

Statement by Pietro Omodeo

Dear colleagues,

I would be honored to be part of the Scientific Board of the European Society for the History of Science and to contribute to its scientific and intellectual life as much as I can.

I am a cultural historian of science, a professor of historical epistemology at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy, and a permanent guest of the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science – Berlin, Germany. Moreover, I am the director of the series *Knowledge Hegemonies in the Early Modern World: Sources and Interpretations*, a joint project of Edizioni Ca' Foscari (Venice) Edition Open Access (Berlin), and Ca' Foscari University.

I would like to put my expertise at the service of our Society, especially in three areas which, taken together, connect my interest in early-modern science to present-day cultural and epistemological concerns.

My main area of inquiry is related to the socio-political and intellectual settings of early-modern science. I am particularly interested in the history of cosmology, the political and confessional settings of astronomy and mechanics in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and the past of knowledge institutions such as universities, academies and scientific societies.

Among my publications in this area, I wrote the monographs *Copernicus in the Cultural Debates of the Renaissance: Reception, Legacy, Transformation* (2014) and (coauthored with Jürgen Renn) *Science in Court Society: Giovanni Battista Benedetti's Diversarum speculationum mathematicarum et physicarum liber (Turin, 1585)* (2019), which is also available open access.

I also lead the ERC consolidator research group, *EarlyModernCosmology* (2017-2023) (Horizon 2020, GA 725883), on which you can read at this link: [unive.it/earlymoderncosmology](https://www.unive.it/earlymoderncosmology)

Another area I'm keenly working on is the history of the man-made earth. In this case, my research focuses on the socio-political and techno-scientific transformations of the environment which shaped the lagoon of Venice.

Among my publications, I'd like to point out the thematic issue *Early Modern Geological Agency*, which I am coediting with Tina Asmussen for *Earth Science History* (2020).

Moreover, I am the principal investigator of a research group investigating the cultural entanglements of hydrogeological history, *EarlyGeoPraxis* (2020-2024), funded by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (FARE programme).

Thirdly, I connect my historical inquiries with theoretical and political questions, in accordance with the historical-philosophical spirit of historical epistemology. I am part of a network of historians, philosophers and sociologists of science working on an innovative curriculum in political epistemology and a new open access book series, *Verum Factum: Studies and Sources on Political Epistemology* (to be launched 2020/21). Apart from being the author of several articles in historical and political epistemology, I am the author of *Political Epistemology: The Problem of Ideology in Science Studies* (2019) and I am the co-editor, with Massimiliano Badino, of *Cultural Hegemony in a Scientific World: Gramscian Concepts for the History of Science* (2020/in press).

You can read more on my research, publications, and teaching in the webpage of my university: <https://www.unive.it/data/persona/14840389/curriculum>

Yours sincerely,

Pietro Daniel Omodeo

