



Ex nihilo nihil fit and the Principle of Sufficient Reason

On the Metaphysics of Ground in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Period

Image: Google Gemini

Thursday, July 16 2026

Morning Session 9:00 – 12:30

(Chair: Francesco Binotto)

Welcome and Introduction

Clara Carus & Stephan Schmid

Kübra Bahçi: The Will as Sufficient Reason:
Creatio ex Nihilo and PSR in Medieval
Islamic Philosophy

Clara Carus: Human Will in Its Necessary
Determination and Indeterminateness
According to Thomas Aquinas

Afternoon Session 14:00 – 18:45

(Chair: Jennifer Marušić)

Sebastian Bender: *Ex nihilo nihil fit*, PSR and
Causal Containment in the 17th Century

Fatema Amijee (online): A Battle of Wits:
Commonsense and Skepticism in Berkeley
and Shepherd

Michael Della Rocca: Multiplicity, Priority,
Equality and Ockham's Razor: The Great
Austerity Competition of Spinoza and
Cavendish

**Venue: Jungiusstr. 11C, 3rd Floor, C 319,
or online**

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Friday, July 17 2026

Morning Session 9:00 – 13:15

(Chair: M. Folescu)

Jeffrey McDonough: Leibniz as Atomist

Gonzalo Rodriguez-Pereyra: Leibniz, Hume, and
the question 'why is there something rather
than nothing?'

Julia Borcharding: Far Beyond the Solid Skies:
Du Châtelet's Regulative PSR as a Response
to the Scholastic *ex nihilo nihil fit* Principle

Afternoon Session 14:30 – 17:30

(Chair: Stephan Schmid)

Sonja Schierbaum & Jon Bornholdt: No Room
for Contingency? Pietist Critique of the
Principle of Sufficient Reason in Leibniz and
Wolff

Samuel Levey: Leibniz's Proof of the PSR
Revisited

**For more information and
mandatory registration
follow the QR code.**



Organized by: Clara Carus &
Stephan Schmid