic network of philosophical practitioners. The conference celebrates the history of philosophical practice in the Nordic countries while at the same time inviting participants to reflect on the future of philosophical practice:

What does it mean to be human in the 2020s? How can philosophical practice help us address major global challenges such as climate change? Should we, the philosophical practitioners in the Nordic countries, collaborate on common platforms, projects, or educational initiatives? How can we increase the synergy between our national activities? What can we do here and now as we meet?

These are some of the many questions that we look forward to exploring together in this anniversary edition of the Nordic Conference on Philosophical Practice. As a pragmatic undercurrent in the conference, we also invite the participants to come up with new ideas for collaborations between the Nordic countries.

CONFERENCE THEME

The programme falls into three parts:

- (1) THE PAST: What was our original intention? In which ways has our approach changed and developed over time? What lessons have we learned along the way? Are there any 'forgotten gems' that we should dust off and bring with us into the future?
- (2) THE PRESENT: What are the most important philosophical activities currently taking place in the Nordic countries? Is there such a thing as a quintessential 'Nordic approach' to philosophical practice? How can we inspire and learn from each other?
- (3) THE FUTURE: Which parts of society can philosophical practice contribute significantly to in the 2020s? What are our hopes for the future of philosophical practice in the Nordic countries — and how do we get there? Should Nordic practitioners collaborate more? Among many possible points of emphasis the conference will put a special focus on the need of our times for rethinking the man-nature relationship, touching upon topics like climate change, environmental and existential sustainability, environmental and health humanities, or environmental ethics.

ORGANISER: The Danish Society for Philosophical Practice

VENUE: Københavns Professionshøjskole, Tagensvej 18, 2200 København N

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

We invite speakers to address the questions outlined above as well as in the programme (which will be available for download shortly).

It is possible to present in two different formats:

- short presentation (40 mins total including Q&A)
- free form session (e.g. Socratic group dialogue, workshop, practical demonstration, etc.) (40 mins total including Q&A)

Please specify in your submission which format you will be following. Speakers will be instructed to adhere strictly to the time limit. Please plan your presentations so that they fit in the time slots.

Please submit your abstract (max 300 words) to presentations@dsfp.dk.

DEADLINES

UPDATE: The deadline for abstracts is now April 15.

Decisions on acceptance and registration will be announced by April 30.

Registration will be closed when all seats are occupied.

COSTS OF PARTICIPATION

EUR 55 (concessionary price for students and others in need: EUR 35)
Please note that presenters and facilitators will also need to register and pay.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

Please register by:

1) filling out the form at www.dsfp.dk/nordicconference2022.html, and

2) transferring the participation fee to IBAN: DK1953580000248533, SWIFT: ALBAD-KKK (beneficiary name: Dansk Selskab for Filosofisk Praksis, bank name: Arbejdernes Landsbank) indicating your name and country in the 'message to recipient' field.

We encourage everyone to register as soon as possible as there is a limited number of seats available.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions regarding payment should be directed to thomas@dsfp.dk. Please direct all other questions to david@dsfp.dk.

KEYNOTES

Anders Lindseth

Professor Emeritus, Nord University

“The Beginning of Philosophical Practice in the Nordic Countries”

In the Nordic region, as everywhere in the world, the motivation to develop Philosophical Practice was twofold from the start: to enable activities for philosophers outside the universities, and also – very ambitious – to renew philosophizing itself. When we speak of the beginning of philosophical thought, we do not mean an outdated past, but rather what the ancient Greeks called *arché*: a foundation for development. A beginning in this sense we are always challenged to seek and realize. Have we laid a foundation for that?

Michael Noah Weiss

Associate Professor, University of South-Eastern Norway.

“Reflective Practice Research: On the Present State of Philosophical Practice in the Nordics”

Reflective Practice Research, as developed by Anders Lindseth et al, is one of the very few research approaches rooted in philosophical practice. It represents a form of philosophical investigation in which concrete practice experiences of a professional (like a teacher, a philosophical practitioner etc.) are examined in both phenomenological and hermeneutical ways. The idea behind this approach is to deepen understanding of one’s professional practice and to develop as practitioner. In this key-note, a short introduction on this form of research is given and the conference participants are then invited for Reflective Practice Research dialogues, in order to share and examine their current practices and experiences as philosophical practitioners. In this way, we all together will “paint the picture” of *the present* of philosophical practice in the Nordics.

Ólafur Páll Jónsson

Professor of Philosophy, University of Iceland

“Criticality for Continued Living: Thinking, Action, Morality and Perception”

Reflecting on the future of philosophical practice, two poles pull in different directions. Facing social, political and environmental crises one may think: Why philosophy, isn't it action rather than reflection that is needed? But one might also think: Only if people would pause — let the wind of thought halt action for a moment — we would not be in such a dire situation. Perhaps philosophy is exactly what is needed in these times of crises. If philosophy has a role to play, it would be because philosophical practice helps develop critical skills that may prevent violence, whether against other people or the planet. We need more criticality in the world, but what do we mean by criticality? It is not the conventional concept of critical thinking that is needed; it is too narrow, and as an educational ideal it fundamentally flawed. Instead of 'critical thinking' I propose 'critical being'; rather than focusing on thinking we must adopt a concept of criticality that incorporates social, moral, emotional and perceptual elements in addition to the standard elements of critical thinking. Criticality should be thought of as a quality of a person living a complete life in association with others on a fragile planet.

Finn Thorbjørn Hansen

Professor in Applied Philosophy, University of Aalborg

“Why and how can philosophical practice enhance existential sustainability and a deep connectedness toward the earth?”

At the heart of philosophical practice, we find philosophical wonder. This is the epicenter for genuine thinking. In the phenomenology and ethics of wonder we find ourselves in a delicate and reverberant connection with the world — as if we are called to a presence and resonance-with-the-world. The touch point between Environmental Humanities and Health Humanities has to do with this ontological homecoming or existential rootedness. In being in wonder we bridge the field of environmental sustainability (“bæredygtighed”) and existential sustainability (“væredygtighed”). Through a so-called ‘Wonder Compass’, which I have developed through two different philosophical and phenomenological action research projects on respectively a Danish hospital and with some Danish performance artists, I will in this speech show how I use this kind of philosophical practice to nurture and enhance a sense of wonder and existential sustainability.

PROGRAMME

FRIDAY JUNE 3RD

TIME	ACTIVITY	PLEASE NOTE
15:30	We invite participants who arrive early to join us on a guided philosophical walk around Copenhagen.	<i>Not part of the official program — open for all.</i>
19:00	Dinner	<i>Not part of the official program — open for all.</i>

SATURDAY JUNE 4th

TIME	ACTIVITY	PLEASE NOTE
09:00-10:00	COFFEE & REGISTRATION	
10:00	WELCOME ADDRESS <u>David Mark Larsson & Marie Lund</u>	
10:15	THEME 1: THE PAST Keynote by Anders Lindseth "The Beginning of Philosophical Practice in the Nordic Countries"	Keynote (60 min incl. Q&A).
11:15-11:30	Intermission	
11:30-13:00	THE PAST: PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS We invite speakers and facilitators to provide answers to and/or discussion of the following questions: - What were our intentions? (Which visions, hopes and intentions were at the foundation of philosophical practice in the Nordic countries when we started out? Have they come true?) - What did we do? How did we work in the past? What worked well? What did not work so well? - Are there any forgotten initiatives or expired projects that deserve to be brought back to life?	Call for papers Formats: 1) Short paper presentation or 2) Free form (e.g. Socratic group dialogue, demonstrations, etc.) Time limit: 30 minutes total (including Q&A). Time slots: 11:30-12:10 12:15-12:55

13:00-14.00	LUNCH	
14:00	<p>THEME 2: THE PRESENT</p> <p>Keynote by Michael Noah Weiss:</p> <p>“Reflective Practice Research: On the Present State of Philosophical Practice in the Nordics”</p>	Keynote (60 min incl. Q&A).
15:15	Intermission	
15:30-17:00	<p>THE PRESENT: PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS</p> <p>We invite speakers and facilitators to provide answers to and/or discussion of the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What projects are we working on at the moment and how do we work? • Is there such a thing as a quintessential “Nordic” approach to philosophical practice? • What can we learn from each other? <p>Examples of topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philosophising with children • Philosophising with the general public • Philosophising in/with organisations • Philosophy and Health • Philosophy as Ethical Self-Care 	<p>Call for papers</p> <p>Formats: 1) Short paper presentation or 2) Free form (e.g. Socratic group dialogue, demonstrations, etc.)</p> <p>Time limit: 30 minutes total (including Q&A).</p> <p>Time slots: 15:30-16:10 16:15-16:55</p>
17:00	<p>PLENARY: WHERE ARE WE NOW?</p> <p>Facilitator: Thomas Ryan Jensen</p> <p>Group dialogues and recapitulation of the day's sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “What can we learn from the past and present of philosophical practice in the Nordic countries?” • “Are there any ‘forgotten gems’ or lost projects that deserve to be revived?” 	
19:00	CONFERENCE DINNER	<i>(Not included in the conference fee)</i>

SUNDAY JUNE 5th

TIME	ACTIVITY	PLEASE NOTE
9:00	COFFEE	
10:00	OPENING REMARKS: INTO THE FUTURE David Mark Larsson "How do we bring the past and present into the future?"	
10:15	THEME 3: THE FUTURE Keynote by Ólafur Páll Jónsson: "Criticality for Continued Living: Thinking, Action, Morality and Perception"	Keynote (60 mins including Q&A)
11:15-11:30	Intermission	
11:30	THEME 3: THE FUTURE (Keynote 2) Keynote by Finn Thorbjørn Hansen: "Why and how can philosophical practice enhance existential sustainability and a deep connectedness toward the earth?"	Keynote (60 mins including Q&A)
12.30	LUNCH	
13.30	PANEL: THE FUTURE OF PHILOSOPHICAL PRACTICE IN THE NORDIC REGION & BEYOND We invite our group of panelists to discuss the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does philosophical practice contain an inherent system of values? If yes, what are they — and how do we protect and promote them? • How can we ensure that philosophical practice stays relevant in the face of major societal challenges? • Should philosophical practitioners in the Nordic countries collaborate more in the face of global challenges? 	Panelists: To be announced

15:00-15:30	Coffee break	
15:30	<p>PLENARY: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?</p> <p>We invite the conference participants to form cross-regional work groups that will pick up on the main points from this year's conference and bring them into action.</p> <p>Questions to be explored include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How might we collaborate more in the Nordic countries in the future? • Should we create a shared curriculum, transnational projects, or other common platforms for future initiatives? • Which decisions can we make here and now before leaving the conference? 	<i>Freely organised group session.</i>
17:00	<p>FAREWELL SESSION</p> <p>Group photo and final remarks</p>	
17:30	GOODBYE !	