

Pozvánka na přednášku v rámci přednáškového cyklu

Renesance a novověk II

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**Heart, centre of the world and principle of motion
in the old and the new cosmology**

Departing from Aristotle, *De caelo*, II, 10 and 13, it shall be examined the opposition between a univocal concept of the centre in the Pythagorean tradition, in which geometrical centre coincides with natural or vital centre (heart), and a dual concept (Aristotle), in which the geometrical centre of the world (the Earth) is different from the natural centre and principle of motion (the sphere of the fixed stars and the First Unmoved Mover). After some references to the topic in the geocentric tradition (Simplicius, Averroes, Maimonides, Aquinas and Melanchthon), we shall focus on the restoration of the univocal concept by Copernicus in his heliocentric world system and the ensuing progression towards a celestial physics in Kepler, where the Sun, seen as God's vicar, is the geometrical and vital centre of the world as well as the source and principle of planetary motion in accordance with the proportion of periods to distances. Some reference will be made as conclusion to Giordano Bruno's idea of 'omnicentrality' as related to his concept of an infinite universe and the plurality of solar systems.

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