

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 **Univeristy of Waikato, New Zealand** *Conspiracies, Facts, and Truth*, Presenter
 2024 Maj **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 Philosophy 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, University 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 **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-channel**, *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).