

AXIOMATIZATION OF OTTO NEURATH'S ENCYCLOPEDIISM

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(organized w/Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin)
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Otto Neurath. An Introduction

Abstract

1. The restoration of the Vienna Circle and Neurath's theory in the Western literature took place during two last decades. This is not a case in Poland, where logical empiricism is still very often being associated with old and highly depreciated ideas. That's why logical empiricism needs promoting and constructive criticism.

2. Especially Neurath's encyclopedism was strongly neglected and distorted. Neurath was accused of almost all errors attributed to logical empiricism. Among others:

- a) verificationism (inductivism and bad criterion of demarcation);
- b) theoretical–observational dichotomy;
- c) analytic–synthetic dichotomy;
- d) synchronic approach to science;
- e) dogmatic 'demetaphysicalisation';
- f) coherentism and abandoning empiricism (during the protocol sentences debate);
- g) physicalism (reduction in science, of terms and laws);
- h) foundationalism.

This small congress will show that these accusations are not sound.

3. According to Neurath, full axiomatization of science is not possible. It is often not attainable within one scientific field. Now if Neurath's theory is a part of science, how do we want to axiomatize it? This workshop does not aim to obtain full, but only partial systematization of Neurath's encyclopedism. The first day will be devoted to this kind of reconstruction.

4. On the second day speakers will pose some critical questions to *Enzyklopedismus*, perhaps trying also to show the possible solutions to the problems indicated.

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