

Editorial

Causality is undoubtedly one of the main themes of modern philosophy. From Descartes to Kant, including some post-Kantians, the relation of cause and effect has been widely mobilized by modern philosophers, playing a central role in the composition of their systems. Lying in the articulation between ontology, theory of knowledge and morality, in analysis or in empirical synthesis, causality became the subject of constant controversy and countless reformulations in the 17th and 18th centuries.

It can be said with no exaggeration that modern philosophers intensely grappled with the nature of causal relations, on the one hand, calling the Aristotelian doctrine of the four causes into question, and, on the other hand, reflecting on the status of causality, its legitimacy, its field of application, the resulting modal developments, and its consequences for metaphysics, knowledge, and morality. In this issue of *Dois pontos* journal, the reader will find a significant, though not exhaustive, sample of this heated debate in the form of articles on various authors, such as Descartes, Spinoza, Hobbes, Locke, Hume, Kant, D'Alembert, and Reinhold. The issue is supplemented with a translation of the Leibniz's text entitled *Quod ens perfectissimum Existit*.

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