



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

Dipartimento
di Lettere
e Filosofia

One Hundred Years of Weyl's *Philosophy of Mathematics and Natural Science*

Friday 18 September 2026

In 1926, Hermann Weyl published his book *Philosophie der Mathematik und Naturwissenschaft* with Rudolf Oldenbourg Verlag, an academic press in Munich, as a contribution to its *Handbuch der Philosophie*. It sold 1619 copies, and in 1927 was included in a full issue of the journal. Hans Hahn wrote a highly praising, lengthy review: "When an author of such outstanding merit writes in so outstanding a manner on subjects of such outstanding interest, it is surely permissible for a reviewer who feels so thoroughly captivated and inspired to be anything but brief."

A second, unmodified edition of Weyl's book appeared already in 1928, and a third in 1966, which also included translations of the alterations and annexes that he had prepared for the English edition. The latter was published by Princeton University Press in 1949, reprinted in 2009, when the eighth German edition also appeared, and then again in 2021. In his introduction, Frank Wilczek noted enthusiastically: "No other book I know is like it. No one else could have written it."

The main goal of this workshop is to bring together scholars as captivated and inspired by Weyl's book, to discuss its ideas, their roots and their influence.

Schedule:

9:30	Iulian Toader: <i>Opening</i>
9:35-10:45	Christophe Eckes: "Hermann Weyl's <i>Philosophie der Mathematik und Naturwissenschaft</i> : A book shaped by Göttingen mathematical Traditions"
10:45-11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15-12:25	Silvia De Bianchi: "Interpreting Ancient Philosophy through Weyl's <i>Philosophie der Mathematik und Naturwissenschaft</i> . A Reappraisal"
12:25-14:30	<i>Lunch</i>
14:30-15:40	Laura Crosilla: "Weyl's principles of the combinations of relations, from 1910 to <i>Philosophy of Mathematics and Natural Science</i> "
15:40-16:50	Iulian Toader: "Could a modified Hilbert's Program have silenced Weyl?"
16:50-17:20	<i>Coffee break</i>
17:20-18:30	Arianna Borrelli and Elena Castellani: "Bridging mathematics, physics and philosophy: Weyl on symmetry"

Venue: Sala Altana, DILEF (Dipartimento di Lettere e Filosofia) - Università degli Studi di Firenze, via della Pergola, 60, 50121 Firenze

For more information, please contact any of the organizers: Elena Castellani, Laura Crosilla, Silvia De Bianchi, Iulian Toader