

## ISOS Workshop Grant Application Form

Please submit this form, along with the completed budget template, to [membership@isosonline.org](mailto:membership@isosonline.org) by 19 November 2021.  
This form may be submitted in .doc or .pdf format.

Names and institutional affiliations of the workshop organisers:

Dr. Bill Wringe, Associate Professor, Dept of Philosophy, Bilkent University  
Barış Kaştaş, Evrensel Sebep, Ahmet Gönüllü PhD candidates, Bilkent University

(All current members of ISOS)

Abstract of the workshop (150 word maximum):

Social ontology, which deals with questions about collective goals, collective agency, and collective responsibility might seem to be crucial for political philosophy, which is centrally concerned with questions about how groups of individuals do and should address collective problems. However, with a few exceptions (eg Gilbert 2008, List and Pettit 2010) social ontologists have been reluctant to engage with political philosophy, and political philosophers have typically adopted individualistic approaches to agency.

Recent work by authors such as Collins, Lawford-Smith, Hindriks, Schwenkenbecher, Pasternak and others, has sought to explore the ways in which insights from social ontology can shed light on a variety of issues in political philosophy. Questions about the kinds of decision-making procedure that groups must have in order to qualify as bearers of collective obligation are central to these debates. The aim of this workshop is to address these questions.

Brief account of the workshop's purpose, explaining its benefits for the field of social ontology and/or how it involves community outreach:

1.) The primary aim of this workshop is to provide a forum for Early Career Researchers to present work relating political philosophy and social ontology, and to help young philosophers based in Turkey to build links with a wider academic community. Money from the ISOS grant will primarily be devoted to supporting young researchers from inside and outside Turkey in presenting their work and building academic links between these researchers.

Further goals include:

2.) Strengthening links between social ontology and political philosophy, in particular by exploring links between work on collective agency, collective responsibility and deliberative democracy.

3.) Bringing work in social ontology to the attention of a broader academic audience in Turkey, with a view to increasing the internationalization of the subfield.

4.) Establishing a network of scholars interested in social ontology within Turkey.

Continued overleaf

5.) Bringing high-quality work in analytic philosophy to the attention of a broader audience, both academic and non-academic in Turkey.

In particular, we plan to seek support from within Turkey for at least one outreach event associated with the workshop (eg a public lecture in an off-campus venue) aimed at a non-academic audience.

We also hope to be able to place some Turkish translations of key works in social ontology and/or interviews with conference participants into philosophical publications with a non-academic audience (such as *Cogito* and *Öncül*), and to schedule a live interview on Dr. Tufan Kiymaz's YouTube channel. Previous interviewees on this channel include Peter Singer, Amy Kind and Neil de Grasse Tyson.

Link for YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXkdfSmRlv10UAeta1D86m2SyDEbLMkGS>

Timeline for holding the proposed workshop:

Invitations to speakers: ongoing

Call for papers: to be issued when funding is secured

Deadline for call: end of January 2022

Decisions: 1<sup>st</sup> week in February

Workshop date: 6-8 May or 8-10 May 2022

Information about other funding sought or obtained, if any:

Bilkent University:

We are in the process of applying for funding from Bilkent University for three purposes:

a) facilities\*, accommodation, website hosting for conference participants  
\*including any necessary accommodations to enable accessibility for disabled participants.

b) international flights for up to 6 keynote speakers

We also plan to apply for funding under TÜBİTAK's 2223 program for international workshops in Turkey.

Applications for TÜBİTAK funding for activities taking place in 2022 open on 15<sup>th</sup> January and close on 5<sup>th</sup> February. Details (in Turkish) can be found at:

<https://tubitak.gov.tr/tr/destekler/bilimsel-etkinlik/etkinlik-duzenleme-destekleri/2223c/icerik-basvuru-tarihleri>

Description of how the workshop will be advertised to the larger social ontological and/or lay audience:

Advertising: To an international audience: in addition to the ISOS website, we plan to advertise the call for papers in standard venues (Philos-L, the PhilEvents website, Daily Nous, the APA)

Within Turkey: we will use the website 'Hesperus is Bosphorus' (a site for publicizing anglophone philosophy events) as well as advertising more informally on social media via the philosophy department's Twitter, Facebook and Instagram accounts. We also plan to draw on our contacts with a range of philosophical organizations in philosophy, such as SWIP-TR and Assos'Ta Felsefe.

If the workshop is associated with a website, please state where the site will be hosted and indicate whether you intend a link to be created to ISOS's website (ISOS cannot host websites for funded workshops):

The website will be hosted on the site of the Bilkent University philosophy department (which has previously hosted a number of websites for international workshops in other areas of philosophy: for examples, see <http://www.phil.bilkent.edu.tr/index.php/category/conference/>)

If the event is successful we would hope to develop this webpage into a continuing resource for scholars in Turkey interested in Social Ontology

We would obviously link to the ISOS webpage, and would appreciate a link from the ISOS webpage if this is possible.

Please address how the program will be accessible for disabled persons, including deaf/hard of hearing and blind/visually impaired individuals:

We are planning a hybrid event, enabling both in-person and remote participation (see 'other comments', below).

We are in communication with Bilkent University's Centre for Students with Special Needs (<https://w3.bilkent.edu.tr/bilkent/dean-of-students-office/center-for-students-with-special-needs/>) to discuss how to facilitate access for disabled participants both remotely and in person. In particular we note that the university has recently been improving physical access to facilities in response to the needs of disabled research students within the philosophy department, and we have identified meeting rooms which will be wheelchair accessible.

We also plan to ask for help from the Centre for Students with Special Needs in identifying sign language interpreters (though we anticipate that finding interpreters with subject area knowledge and ASL competence in Turkey will be challenging). While we are aware of the drawbacks of automatic captioning, we may use this as a facility of last resort for video presentations.

We will be asking Bilkent University to fund appropriate accommodations for accessibility as part of the conference overheads: in view of their recent commitments in this area – some undertaken in response to requests from the philosophy department, we are optimistic on this score.

Please enter any other comments in the box below:

Our aim is to make this a hybrid event allowing for both in-person and remote participation. In order to maximize the opportunity for young researchers in the field to gain the benefits of in-person discussion, we are asking ISOS to fund travel for post-doctoral and other early career scholars (PhDs no later than 2016).

We are also asking Bilkent University to cover the expenses of on-campus facilities, web-hosting and accommodation for funded speakers. Previous experience suggests that it is overwhelmingly likely that all these expenses will be covered, but we also note that due to the current exchange rate, the full cost of on-campus accommodation is likely to be extremely low by international standards: we have been quoted a rate of 150TL per person per night (equivalent to less than 15USD per person per night).

If we obtain funding only from ISOS, the in-person portion of the conference will be primarily for these scholars and other participants from within Turkey, but we will ask a number of more senior scholars to contribute remotely. However, we are also asking Bilkent University for funding to cover the travel and accommodation of up to 6 more senior international scholars, and we have some grounds for optimism in this respect: since 2016 the university has supported 4 international workshops in philosophy of roughly this scale, and there are currently no competing applications. (A further workshop on Social Ontology had been projected for 2021, but because of the CoVid pandemic a smaller-scale online event took place.)

Because our plan is for a hybrid event, we expect to be able to deal flexibly with potential disruptions to travel and the organization of in-person meetings due to further developments in the CoViD-19 pandemic (and similar).

We note the collaboration of the following individuals, who are not named as co-applicants on this grant application: \*Dr. Säde Hormio (Researcher, Helsinki University – international collaborator.); Dr. Tufan Kıymaz (Assistant Professor, Bilkent University - outreach consultant)

\* Also an ISOS member.