**Department of Social and Political Sciences Center for Philosophical Anthropology *Topos***

**May 14, at 18.00**

the open lecture

***Beyond the Speech Act Theory:***

***the force of social conventions and/or transformation of the subject***

While the Anglo-American tradition (Austin and Searle) approaches speech acts mainly through the philosophy of language, Derrida relocates the field of analysis and considers speech acts within the broader context of political philosophy as well as the philosophy of subject. Instead of asking ‘how and under which conditions certain speech acts change the state of affairs’ (as Austin did), Derrida questions the very nature of social links in order to reveal the ‘condition of possibility’ of performative acts in particular and of verbal communication in general. He shows that this condition is the primordial trust between interlocutors. The primordial trust is based on two heterogeneous types of experience: experience of relation to the absolute Other and experience of a sacral universal law that ensures stability of society. The speech act as based on the trust is twofold: it is both an event and a reinstatement of an automatic process. This juxtaposition of the event and the mechanical forms of social life links Derrida’s political thought to that of Arendt. Their agreement, however, does not continue into the realm of the philosophy of subject. Derrida insists on the importance of the hidden conversion of the speaker who privately addresses the Other, whereas for Arendt the self has no genuine access to itself outside of the public domain of the political.

Lecturer: **Prof. Anna Yampolskaya**

The Leading Research Fellow at the Centre for Phenomenological Philosophy

(Department of Philosophy, Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow).

**Fields of research:** German and French phenomenology, and beyond: philosophical conversion; radical transformations of subjectivity in philosophy, religion and psychoanalysis; speech acts theory. **Books published:** Эмманюэль Левинас: философия и биография [Emmanuel Levinas: philosophy and biography]. Киев: Дух i Лiтера, 2011; Феноменология в Германии и Франции: проблемы метода [Phenomenology in France and Germany: the problem of the method]. М.: РГГУ, 2013.

**Venue: EHU, Tauro g. 12, room 407.**

*All interested are welcome!*