

Seminar IRH-ICUB

Consciousness and Cognition: An Interdisciplinary Approach

<https://irhunibuc.wordpress.com/2016/04/05/new-seminar-consciousness-in-philosophy-and-neuroscience/>

convenor Dr. Diana Stanciu

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Date: Tuesday, 6 February 2018, 17h

Place: IRH-ICUB (1 D. Brandza Str.), conference room

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Maria Racman is a PhD student at the Faculty of Philosophy and a member of the Centre for Applied Ethics within the faculty. She has a BA in political science, another BA in philosophy and an MA in philosophy. Her main areas of research include bioethics and neuroethics. Her PhD concentrates on the use of neurotechnologies in criminal cases from a philosophical point of view – she is especially interested in brain printing, brain privacy and medical interventions outside the medical field. She is also interested in analyzing various methods and techniques related to these topics and also in discussing the need for brain privacy rights.

Neurotechnologies and Criminal Law: Privacy Concerns

Neuroscientific technologies are important in the criminal law discussions nowadays. From lie detection technologies to brain fingerprinting, concerns on the matter of privacy are the main subject of studies in this field. I will present and discuss the tension between the use of neurotechnologies in criminal trials and the right to brain privacy and liberty of thought. When talking about fMRI scans and P300 EEG responses, there are concerns regarding what they tell us about emotions or cognition. Despite the promise to identify the truth, some neurotechnologies are not admissible in courts because they cannot document the truth. The lecture reviews the permissibility to use these methods as an instrument to identify the truth, the development of brain rights and the importance of informed consent in the context of gaining access to another person's neural activity.