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7		Given Name	<b>Mauro</b>
8	Corresponding	Suffix	
9	Author	Organization	University of Rome 3
10		Division	Department of Philosophy
11		Address	Via Ostiense 234, Rome 00144, Italy
12		e-mail	mauro.dorato@gmail.com
13		Family Name	<b>Hofer</b>
14		Particle	
15		Given Name	<b>Carl</b>
16		Suffix	
17	Author	Organization	University of Rome 3
18		Division	Department of Philosophy
19		Address	Via Ostiense 234, Rome 00144, Italy
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## Editorial

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**Mauro Dorato · Carl Hofer**

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You have in your hands—or possibly on a webpage loaded in your browser—the first issue of the *European Journal for Philosophy of Science* (EJPS). EJPS is a blind-refereed journal for all areas of philosophy of science, staffed by a truly international editorial team. Few other journals meet this description, and for this reason alone it should be welcomed to the increasingly international world of philosophy of science. But EJPS aims to be something more than just another front-line journal with very high standards.

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A colleague of ours has argued that philosophy of science should be regarded as “the continuation of science by other means”: we agree with this characterization. In their attempt at gaining an understanding of our place in the universe, philosophy and science are inseparable. There is in fact no way to clearly demarcate the content and the doing of science from philosophy, nor any way to do good philosophy without input and impact from the sciences. The more we can do to open gates in the disciplinary fences between philosophy and the sciences, the better work in both domains will be. To paraphrase Einstein’s paraphrase of Kant, science without philosophy is blind, and philosophy without science is empty.

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For these reasons, we will occasionally publish themed issues dedicated to topics that can advance our aims of establishing deeper connections between philosophy and real science, of studying the impacts of science on the manifest image of the world, thereby opening new areas of discussion for philosophy of science as a whole. We therefore invite philosophers and scientists who want to build new solid bridges between the two disciplines to think of EJPS as the natural place to send their work.

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In 2011 irrationality and anti-scientific attitudes are perhaps as internationally widespread and dangerous as they were when the Vienna Circle began to meet. Despite the presence of a common European currency, our present economic and ecological crises demand new and extraordinary creative efforts both in science and

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M. Dorato (✉) · C. Hofer

Department of Philosophy, University of Rome 3, Via Ostiense 234, 00144 Rome, Italy  
e-mail: mauro.dorato@gmail.com

technology, efforts which philosophy can and ought to contribute to sustain. It would 36  
be desirable for philosophers to not stand idly on the sidelines, but to speak out 37  
publicly against irrationality and the folly of ignoring the best methodology to 38  
ascertain empirical facts (think, for example, of the need to evaluate more carefully 39  
our present evidence for global climate change). We think that in current challenges 40  
of this sort, philosophy of science should play a leading role, and EJPS will try to 41  
support the engagement of philosophy with the wider public sphere as well. 42

It is in this sense that we hope to carry forward the European traditions in 43  
philosophy of science and natural philosophy, associated with names such as 44  
Einstein, Weyl, Cassirer, Schlick, Neurath, Carnap, Popper and Reichenbach. The 45  
analytic philosophical tradition that partly arose with the works of these European 46  
philosophers today is still alive also in continental Europe, and is gaining strength 47  
year by year. Europe has now an organism to promote this tradition in philosophy of 48  
science: *EPSA*, the *European Philosophy of Science Association*. EJPS is its official 49  
journal, and its partner in fomenting a stronger, more diverse, and more scientifically 50  
and socially relevant international community of philosophers of science. We look 51  
forward to your joining us! 52

Carl Hofer, *editor in chief* 53

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