

## Popular Scientific Summary

The aim of the project is to analyze the philosophy of Karatani Kōjin—one of the most important Japanese intellectuals of the second half of the 20th century—against the backdrop of the postwar development of critical philosophical thought in Japan. Karatani, known among others for his book *Transcritique: On Kant and Marx*, proposed an original reading of Marx's philosophy that connects it with the tradition of Immanuel Kant's transcendental critique. Although Karatani is widely cited in international academic circles, his body of work remains underexplored, and his thought has yet to be comprehensively reconstructed within the context of Japanese philosophy and social criticism.

The project focuses on three main issues: (1) Karatani's relationship with Japanese postmodernism in the 1980s; (2) the role of the journal *Hihyō Kūkan* as a platform for the formation of a new leftist critique in Japan; and (3) Karatani's reinterpretation of Marx, in which categories of modes of exchange (rather than modes of production) become the key to analyzing historical processes.

The topic has been undertaken due to the growing international interest in non-Western currents of critical philosophy and the need to revise dominant narratives about the history of leftist thought in the 20th century. Special attention will be given to the social and cultural context of Japan in the 1980s and 1990s, which shaped both Karatani and the intellectual milieu surrounding him.

The anticipated outcome of the project is the publication of three peer-reviewed articles in high-impact international academic journals. The project will offer a novel perspective on the history of postwar Japanese philosophy and contribute to the deepening of intercultural dialogue within the humanities.