



XXV WORLD CONGRESS OF PHILOSOPHY ROME 2024

1ST - 8TH AUGUST 2024

Organizer and Chair: **Luca Oliva**

Session Title: **Cognitive Capacitism from Kant to Carnap**

Speakers: **Caterina Del Sordo, Kristina Engelhard, Naomi Osorio-Kupferblum**

Abstract: In Kant's transcendentalism, the mind's cognitive capacities (e.g., intuitions and concepts, among others) relate to the laws of mathematics. This session questions this relation and the related understanding of mathematics within a capacitist framework. It focuses on the property of 'response-dependency,' stating that 'X (i.e., something) is P (i.e., response-dependent) if and only if for any subject S: if conditions C obtain, then S judges that X is P'. We will consider two instances from Carnap, i.e., his notions of 'elementary experiences' and 'quasi-analysis'. Although primarily mathematical, quasi-analysis is conceivable as a representation theorem underpinned by cognitive capacities that we aim to explore, especially in relation to Kant.

Talks:

*Caterina Del Sordo – **Capacitism and Quasi-Analysis in Carnap.*** As a piece of formal language, quasi-analysis is one of the many ways Carnap implements his notion of analyticity. Although conceivable as an *ante litteram* representation theorem, the philosophical meaning of quasi-analysis appears rather fragmentary. Starting from *Aufbau's* formal method, I aim to clarify the mathematical core of quasi-analysis and question whether cognitive capacities underpin its representational character.

*Kristina Engelhard – **Kant's Theory of Mathematical Cognition: A Capacitist Reading.*** According to a capacitist reading of Kant's transcendental philosophy, cognitive capacities are powers, i.e., they produce cognitive outputs such as intuitions, concepts, judgments, and inferences. The actions of these powers are subject to laws of cognition, which can be of various kinds. The aim of this talk is to reconstruct mathematical construction according to the capacitist framework. So, the question is: what kind of laws are the laws of mathematics? How do the capacities of the mind relate to the laws of mathematics?

*Naomi Osorio-Kupferblum – **Response-Dependence and Knowledge.*** The epithet 'response-dependent' has been used for several metaphysically different properties, some of which have also been known as 'powers', and some responses may count as Carnapian 'elementary experiences'. What they all have in common is that they involve the bearer of the property and some response in or from another object (thing or person). Can any such property pertain to or relate to our knowledge of mathematics?