



Rocinante n. 17/2026

## The thought of Xavier Zubiri in contemporary philosophical and theological debate

Editor: Matheus Bernardes

*Call for Papers*

It is widely recognized that one of the major contributions of Xavier Zubiri's philosophy is the centrality of the real. A member of the so-called "Madrid School," Zubiri was born in San Sebastián, in northern Spain, in 1898. After completing a degree in philosophy at the University of Louvain (Belgium) and a doctorate in theology in Rome, he wrote his doctoral dissertation in philosophy—*Essay on a Phenomenological Theory of Judgment*—under the supervision of José Ortega y Gasset. This work reveals the strong influence of Edmund Husserl and his phenomenology on the first phase of Zubiri's thought, known as the phenomenological phase.

After several years of teaching at the Central University of Madrid, he received a scholarship to further his studies in Germany. In Freiburg, he had the opportunity to work with Husserl himself as well as with Martin Heidegger. During those years, he developed the second phase of his thought, known as the ontological phase. From Freiburg he moved to Berlin, where he met Max Planck, Albert Einstein, and Erwin Schrödinger. In contact with developments in contemporary physics, he elaborated his own concept of reality, thereby distancing himself from Heideggerian philosophy.

He returned briefly to Spain, but during the Spanish Civil War he moved to Paris, where he met Jacques Maritain, Émile Benveniste, and Louis de Broglie, thus entering into contact with the avant-garde of European thought in the first half of the twentieth century. From 1940 to 1942 he held the chair of philosophy at the University of Barcelona, but it was in Madrid, where he settled permanently, that he developed the third and final phase of his thought: the strictly metaphysical phase, focused on reality in its dimensions and forms.

Until 1976, Zubiri carried out intense intellectual activity through private courses outside the academic sphere; from 1977 onward, he devoted himself to his written work, in which he presented the full richness of his mature thought: *Intelligence and Reality* (published in 1980), *Intelligence and Logos* (1982), and *Intelligence and Reason* (1983). He died on September 21, 1983, leaving also the work *Man and God* as a further expression of his intellectual maturity.

Drawing on the contributions presented at the 6th International Xavier Zubiri Congress, held in São Paulo (Brazil) in September 2023, this issue of *Rocinante* is therefore dedicated to:

1. the contribution of Zubiri's thought to contemporary philosophical debate, particularly the challenges posed to this debate by sociology, politics, and language studies;



2. the contribution of Zubiri's thought to the discourse of philosophy of religion and theology. It is clear that his noology—that is, his phenomenological analysis of the act of intellection—offers fruitful perspectives for discourse on God, political theology, and theological method.

Submissions may adopt a purely philosophical or theological approach, preferably interdisciplinary, provided they remain focused on the relationship between Zubiri's thought and the current challenges facing philosophical and theological discourse. Authors are invited to submit a proposed title by **April 30, 2026**, to the following addresses:

[rocinante.cnr@gmail.com](mailto:rocinante.cnr@gmail.com)

[matheus.bernardes@puc-campinas.edu.br](mailto:matheus.bernardes@puc-campinas.edu.br)

Full contributions, not exceeding 50,000 characters (including footnotes and spaces), must be submitted by **June 30, 2026**, to the same addresses. Only essays that receive a positive evaluation will be published.

Authors will receive a response by **July 30, 2026**. Editorial guidelines can be downloaded from the journal's website: <http://www.rocinante.it/larivista>