

Anouk Barberousse (Paris Sorbonne; joint work with Françoise Longy, Francesca Merlin and Stéphanie Ruphy) *Natural Kinds: A New Synthesis*

What is a natural kind? This old yet lasting philosophical question has recently received new, competing answers (Chakravartty 2007, Magnus 2014, Khalidi 2013, Slater 2015, Ereshefsky & Reydon 2015). We show that the main ingredients of an encompassing and coherent account of NKs are actually on the table, but in need of the right articulation. We propose such an integrative account which helps overcome some ill-conceived lines of debate. Our new synthesis clearly distinguishes ontological and epistemological issues, defines natural kinds in purely ontological terms, and sheds light on the role that NKs play both within science and in everyday life.