

CfA International Conference

Unity and Being in Plato and Aristotle: Topic-Neutral Forms and Transcategorical Properties

The GANPH (Gesellschaft für antike Philosophie – Workgroup on Theoretical Philosophy in Antiquity) is pleased to invite you to the international conference *Unity and Being in Plato and Aristotle: Topic-Neutral Forms and Transcategorical Properties*, which will take place in Tübingen on 11th-12th December 2026.

The *megista gene* in Plato's *Sophist*, the *koina* in the *Theaetetus*, the attributes of the One in the *Parmenides*, or the parts of the World Soul in the *Timaeus* all testify to Plato's recurring interest in a group or in groups of entities among which we find identity or sameness, difference, similarity and dissimilarity, equality and inequality as well as unity and being. Some of these have been described in the scholarly literature as topic-neutral because of their ubiquitous occurrence. Likewise, Aristotle discusses transcategorical properties in prominent places in *Metaphysics* Beta, Gamma, Delta, and Iota, as well as in the *Topics*, and emphasizes that engagement with these is a core task of the science of being *qua* being. The conference is dedicated to shedding light on the highly complex exegetical and theoretical problems arising from topic-neutral Forms in Plato and transcategorical properties in Aristotle.

The aim of this conference is to provide a framework for the discussion of research projects concerned with these topics. We especially welcome papers of early career researcher on Plato, Aristotle, as well as the late-antique commentary tradition on these authors (e.g. Alexander of Aphrodisias, Syrianus, Proclus, Asclepius).

The main languages of the conference will be English and German, but papers in other languages will be considered too.

Guidelines for the submission of abstracts:

The deadline for submitting abstracts (800–1,000 words) is **15th April 2026**. Anonymous abstracts should be submitted by email to

Samuel Meister (Samuel.Meister@unige.ch) and Denis Walter (dwalter@uni-bonn.de)

Selected applicants will be notified of acceptance, together with further information about the conference, **by May 2026**. For any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the organizing committee. Subsidies for travel and accommodation cannot be guaranteed.

The organizing committee

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