
EMBRACING A NEW STAGE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INFORMATION CIVILIZATION AND INTELLIGENT SOCIETY

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Introduction

Dear colleagues,

Good Morning!

As one of the sub-conferences of the 2025 Summit of the International Society for the Study of Information (IS4SI), and through the joint efforts of IS4IS, the China Chapter of IS4SI (IS4SI-CC), the International Center for Philosophy of Information at Xi'an Jiaotong University (XJTU-ICPI), as well as universities and research institutions from different countries, we are pleased to announce the opening of the 7th International Conference on Philosophy of Information.

The first ICPI was held in October 2013 in Xi'an, China. Since then, we have successfully organized the 2nd to the 6th ICPI: in October 2015 in Vienna, Austria; in June 2017 in Gothenburg, Sweden; in June 2019 in Berkeley, USA; in August 2021 online from Akita, Japan; and in August 2023 in Beijing, China.

Each of the first six conferences attracted participation from numerous scientists and philosophers, achieved fruitful results, and received high praise from academic peers around the world. They also generated significant impact and resonance within the global academic community.

Today, we have once again gathered in Varna, Bulgaria, to hold our 7th ICPI. Many of the scholars present here have attended previous conferences — we are already old friends. Even more encouraging is the fact that many new participants have joined us this time, bringing fresh energy and a renewed sense of vigor to our conference. Let us extend our congratulations to both old and new friends on our shared friendship and common research interests!

Bulgaria is a great country, boasting both an ancient cultural heritage and a successful transformation from traditional to modern civilization. It is a beautiful and prosperous land where people live peaceful, happy, and secure lives. The city of Varna, where our conference is being held, is an especially rich and scenic world-famous tourist and cultural destination, known as the "Pearl of the Black Sea." Today, my Chinese friends and I have the rare privilege of attending this conference, exploring this renowned city, and gathering with scholars from around the world to exchange ideas and insights. Indeed, this is a most fortunate and cherished opportunity.

Since the 1980s, we have emphasized on various occasions that a comprehensive informational paradigm revolution is taking place across a broad range of fields—including science, technology and philosophy, economy and society, education and management, military affairs and culture, as well as concepts and everyday life. We have also referred to this new paradigm revolution as the "Informational Scientification of the Science." It is precisely this informational paradigm revolution that has brought us into a new era of civilization—the age of information civilization. And the only philosophy that corresponds to this entirely new civilization is information philosophy.

Since the beginning of the 21st century, with the rapid development of intelligent sciences and technologies, human civilization has entered a new phase of development characterized by intelligent societies within the information age. The advancements in intelligent sciences, technologies and societies(STS) present both new challenges and opportunities for the further rational construction and development of contemporary information philosophy. It is also necessary to clarify the nature of intelligent sciences, technologies and societies from the perspective of information philosophy and establish their philosophical foundations. We call on all enthusiastic philosophers and scientists of our time to pay attention to fields related to this theme and to make our due contributions.

The themes of the first six International Conferences on Information Philosophy were as follows in sequence:

To Explore the Foundational Theories of Information Philosophy, along with Their Significance and Value of The Times

The Interaction and Integration between Information Science and Information Philosophy—Envisioning a Unified Prospect for Information Science-philosophy

The Philosophical Spirit of the Information Age

Information Philosophy and the Development of Intelligent Societies—the Philosophical Foundations, Institutional Demands, and the New Evolution of Humanity

To Create a Better Tomorrow for Mankind, to Meet the Challenges of the Information and Intelligent Society, and to Construct and Develop a Philosophy that Embodies the Spirit of the New Era

The Significance of the Information Turn in Contemporary Philosophy and the Coordinated Relationship between the Information Turn and the Transformation of Human Civilization

In light of the new developments in intelligent sciences, technologies and societies, and integrating the latest advancements in information philosophy researches from around the world, we have established the theme for this year's ICPI: "Fundamental Theories of Philosophy of Information and the Philosophical Foundations of Intelligent Sciences, Technologies and Societies." We have also identified several specific research directions.

As in previous conferences, this conference attracted many renowned scholars from various countries, as well as numerous young scholars and Ph.D. students. From the call for papers issued in October 2024 until March 2025, we received a total of 105 paper submissions from scholars around the world. Compared to previous conferences, this number represents the highest ever received in the history of the conference.

After careful evaluation, 69 out of the 105 submitted papers were accepted for the conference.

The research areas covered by the accepted papers were relatively concentrated. The two most popular directions aligned with the conference's theme: "Foundations of Information Philosophy in Intelligent STS," with 19 papers; and "Basic Theories of Information Philosophy," with 16 papers. Following these in order of number of submissions were: "Information Ethics" with 9 papers; "Information Aesthetics, Art and Sports" with 8 papers; "Information and Chinese Philosophy" with 7 papers; "Quantum Physics and Information" with 5 papers; and "Information and Complex Systems Theory" with 5 papers.

On behalf of the ICPI organizers, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the participants attending the conference and to greet both our old and new friends. It is truly inspiring that global colleagues have once again gathered together to jointly explore the theoretical and practical goals we all pursue.

I wish our conference a great success! May all the scholars from various countries enjoy their joyful and pleasant gathering in Varna! Happiness!! Good fortune!! Prosperity!!!

At this exciting moment, please allow me to express my congratulations on our conference with a classical Chinese quatrain (Qijue)!

七绝·拥抱智能社会新时代

—— 第七届国际信息哲学研讨会贺

信智金炉铸宇新 煌煌旧帙化烟尘

世间万象神光奕 一缕玄风启后人

Embracing the New Age of Intelligent Society

For the 7th International Conference on Philosophy of Information

In furnaces of information and wisdom, a new cosmos is born,

Where once stood ancient scrolls—now ash in the wind.

The world gleams with celestial light,

And a mystic breeze whispers the dawn of thought.

Thank you all!

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Major Fields of Research: Philosophy of information, Philosophy of System and Complexity