In his commentary on the *Parmenides* (785.4-799.22 and 978.21-983.18) Proclus offers a systematic defence of the objective existence of the Forms by means of the use of distinctive arguments, four of which are ontological. In contrast with Aristotle, Proclus clearly accepts that the Forms exist as causes of the world and not as posterior concepts describing the common elements of the sensible entities. Thus, he argues, first, that the ontological presuppositions of the sensible beings are placed in the area of the self-subsistent beings, which correspond to the categories of the second hypothesis of the *Parmenides*. The Forms belong to this area as well. In this respect, Proclus refers to the way of production of the sensible beings, aiming at a strict definition of this process. Secondly, he proves that the existence of the Forms, which possess ontological completeness, is prior to the existence of the sensible things. This is possible since the Forms are generated by the Demiurge of the whole world, by means of an internal reflection upon himself. Thirdly, in order to prove that the sensible world cannot be attributed to mere chance, he argues that the external activity, i.e. the creation of the world, depends on the internal activity, i.e. the development of the Forms in the divine Intellect. Fourthly, he implements the concept of hierarchy in the realm of the Forms, through an extensive reference to the ontological priority of the imparticipable over the participable. Thus, it is shown how the existence of the primary and intelligible Forms is prior to that of the substantiated Forms. Interestingly enough, the above-mentioned arguments exercised considerable influence on the commentaries of the members of the school of Ammonius, son of Hermias.
Prof. Christos Terezis, Department of Philosophy, University of Patras, Greece
E-mail: terezis@upatras.gr Address: Themistokleous 60, 26222 Patras, Greece,

Ass. Prof. Elias Tempelis, Hellenic Naval Academy – Hellenic Open University, Greece
E-mail: chrisdar@otenet.gr Address: Ogdoi odos 3, 15236 Penteli, Greece

*** The paper will be presented by Ass. Prof. Elias Tempelis, who is interested in participating in the farewell dinner, the conference trip to Caesarea and the trip to ancient sites in the area of the Sea of Galilee. A university hotel booking is required; there will be no other accompanying persons.

*** Prof. Terezis will not be able to participate in the conference.