

# Wisdom & Contemplation

A Comparative Approach to Perception and Knowledge-  
Production in Ancient Conceptions of Sagehood

An International Symposium Supported By a Strategic  
Partnership Grant Between the University of Vienna and Kyoto University

|                     |                                                                                                          |  |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------------------|
| <b>Venue</b>        | Conference Room on the Basement Floor, Faculty of Letters, Kyoto University                              |  |                      |
| <b>Registration</b> | Please write to <a href="mailto:smart-we.office@bun.kyoto-u.ac.jp">smart-we.office@bun.kyoto-u.ac.jp</a> |  |                      |
| <b>Organizers</b>   | Yasuo Deguchi, Shunichi Takagi                                                                           |  | Kyoto University     |
|                     | George Karamanolis, Solmeng-Jonas Hirschi                                                                |  | University of Vienna |

## Day 1: 2 September 2025

|       |       |                                                                                                                |                       |
|-------|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 09:30 | 09:35 | Opening Remarks                                                                                                | Yasuo Deguchi         |
| 09:35 | 10:35 | Epicurus on Theôria                                                                                            | Solmeng-Jonas Hirschi |
| 10:35 | 10:40 | 5min break                                                                                                     |                       |
| 10:40 | 11:40 | How Wisdom Makes Us Free: Stoic and Platonic Perspectives                                                      | Tomohiko Kondo        |
| 11:40 | 13:00 | Lunch                                                                                                          |                       |
| 13:00 | 14:00 | Eyes that See, Eyes that Make Visible: Sages, Pseudo-sages and Human Agency in the Xici 繫辭 and the Zhuangzi 莊子 | Flaminia Pischedda    |
| 14:00 | 14:10 | Short Break                                                                                                    |                       |
| 14:10 | 15:10 | The Three Kinds of Wisdom Inherited in the Vedas, the Ancient Religious Texts of India                         | Kyoko Amano           |
| 15:10 | 15:30 | Coffee Break                                                                                                   |                       |
| 15:30 | 16:30 | Aristotle on Why a Life of Contemplation is a Happy Life                                                       | George Karamanolis    |
| 16:30 | 16:40 | Short Break                                                                                                    |                       |
| 16:40 | 17:40 | We-turn and Aristotle                                                                                          | Yasuo Deguchi         |
| 17:40 | 17:45 | Day 1 closing remarks                                                                                          |                       |
| 18:00 |       | Symposium Dinner                                                                                               |                       |

## Day 2: 3 September 2025

|       |       |                                                                                                                                                                     |                              |
|-------|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 09:30 | 10:30 | How Easily Can One Attain Ultimate Happiness? Monk Scholars of Pure Land Buddhism, Who Sought to Break away from the Orthodox Framework of Wisdom and Contemplation | Seiji Kumagai                |
| 10:30 | 10:40 | 10 min Break                                                                                                                                                        |                              |
| 10:40 | 11:40 | Wisdom and Mystical Knowledge in Iamblichus                                                                                                                         | Andreea-Maria Lemnaru Espuna |
| 11:40 | 13:00 | Lunch Break                                                                                                                                                         |                              |
| 13:00 | 14:00 | Plato on Definition and Systematisation of Technê                                                                                                                   | Atsushi Hayase               |
| 14:00 | 14:10 | Closing Remarks                                                                                                                                                     | George Karamanolis           |



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