

18 February 2025

09:00 – *Introduction and greetings*

Comparison in Context

09:15 - John **MONFASANI** (University at Albany)
The Platonisms of the Plato-Aristotle Controversy

10:00 - Maarten **HOENEN** (Universität Basel)
Plato and Aristotle in the Albertist Tradition

coffee break

11:15 - Jan-Hendryk **DE BOER** (Universität Duisburg-Essen)
From Personal to Intellectual Constellations. Cusa, the Roman Curia, and the confrontation between Aristotelianism and Platonism

12:00 - Thomas **WOELKI** (HU Berlin)
Der römische Freundeskreis des Nikolaus von Kues

12:45 – *lunch*

Sources and Exegetical Models

14:15 - Silvia **FIASCHI** (Università di Macerata)
In and around Diogenes Laertius: Aristotle and Plato in Traversari's translation

15:00 - Mario **MELIADÒ** (Universität Siegen)
Cusanus, Georg von Trapezunt und Bessarion über die Briefe Platons

coffee break

16:15 - Denis **ROBICHAUD** (University of Notre Dame)
Cusanus on Proclus and Pseudo-Dionysius

17:00 - Luca **BURZELLI** (Universität Siegen)
Nicholas of Cusa and Averroes

Historiographical and Institutional Perspectives

18:00 Andreas **SPEER** (Universität zu Köln)
Platonismus und Aristotelismus in der Cusanus-Forschung am Thomas-Institut

18:30 – *general discussion*

19:30 – *dinner*

19 February 2025

Disciplines and Philosophical Debates

09:00 - Fabian **MARX** (Universität Siegen)
Cusanus und Heymericus zum aristotelischen Begriff der Ersten Philosophie

09:45 - Gregor **NICKEL** (Universität Siegen)
„Nec est aliud numerus quam ratio explicata.“ (De coni. n. 7) – Die (Neu)konzeption mathematischer Gegenstände bei Nikolaus von Kues: Eine Revolution der Denkart?

coffee break

11:00 - Valentina **ZAFFINO** (Università della Calabria)
Neoplatonic Mysticism in the Sermons of Cusanus

11:45 - Isabelle **MANDRELLA** (LMU München)
Der Platon-Aristoteles-Vergleich in De mente

12:30 - Paul Richard **BLUM** (Loyola University Maryland)
Die Seelenlehre bei Nikolaus von Kues, Plethon und Bessarion

13:15 – *conclusions*

While Nicholas of Cusa's work has historically been viewed through the lens of Platonism or anti-Aristotelian criticism, his engagement with the intellectual exchanges surrounding the Plato-Aristotle controversy of the 15th century has remained largely unexplored. This **conference** captures this crucial yet often overlooked aspect of Cusa's thought by mapping the networks of manuscript circulation, personal relationships and philosophical allegiances that informed Cusa's comparative analysis of Plato and Aristotle.

The conference is part of the **manicula project** (<https://manicula.uni-siegen.de>), based at the University of Siegen and funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). The project examines the corpus of Platonic and Aristotelian manuscripts possessed and read by Nicholas of Cusa. The aim of the project is to produce a critical edition of Cusa's glosses and marginal notes to the Latin translations of Plato and Aristotle, and to investigate Cusa's reading practices in the broader context of the 15th-century reception of Plato and Aristotle.

Organisation

Luca Burzelli – Fabian Marx – Mario Meliàdò

Staff

Olivia Jabbour – Dustin V. Saynisch – Angelika Schlemmer

NICHOLAS OF CUSA AND THE COMPARISON OF PLATO AND ARISTOTLE IN THE 15TH CENTURY

*Sources, Controversies, and
Intellectual Networks*

Siegen
18-19 February 2025

Unteres Schloss,
Raum A-120

