

Metodo is a cultural association founded in Milan, 2003. After its first years, mainly devoted to the fostering of events and initiatives to promote a better understanding of our complex contemporary society, the association started focusing its activity more and more on the development and promotion of the philosophical-phenomenological debate by means of personal and collective researches. As a result of this first stage of work, in 2010 the members of the association decided to give new and more concrete shape to the activity of **Metodo** by founding a journal: *Metodo. International Studies in Phenomenology and Philosophy*. Through the journal, the association **Metodo** wishes to encourage philosophical discussion concerning central topics in current scientific research as well as the relevant issues in social and cultural debates.

The guiding principles of the journal are inspired by Husserl's phenomenology and related currents of thought. These advocate an idea of philosophy as foundational research. Genealogically investigating the grounds of experience, such research is needed to orient us in the complexity of the world, with its scientific, social, political and cultural practices.

Metodo conceives of phenomenology as radical anti-dogmatism. Therefore, it rejects on principle all dogmatic interpretations of phenomenology itself. Consistent with this principle, the journal represents an occasion to promote the dialogue between phenomenological scholarship and other scientific and philosophical currents of thought. The openness of such a dialogue nonetheless remains faithful to the basic conviction that, assuming experience as the ultimate ground for the validation of any scientific theory, the phenomenological method may fruitfully contribute to current debates on the meaning of knowledge and praxis.

The appeal to experience, even only to possible experience, as to the legitimating source of all sciences and theories grounds the method adopted by the association. The contributions to the journal are expected to further develop such methodological and theoretical insights. Accordingly, the association adopts the guiding principle of the phenomenological reduction, as it was significantly formulated by Husserl: "*that every ordinary presentive intuition is a legitimizing source of cognition, that everything ordinarily (so to speak, in its 'personal' actuality) offered to us in 'intuition' is to be accepted simply as what it is presented as being, but also only within the limits in which it is presented there*".

Thus Husserl's motto, "back to the things themselves", refers to the primacy of experience, defining the *alpha* and *omega* of knowledge, i.e. both the origin of theoretical questioning, and the last measure for the evaluation of the possible responses. Given such an appeal to experience "in the flesh", each and every theory, including those theories which are most distant from everyday experience, is ultimately founded on meaningful phenomena. And the task of phenomenology is precisely the clarification of this meaning by means of the descriptive analysis of experience.

One of **Metodo**'s basic convictions concerns the interrelation between the urgency to adequately cope with experience and the need for a proper theoretical approach to philosophy. The quest for a proper response to the questions posed by our different experiences, therefore, requires an effort of self-positioning, delineating original philosophical theses, however open and revocable. Consistent with this effort, such a quest also implies the rejection of an idea of philosophy as a mere exercise in the compilation of previous research.

For these reasons, in the articles to be submitted to the journal, critical confrontation with the philosophical tradition should not be considered as an end in itself. Rather, this confrontation shall be always animated by the desire to show the relevance of the proposed theoretical discussion and to develop the potentialities of a given theory as a

response to the contemporary quest for meaning.

Each issue of the journal will be focused on a specific topic chosen by the editorial board. Two **Metodo** associates by turn will be the editors of the issues. In addition, each issue of the journal will include a section entitled “The paths of Method”. This is intended to promote common reflection on the nature of method itself, where the latter is not understood either as procedure or as protocol. For each issue, two prominent figures of current philosophical or scientific debates will be invited to contribute to the debate on method method in the form of an article to be published in this section. Finally, in each issue of the journal, a section will be reserved for responses, comments and criticisms of articles published in previous issues. In this way **Metodo** aims to encourage and support a living philosophical and cultural debate.