



TO MAGNIFICO RETTORE OF UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

ID CODE _5988_

I the undersigned asks to participate in the public selection, for qualifications and examinations, for the awarding of a type B fellowship at **Dipartimento di Filosofia**

Scientist- in - charge: **Francesco Guala**

Riin Kõiv

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Surname	Riin
Name	Kõiv

PRESENT OCCUPATION

Appointment	Structure
Postdoctoral research fellow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- The University of Sydney, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Philosophy, Theory and Method in Bioscience research group- University of Tartu, Department of Philosophy

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Degree	Course of studies	University	year of achievement of the degree
Degree			
Specialization			
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy (Thesis title: 'The Content and Implications of Nativist Claims', supervisors: Daniel Cohnitz, Bruno Mölder, opponent: Ingo Brigandt)	University of Tartu	2021
Master	Philosophy (<i>cum laude</i>)	University of Tartu	2012
Degree of medical specialization			



Degree of specialization	European		
Other			

REGISTRATION IN PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Date of registration	Association	City
2022	East European Network for Philosophy of Science	
2023	International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology	

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Languages	level of knowledge
Estonian	native
English	C1
German	B2
French	B1 (mainly reading skills)
Spanish	A2

AWARDS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, SCHOLARSHIPS

Year	Description of award
2022-2024	Estonian Research Council personal research grant for postdoctoral research (nr: PUTJD1131) "The social nature and social implications of ascriptions of biological causes to human traits" Principal Investigator: Riin Kõiv
2017-2018	Estonian Ministry of Education and Research Programme <i>Kristjan Jaak</i> educational scholarship for degree studies at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia; supervisor Karola Stotz
2014	<i>Academica</i> scholarship for completing the translation of the selected Works of Ludwig Feuerbach at the Münster University.
2013	<i>The Graduate School of Linguistics, Philosophy and Semiotics</i> (University of Tartu) scholarship for degree studies at the University of California, San Diego
2012-2013	Estonian government programme DoRa Plus mobility scholarship for degree studies at the University of California, San Diego
2012	Cultural Endowment of Estonia stipend for the translation of Ludwig Feuerbach's selected works.
2010	Estonian government programme <i>DoRa</i> scholarship for MA studies at Philipps-Universität Marburg



TRAINING OR RESEARCH ACTIVITY

My academic training is in the field of philosophy. My work is driven by interest in the nature, scope, and limits of naturalistic/biological explanations of human behavior, cognition, and human kinds, and the relationship of such explanations to social explanations. I have approached this question from different angles, focusing on specific case studies (as, for example, reflected by my publications and conference presentations). Topics I have dealt with in some detail include the scientifically operative concepts of a gene, genetic causation, genetic information, innateness; social ontology (philosophy of social construction in particular); philosophy of mind and cognition (concepts of mental representation, externalist theories of content). During my bachelor and master's studies, I focused on naturalistic philosophy in 19th-century German philosophy.

Current research focus. I would describe my research over the last four years as empirically informed and engaged philosophy of life sciences. Since May 2021, I've been holding a personal research grant for a research project that I am conducting at the University of Sydney with the Theory and Method in Biosciences research group led by Paul Griffiths. The project aims to shed light (by scrutinizing the empirically operative concepts of causation in different contexts of bio-social science) on the different ways in which human traits and kinds identified to have genetic or other biological causes can nevertheless be contingent on social factors, including the prevalent values within value judgments of scientists and lay members of the population. One reason for this that my research highlights is that the very causal facts about whether or not a kind has genetic/biological causes can themselves be socially contingent and socially constructed for different reasons. This work has implications, for example, for the portability, explanatory and predictive scope of "biologically caused" kinds. It also renders questionable the common assumption that the fact that some kind has biological (e.g. genetic) causes counts as evidence that this kind is a natural/objective kind, and that a way to guarantee the objectivity and portability of scientific (biological, biomedical, social) theories is to employ categories that track kinds with biological causes. On this topic, I have published one article and am currently working on two manuscripts. In the published article (Kõiv 2023), I argue that scientific knowledge about the genetic causes of a given trait can shape the very facts that this knowledge is about. In a manuscript in preparation, I stress the relevance of the contrastive nature of causal explanation when assessing the compatibility of a genetic and a social constructionist explanation of the same human trait. I have also taught three courses on this topic: (1) Intensive individual MA level course based on Khalidi, M.A (2013) 'Natural Categories and Human Kinds', Cambridge University Press (in 2021), (2) "Does being biological exclude being socially constructed?" (MA-PhD level, in 2021); (3) "Philosophical Perspectives on the Naturalistic Explanation of Religious Belief" (BA-MA level, 2017), all at the University of Tartu.

As a sub-strand of this project, I have recently focused on the possible impact of certain psychological biases (in particular, psychological essentialism) and language on which categories scientists working in the field of biology and psychology employ. I have one manuscript under review and one in preparation on this topic.

Previous professional employment. From 2019 to 2022 I was working as a research assistant under the empirical philosophy project "Philosophical analysis of interdisciplinary research practices" at the University of Tartu. The project used qualitative interviews with interdisciplinary scientists to study which epistemic and project non-epistemic factors facilitate and inhibit method and theory building in interdisciplinary research contexts. My tasks included conducting interviews with interdisciplinary scientists, participation in topical research seminars, conference organization.

Experience with empirical research. I have no formal training or experience in empirical research. However, my work closely engages with different brands of up-to-date empirical research (e.g., human genetics, cognitive science). My experience of working with the TMB group over the past year has given



<p>me an opportunity to have a close insight into collaboration with empirical scientists and philosophy in science. I have also begun to explore avenues for collaboration with researchers working at the Estonian Genome Center. My experience with applying empirical methods myself is limited to (1) conducting qualitative interviews with scientists (2) an introductory course into data analysis for humanities in R. Although I have not advanced or applied the basic skills acquired since then and a lot has been forgotten, this experience serves as a good foundation for future empirical research. I am currently planning with my co-author an experimental philosophy experiment to test the potential impact of using different causal terminology on how scientific findings of genetic causation are interpreted.</p>
<p>International work/study. I obtained all my degrees from the University of Tartu. However, during my graduate studies, I spent 10 months as a visiting student at UC San Diego where I mostly took courses in the philosophy of cognitive science and cognitive science, interested in the nature of psychological explanations. I also spent 5 months as a visitor at Macquarie University (mentor: Karola Stotz) where my research focus was on the nature of genetic explanations and their relationship to social explanations of behavior. This is to name but those collaborations that I believe directly bear upon my qualifications for the job.</p>
<p>Teaching. In addition to the above-mentioned courses, I have been regularly teaching introductory philosophy courses for 6 years at the Estonian Academy of Arts, both in online and classroom environments for groups ranging from 8 to 100 students. I have also co-supervised one MA thesis on the topic of biological fitness.</p>
<p>Other. I have been in the organizing committee of a couple of large and small international conferences at the University of Tartu; I have also disseminated my own and others' philosophical works through different popular media channels and translations. I actively sought and applied for funding opportunities.</p>

PROJECT ACTIVITY

Year	Project
2022-2024	"The social nature and social implications of ascriptions of biological causes to human traits" (nr: PUTJD1131); Principal Investigator: Riin Kõiv. Estonian Research Council personal research grant for postdoctoral research.
2019-2022	Research assistant by the project "Philosophical analysis of interdisciplinary research practices" (PRG462). Principal investigator: Endla Lõhkivi, University of Tartu, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Institute of Philosophy and Semiotics. Financer: Estonian Research Council
2014-2019	Contributor (as a PhD student) to the project "Disagreements: Philosophical Analysis";



	Principal Investigator: Margit Sutrop; University of Tartu, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Institute of Philosophy and Semiotics; Financier: Estonian Research Council
2016-2023	Contributor to "Centre of Excellence in Estonian Studies (TK145)" (nr: SHVHV16145T) (1.03.2016–1.03.2023); Principal Investigator: Liina Lukas; University of Tartu, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Institute of Cultural Research (partner); Financier: Archimedes Foundation
2012-2015	Contributor (PhD student) to the project "Linguistic Reality and its Psychological Basis" (nr: ETF9083); Principal Investigator: Daniel Cohnitz; University of Tartu, Faculty of Philosophy; Financier: Estonian Science Foundation, Estonian Research Council
2008-2013	Contributor (MA student) to the project "Critical analysis of relativism and pluralism regarding truth and knowledge, norms and values" (1.01.2008–31.12.2013); Principal Investigator: Margit Sutrop; University of Tartu, Faculty of Philosophy; Financier: Estonian Ministry of Education and Research

PATENTS

Patent
Not applicable

CONGRESSES AND SEMINARS

Date	Title	Place
2023, October 24-26	"Can terminological swaps prevent deterministic interpretation of genetic information?", Philosophy of Medicine for the 21st century: New thinking about health and disease.	University of Sydney, Charles Perkins Center, Sydney (Australia)
2023, October 7	"Can terminological swaps prevent deterministic interpretation of genetic information?", talk at the Macquarie University department of philosophy work in progress seminar	Macquarie University, Sydney (Australia)
2023, 9-15 July	"The Futility of terminological intervention as a means of preventing misinterpretations of genetic information". ISHPSSB.	University of Toronto, Toronto
2023, 21- 23 June	"A Measure of the (In)compatibility of Genetic and Social Explanations", Australia/New Zealand Philosophy of Biology Workshop Centre for Philosophy of the Sciences.	Australian National University, Canberra
2022, November	"To reform or to eliminate?", talk at the University of Sydney department of philosophy seminar	University of Sydney, Sydney (Australia)



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2022, December 13	“Geneetiliste põhjuste sotsiaalne iseloom” (<i>The social nature of genetic causes</i>). Invitet talk at the Estonian bioethics and human research council meeting.	Tallinn (Estonia)
2022, June 20-21	“The concept of innateness: explicate or eliminate?”, Hokkaido-Tartu philosophy workshop	online
2022, March 9	“Genetically caused trait is an interactive kind”. Invited talk at the BioKoinos research seminar, University of Madrid.	online
2021 September 23-24	“Omada geneetilisi põhjuseid on interaktiivne omadus” (Genetically caused trait is an interactive kind). XVI Estonian Annual Philosophy, University of Tartu.	University of Tartu (Estonia)
2021, May 27-28	“Caused by genes is an interactive property”. Reactivity and Categorization in the Human Sciences. A NOS-HS Nordic exploratory workshop series.	Online, organised by Copenhagen University
2019, December 6-7	“Genetic Causes and Social Construction. Science, Politics, and Philosophy”. Irish Philosophical Society Annual Conference.	University College Cork, Cork (Ireland)
2019, 26- 28 April	“Philosophical (De)construction of Genetic Causes. Gender and Philosophy”. 7th Annual Conference and General Meeting of the Society for Women in Philosophy-Ireland	Dublin City University, Dublin (Ireland)
2018, October 5- 6	“Sellest, kuidas filosoofia loomust vormib” (<i>On how philosophy shapes nature</i>). XIV Estonian Annual Philosophy Conference	Tallinn University, Tallinn (Estonia)
2017, August 21- 26	“Why Human Traits Can Be Both Biological (Genetic) and Socially Constitutively Constructed”. 9th European Congress of Analytic Philosophy.	Munich Center for Mathematical Philosophy, Ludwig Maximilians Universität, Munich (Germany)
2016, April 28-29	“In Search of the Vehicles of Genetic Representation”. PBCS6, the Research Workshop on Philosophy of Biology and Cognitive Science.	University of Barcelona (Barcelona)
2016, April 21-23	“On How Biological Need Not Be Biological”. The annual meeting of The Nordic Network for Philosophy of Science (NNPS).	Pärnu (Estonia)
2016, February	“On Why Innate Mind Need Not Be Within”. PHILOGICA IV, IV Colombian Conference on Logic,	Universidad de los Andes, Bogota (Colombia)



17-19	Epistemology, and Philosophy of Science.	
2015, November 27-28	“The Idleness of Truth Relative to Shared Milieu (Or How not to Make Sense of Ideology Critique).” Society for Women in Philosophy - Ireland. 4th Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting Ways of Knowing: Feminist Philosophy of Science and Epistemology.	Trinity College Dublin, Dublin (Ireland)
2015, September 2-5	“On Why Innate Is Not Within”. SOPhiA, Salzburg Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy.	University of Salzburg, Salzburg (Austria)
2014, September	“Scrutinizing and deflating the role of ‘shared milieu’ in Sally Haslanger’s account of ‘genuine critique’”. X Estonian Annual Philosophy Conference.	University of Tartu, Tartu (Estonia)
2014, September	“Individuating the Vehicles of Genetic Representation”. X Estonian Annual Philosophy Conference.	University of Tartu, Tartu (Estonia)
2014, 29 April - 4 May	“Shaping humans by conceptualizing Nature”. Framing Nature. The European Association for the Study of Literature, Culture, and the Environment (EASLCE) biennial conference. Nordic Network for Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies IX conference.	University of Tartu, Tartu (Estonia)

PUBLICATIONS

Books
Kõiv, Riin. <i>The Content and Implications of Nativist Claims. A Philosophical Analysis.</i> (Doktoritöö, University of Tartu). University of Tartu Press, Tartu, 2021.
Translation: Feuerbach, Ludwig. “Tuleviku filosoofia alused” (annotated translation of the selected works by Ludwig Feuerbach from German to Estonian). Ilmamaa: Tartu, 2016. ISBN: 9789985774526.

Articles in reviews (only academic publications)
In English
Genetically Caused Trait Is an Interactive Kind. <i>European Journal for Philosophy of Science</i> , 13(31), doi.org/10.1007/s13194-023-00527-8 , 2023
Innate Mind Need Not Be Within. <i>Acta Analytica</i> . 36, 101-121, dx.doi.org/10.1007/s12136-020-00441-1 , 2021.



Elusive vehicles of genetic representations. <i>Biology and Philosophy</i> , 35 (24), https://doi.org/10.1007/s10539-020-9741-8 , 2020
Causal Social Construction". <i>Journal of Social Ontology</i> , 5 (1), 77–99, doi.org/10.1515/jso-2019-0006 , 2019.
In Estonian
Mis, kes, kuidas ja millal on sotsiaalselt konstrueeritud? (<i>What, Who, How and When is socially constructed?</i>). <i>Akadeemia</i> 32, 54–76, 2020.
Ideoloogiakriitika võimust ja võimatuses (<i>On the idleness of ideology critique</i>). In “Keel, vaim, tunnetus: analüütilise filosoofia seminar 30+“ (<i>Language, Mind, Cognition: The “Estonian analytic philosophy seminar 30+”</i>), Eds. Mölder, Bruno; J. Kangilaski. University of Tartu Press. <i>Forthcoming</i>
Ludwig Feuerbach. Saatesõna (afterword to the Estonian translation of Ludwig Feuerbach’s selected writings). <i>Avatud Eesti Raamat</i> , Ilmamaa, 285–325, 2016.
Ludwig Feuerbach ja uus praktiline filosoofia” (Ludwig Feuerbach and the new practical philosophy). <i>Akadeemia</i> , 276(3), 407-423, 2012.

Congress proceedings
[title, structure, place, year]
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[title, structure, place, year]

OTHER INFORMATION

2022. Member of the organisation committee of the East European Network for Philosophy of Science 4th Conference, 17-19 August, 2022, Tartu 2019. Member of the organization committee of “From ϕ -science to practical realism: an international conference in honour of Rein Vihalemm (1938-2015).” Aug 13-14., University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia
2019. Editorial work on "A Story of a Science: On the Evolution of Chemistry", Rein Vihalemm. <i>Acta Baltica Historiae et Philosophiae Scientiarum</i> , Vol. 7, No. 2.
2018. Member of the organization committee of <i>Applications in Cultural Evolution: Arts, Languages, Technologies</i> . June 6-8, University of Tartu, Tartu.
2015. Member of the organization committee for <i>23rd Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology</i> . University of Tartu, Tartu, July 14 – 17
2015 – 2016. Student representative in the philosophy department liaison committee.

Declarations given in the present curriculum must be considered released according to art. 46 and 47 of DPR n. 445/2000.

The present curriculum does not contain confidential and legal information according to art. 4, paragraph



1, points d) and e) of D.Lgs. 30.06.2003 n. 196.

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Place and date: Sydney, Australia, 23.11.2023