

Foreword:

We gladly present the tenth edition of *Rerum Causae*, the student journal from the Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method of the London School of Economics and Political Science. This issue contains nine works by students enrolled in our undergraduate and postgraduate degrees.

This issue accurately resembles the research focus of our department, since the majority of papers published here are either in the field of philosophy of science or in moral and political philosophy. The issue opens with Malvina Ongaro examining John Stuart Mill's proposal of a weighted-voting system and discusses under which conditions this system can be justified. Francesca Bellazi then defends the essentialist view on defining biological species. Martin Vaeth discusses the relationship between internal and external validity and the possibility of a trade-off between them. Silvana Maestro argues against Ludwig Fahrback's position that theory change has ended and that the growth of science has been exponential. We have a break from other topics via a paper in philosophy of mind. Niccolò Aimone Pisano presents a modified version of Searle's Chinese Room thought experiment and argues that this version is better equipped to attack the computational theory of mind. Ragini Dua analyses John Taurek's position in the debate about the duty to save the greater number and, while finding Taurek's argument unsuccessful, concludes that his view challenges our common intuitions about this duty. The issue also includes two papers on an important topic in political philosophy, namely, freedom of movement and migration. Lewis Williams proposes a relational egalitarian defence of the right to migrate. Liam Fields presents a Rawlsian argument for states' right to

deny entry to economic migrants. We close with a familiar problem in philosophy. Julius Schwarzwälder discusses Moore's proof of an external world and finds Moore's argument unsatisfactory, but he does not argue that we should think that the external world does not exist – there are strong pragmatic reasons to believe otherwise

We hope that these essays demonstrate the range of interests of our students and reflect the approach of our department – to do philosophy which is continuous with the sciences and which is socially relevant. Furthermore, we hope that the reader will find works published in this issue insightful and enjoyable.