

**July 6-7 2018**  
**Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven (University of Leuven), Belgium**  
**Marsilius of Padua between History, Philosophy and Politics**

Keynote speakers:

Gianluca Briguglia (Université de Strasbourg)  
Cary J. Nederman (University of Texas A & M)  
Annabel Brett (Cambridge University)  
Roberto Lambertini (Univeristà di Macerata)

Marsilius of Padua (c. 1275-c. 1342) was one of the most influential and controversial thinkers of the Middle Ages. He is best known for his seminal text *Defensor Pacis* (1324) where he attacks the papal theory of plenitude of power and defends an idea of political community based on the strict separation between secular and religious authority. Marsilius was trained as a physician and master of Arts in Padua and Paris and, with the Averroist philosopher John of Jandun, moved to the court of the Holy Roman Emperor, Ludwig of Bavaria, in Munich. He then followed the emperor in his famous expedition to Italy and, in 1327, was excommunicated by Pope John XXII with John of Jandun. The Paduan philosopher is considered a highly complex theorist. In the *Defensor Pacis*, he presents an original synthesis of several contemporary themes and traditions: Aristotelianism, Augustinianism, the debate on Franciscan property, the communal tradition of the Italian city-states, Conciliarism, medicine, astrology etc. Marsilius' ideas also had a significant influence in the early modern period during the Renaissance, the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation. His work lies at the crossroads of different fields, ranging from political philosophy to history of political thought, history of philosophy, history of medicine, civil and canon law, and so on. Reflecting on Marsilius' thought requires, therefore, an interdisciplinary approach.

This conference is the first international conference dedicated to exploring Marsilius as a comprehensive theorist. It is a call for papers that aims to analyze the life and thought of Marsilius of Padua in his own context and beyond. We will accept papers from any discipline, approach, and historical period (including papers on the impact of Marsilius' ideas today). Topics can include, but are not limited, to:

- Marsilius of Padua in his historical context (the communal tradition, theocratic defenses of power, Ghibellinism, Guelphism, the debate on Franciscan poverty, civil and canon law).
- Marsilius and his contemporary philosophers (for example Albert the Great, Thomas Aquinas, William of Ockham, Peter of Abano, John of Jandun, Gilles of Rome) or his contemporary philosophical traditions (ethical and political Aristotelianism, Ciceronianism, Augustinianism, Scotism)
- Comparisons between Marsilius' and other political commentators of his own time (for example Pieter of Auvergne, Ptolemy of Lucca, John of Viterbo, John of Paris, Michael of Cesena)
- The impact of Marsilius' ideas on early modern and modern traditions
- The impact of Marsilius' ideas on other early modern and modern philosophers, political theorists, or theologians
- The relationship between reason and revelation in Marsilius' thought

- Marsilius and Jewish-Arabic thought
- Marsilius and the medical tradition

This conference is organized by RIPPLE (Research in Political Philosophy Leuven) and DWMC (De Wulf-Mansion Center for Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy at KU Leuven's Institute of Philosophy. To submit a paper proposal, please email a short CV and abstract of no more than 500 words (along with affiliation) to [marsilius@kuleuven.be](mailto:marsilius@kuleuven.be) by 15 November 2017. Successful applicants will be notified by 30 November 2017.