

Call for Papers:

Learning from History: The Philosophies of Historiography and the Historical Sciences

The University of Ostrava, Czech Republic, 27-29 November 2026

Confirmed keynote speakers (alphabetically):

Carol Cleland

Adrian Currie

Michal Hubálek

Jouni-Matti Kuukkanen

James McAllister

Gregory Radick

Adam Timmins

Aviezer Tucker

Derek Turner

The philosophy of history, the ontology of the past, and the philosophy of historiography, the epistemology of knowledge of history, are rapidly expanding philosophical fields. This expansion is partly driven by the progress of the historical sciences in broadening the scope of our knowledge of history by discovering new evidence and new information theories that allow decoding it and inferring knowledge of the past. These developments call for new philosophies of the historical sciences and historiography that encompass the new ontologies and epistemologies of all the historical sciences that can make warranted inferences about history.

The philosophy of the historical sciences is distinct of other sub-fields of epistemology and the philosophy of science in studying the generation of knowledge of the past, of history, which depends on signals that cross the entropic barrier of time. This conference will consider the philosophical, ontological and epistemic implications of the new historical sciences and historiography that form the foundation for learning from the past. This conference will attempt to found a new sub-field of the philosophy of science, devoted to the philosophy of the historical sciences.

The conference will take place at the [Foundation for the Philosophy of Historical Sciences and Historiography](#) at the University of Ostrava in the Czech Republic, with support from the Visegrad Fund and the University of Ostrava, and in cooperation with the University of Silesia in Katowice in Poland, and the Catholic University in Ružomberok in Slovakia.

We call for abstracts of 250-500 words in the philosophy of historiography and the historical sciences to be submitted **by the 31st of August 2026**. There will not be a conference fee, but registration is required. Please send abstracts, queries, and correspondence to:

Aviezer Tucker at avitucker@yahoo.com and David Černín at david.cernin@osu.cz

The [Foundation for the Philosophy of Historical Sciences and Historiography](#) is comprised of five researchers and has existed for three years with generous support from the European Union, the Czech Grant Agency, and the Visegrad Fund. It holds regular in person and remote seminars. Next year, in August 2027, it will co-convene a summer school in the philosophy of historiography and the historical sciences with emphasis on the philosophical foundations of applied history at the Catholic University of Ružomberok in Slovakia.

Ostrava, in the North-East corner of the Czech Republic, is the second largest urban conglomeration in the country after Prague. It has an airport with regular flights from Warsaw, Malaga, and London-Stansted. It can also be reached by bus from the airports of Katowice and Krakow in Poland, and by train from Vienna and Prague. By train, Ostrava is about 2.5 hours from Krakow, 3 hours from Vienna, and 3.5 hours from Prague.

The conference is part of the project “[What Can be Learned from History: Philosophical Reflections from Central Europe](#)” co-financed by the governments of Czechia, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia through Visegrad Grants from the [International Visegrad Fund](#). The mission of the fund is to advance ideas for sustainable regional cooperation in Central Europe.

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