

Euclid's Elements from the West to the

East by JI Zhigang | Kostas Nikolantonakis | Shanghai Jiao Tong University | University of Western Macedonia

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One of the masterpieces of the History of Mathematics is Euclid's *Elements*. This treatise has been translated in different languages of scientific work during different historical periods and in different cultures (Arabic, Latin, English, French, German, Chinese etc.). Of course, we should also stress the use of the treatise for teaching purposes from Greek Antiquity to Modern times. The *Elements* was in general a monography of geometry and arithmetic (in the sense of theory of numbers) and a model of axiomatic establishment of a scientific field which should be followed from all scientists (mathematicians, physicians etc.) in their scientific treatises.

The ways of transmission of the treatise in different cultures and languages and the comparative studies between the original text and the transmitted text are two of the questions which could be discussed in the frame of this proposed Symposium. More precisely, we are going to examine the means of transmission of Euclid's *Elements* in China and its relations with the transmission in different cultures and in the works of scientists written in different than the Chinese language. More specifically we are going to examine the ways of how Euclid's *Elements* affect China, the language used in Chinese and in Greek and comparative studies on Pacioli's *Euclidean Elements* and on commentaries in Billingsley's *English Elements* (1574).

Symposium Organizers

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