

Melina Tsapos

PhD | Philosophy

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Citizenship: Australian and Swedish

RESEARCH PROFILE

Social epistemology; conspiracy theories; epistemic trust and expertise; rational belief; interdisciplinary PPE research (formal modelling + cognitive science).

EDUCATION

2021-2025 **Philosophy PhD**, awarded 12 Sep 2025, Lund University. Main supervisor: Erik J. Olsson. External Reviewer: Catarina Dutilh Novaes.

2018-2020 **Theoretical Philosophy MA**, Lund University

2015-2018 **Theoretical Philosophy BA**, Lund University

2015-2021 *Studies in Cognitive Science (Masters level), Linguistics, Cognitive Semiotics, and Ancient Greek at Lund University*

PUBLICATIONS

Selected

Tsapos, M. 2025, Dimensions of Conspiracy Theories: Toward a unifying framework *Philosophical Psychology*

Tsapos, M. 2025, What is Interesting about Conspiracy Theories? *Social Epistemology*, 1-13

Tsapos, M. 2025, Betting on Conspiracy: A Decision Theoretic Account of the Rationality of Conspiracy Theory Belief *Erkenntnis*, (90(5), 1913-1931.)

Tsapos, M. 2024, Should We Worry about Conspiracy Theorists Rejecting Experts? *Inquiry*, 68(8), 2820-2840.

Tsapos, M. 2023, Who is a Conspiracy Theorist? *Social Epistemology*, 37(4), 454-463.

Other peer-reviewed

Dentith, M. R. X., Duetz J, Tsapos, M., 2024, Investigating Conspiracy Theories – Introduction to the Special Issue, *Inquiry*

Ekström, A. G., Madison, G., Olsson, E. J. & Tsapos, M. 2023, The Search Query Filter Bubble: Effect of User Ideology on Political Leaning of Search Results Through Query Selection *Information, Communication & Society*, 36(1), 22-69.

TEACHING

2024-current **Philosophy of Mind** Course coordinator & Lecturer, Level 1, Lund University

2022 - 2023 **Epistemology** Lecturer, Level 2, Lund University
Fall 2022 **20th Century Philosophy** Lecturer, Level 1, Lund University
2022 - 2023 **Introduction to University Studies** Course coordinator & Lecturer, The Institute of Health Sciences, Lund University

EDITOR & PEER REVIEW

Co-editor **Edward Elgars Publishing** *Research Handbook on Conspiracy Theories with David Coady*, 2025
Inquiry: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy 2024, Special Issue co-editor, <https://doi.org/10.1080/0020174X.2024.2375773>

Peer review: **Journals** *Synthese*; *Philosophical Studies*; *Inquiry*; *Review of Philosophy and Psychology*; *Philosophy of the Social Sciences*; *Social Epistemology*; *Pro-Fil – An Internet Journal of Philosophy*
Books *Anthem Press UK*; *Edward Elgars Publishing*

RESEARCH FELLOW

2026 Jan **Blackheath, NSW, Australia** by invitation of Prof. Mark Alfano, Macquarie University
2025 Feb **The University of Sydney Department of Philosophy**, visiting Ryan Cox, full scholarship grant, SEK 60 000

INVITED TALKS (SELECTED)

2026 May **Keynote: Theoretical Rationality and Practical Reason International Conference**, Bulgarian Society for Analytical Philosophy, Sofia University
2025 Sep **SOPhia—Salzburg Conference for Young Analytic Philosophy** Salzburg
2025 July **Philosophy Research Forum**, Universität Bayreuth
2025 May **Centre for Cultural Evolution**, Stockholm University
2025 Feb **Macquarie University**, Sydney, Australia
2024 Oct **Medical Ethics, Department of Clinical Sciences**, Lund University
2023 Sep **CalTech, CSSPP: Conspiratorial Thinking & Origins, Spread and Consequences**, Pasadena, California

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

2025 June **University of Graz AI Assertion: Perspectives from Philosophy, Cognitive Science, Linguistics & HCI**, Presenter
2025 Feb **University of Waikato, New Zealand** *Conspiracies, Facts, and Truth*, Presenter
2024 May **Nordic Network of Conspiracy Theory Research** *Conspiracy Theories and the Nordic Countries*, Presenter
2023 Oct **SweCog, Göteborg** *The 18th SweCog conference of the Swedish Cognitive Science Society*, Presenter

2023 Jun **VU, Amsterdam** *The 2nd International Conference on the Philsophy of Conspiracy Theories*, Organizer, panel moderator and presenter

2023 May **Gargnano del Garda, Italy** *Workshop: The Implications of Pathologizing Conspiracy Beliefs*, Presenter

2022 Jul **Zürich Summer School, Universty of Zurich** *Conceptual Engineering, Experimental Methods and Politically Correct Language*, Presenter and participant

2022 Jun **The Swedish Congress of Philosophy, Lund**, Conference Speaker

2022 Feb **Claremont, California** *The 1st International Conference on the Philosophy of Conspiracy Theory*, Speaker and Panelist

RESEARCH & FUNDING

Projects **Advanced Study Group, Pufendorf Institute Lund University (2025–2026): SEK 60,000.** One-year cross-disciplinary research group on epistemic trust and belief formation. Role: Lead organiser.

CogPhi Research Group Cognitive Philosophy. Investigating philosophical topics from the perspective of cognitive science

Research Affiliate **SETI Post-Detection Hub** UK SETI Research Network, University of St Andrews

Funding **Research Grant** *Who believes in Conspiracy Theories?*, The Erik and Gurli Hultengren Foundation for Philosophy, 10,000 SEK

Organiser *2nd International Conference of Conspiracy Theories*, The Erik and Gurli Hultengren Foundation for Philosophy, 50,000 SEK

OUTREACH & COMMISSIONS OF TRUST

Lund's Doctoral Student Union Working Committee, 2023

Vice Chair Lund Philosophical Society, 2018-2021

ABC Radio National *The Philosopher's Zone*, 2025

Podcast Host *Filosofiska Podden* Mogensen & Tsapos, 2023-current

Council Swedish National Radio P1, *Filosofiska Rummet*, 2021-current

The Road Less Travelled Outreach initiative, Lund University, 2019-2020

Swedish National Radio, P1 *Filosofiska Rummet*, Invited panelist, 2022

Youtube-chanel, In-Depth Conversations, Host and Founder
2021-current

OTHER SKILLS & TRAINING

Languages **Swedish, Hungarian, English (fluent); Greek (conversational)**

Training Introduction to fMRI; R (RStudio); Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (Lund University, 2021); Supplemental Instructor Mentors course (2016–2018).