

## [Engaging the Contemporary 2017: Issues in Contemporary Political and Social Philosophy](#)

Announcement published by Kurt Borg on Thursday, February 16, 2017

Type:

Call for Papers

Date:

June 30, 2017

Location:

Malta

Subject Fields:

Human Rights, Humanities, Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology

### **Engaging the Contemporary 2017**

#### **Issues in Contemporary Political and Social Philosophy**

**(Msida, Malta)**

The Department of Philosophy of the University of Malta is hosting the 4th edition of **Engaging the Contemporary** at the **University of Malta (Msida Campus) on 16-17 November 2017**.

Engaging the Contemporary 2017 addresses current debates in political and social philosophy by examining different theoretical approaches as well as their application to existing political and social realities.

It raises questions about the possible shape of critique in contemporary times, its objects and its scopes. It seeks to identify spaces where critique - within and without academic discourse - can intervene in a public sphere. It attempts to invigorate a sense of democracy beyond populism; and aims to explore a political language of responsibility beyond burden-sharing. It hopes that attempts to think of a world without unjust economic inequalities, or of solidarity that is not reducible to economic gain, do not amount to thinking the impossible. It questions whether we are, after all, living in times of crises: crises of democracy, refugee crises, environmental crises. It invites sensible urgent transformations - at the levels of discourse, law, and institutions - and the necessary work of thought to complement them.

Inviting proposals from **Masters/PhD students and academics**, this conference encourages a critical consideration of a wide range of topics, including but not limited to:

- Contemporary formulations of central political notions such as justice, rights, democracy, recognition and equality.
- The concept of a critical public sphere and its relevance in a technocratic age.
- The role of critique and its (ir)relevance.
- The relation between democracy and populism.
- Contemporary reformulations of critical concepts such as alienation and reification.

Citation: Kurt Borg. *Engaging the Contemporary 2017: Issues in Contemporary Political and Social Philosophy*. H-Announce. 02-16-2017.

<https://networks.h-net.org/node/73374/announcements/167114/engaging-contemporary-2017-issues-contemporary-political-and-social-philosophy>  
Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 3.0 United States License.

- Rationality, affectivity, and post-truth politics.
- Contemporary political and social issues such as migration and borders, refugees and human rights, social complexity and autonomy, surveillance and security, cosmopolitanism.
- Identities, social ontology and intersectional theory.
- Biopolitics, law and technology.
- Spaces of Insurrection: Bodies in the street, the university; Resistance in the work place, in digital spaces.

Interested participants are to submit **by email an abstract of around 500 words and a brief biographical note by 30 June 2017**. Decisions will be communicated by **15 July 2017**.

Coordinator: Prof. Claude Mangion, Head of Department, Department of Philosophy, University of Malta.

Submissions of abstracts and queries are to be sent to: [engagingthecontemporary@um.edu.mt](mailto:engagingthecontemporary@um.edu.mt)

Conference Fee: Free

Website: [www.um.edu.mt/arts/philosophy/engagingthecontemporary](http://www.um.edu.mt/arts/philosophy/engagingthecontemporary)

Contact Person: Mr Kurt Borg (<https://www.um.edu.mt/profile/kurtborg>)

Contact Info:

**Email:** [engagingthecontemporary@um.edu.mt](mailto:engagingthecontemporary@um.edu.mt)

**Website:** [www.um.edu.mt/arts/philosophy/engagingthecontemporary](http://www.um.edu.mt/arts/philosophy/engagingthecontemporary)

Contact Email:

[engagingthecontemporary@um.edu.mt](mailto:engagingthecontemporary@um.edu.mt)

URL:

<http://www.um.edu.mt/arts/philosophy/engagingthecontemporary>