

# Hybris, ancient and modern:

## Ancient Greek lessons in life and leadership

7 June 2019, 9:30-18:00

Conference venue           Lingnerschloss, Sternensaal  
Bautzner Straße 132, 01099 Dresden

Organisers                   Douglas Cairns, Edinburgh ([douglas.cairns@ed.ac.uk](mailto:douglas.cairns@ed.ac.uk))  
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"While [Theresa] May's tireless efforts may have been aimed at protecting the Conservative party, they have produced a relentless two-and-a-half-year-long carnival of hubris." (*The Guardian*, 31 March 2019)

*Hubris* (or *hybris*) is, it seems, still on everyone's lips, used of everything from political recklessness to corporate excess, nearly three millennia since the word first appeared in ancient Greek literature. But what is *hybris*? Why does the concept appeal so readily to the modern mind? And what can we learn about human behaviour from ancient Greek approaches to this and related concepts that might be of use in modern psychology, politics, and business?

### **Programme**

9:30-10:30	Douglas Cairns / Mirko Canevaro (University of Edinburgh) Introduction
10:30-11:20	Kleanthis Mantzouranis (University of Edinburgh) Identity Leadership, <i>hybris</i> , and the Paradox of Alcibiades
11:20-11:40	Coffee break
11:40-12:30	Moritz Hinsch (Humboldt-Universität Berlin) Profits of honour: Justice and moneymaking in classical Greece
12:30-13:20	Owen Kelly (University of Edinburgh) The humbling of the Scottish banking industry during the financial crisis: <i>hybris</i> , financialization and some Aristotelian responses
13:20-14:00	Lunch break

14:00-14:50	Nick Bouras (King's College London) Medical & Biological Perspectives of Hubristic Behaviour
14:50-15:40	Eugene Sadler-Smith / Tim Wray (University of Surrey) Hubristic Leadership: Person and Process Perspectives
15:40-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-16:50	Constantine Sedikides (University of Southampton) To Be Truthful or to Be Wonderful? The Rocky Road to Self-Knowledge
16:50-17:40	Closing remarks