

Peer Review

Review of: "On the Hard Problem: Revisited, Re-Evaluated, Recast"

Wiesław Galus¹¹. Institute of Plasma Physics and Laser Microfusion, Warsaw, Poland

I undertake a review of the article because I myself have published works on this topic, in which I expressed my views on one of the greatest puzzles facing science—that is, the mind–body relationship and mental causation. I am aware that, for this reason, my opinion will be very subjective.

I believe that the article is valuable because of the courage shown in tackling such a difficult subject. The authors have reformulated the so-called “hard problem” of consciousness by taking into account the most popular models of the mind. Their methodology of summarizing the characteristics of individual models in the form of tables will help to organize them and facilitate a multidisciplinary discussion on the topic.

It is noteworthy that the authors emphasize the biophysical and neurological explanations of the phenomena discussed. I am standing at the position that philosophical analysis, detached from new insights in neuroscience, biophysics, the architecture and function of neural networks in the brain, and the role of the body in cognitive processes, offers little hope of arriving at a satisfactory scientific explanation.

A broad discussion on this topic is both indicated and necessary. However, for that purpose, we are forced to track every advancement in this field. The advantage—and at the same time the drawback—of the article is that it is based on the most popular theories, none of which offer a way to fill the “explanatory gap.” They themselves do not provide their own explanation for this insurmountable aporia. It would be fascinating to see how the authors would reformulate their views after familiarizing themselves with the theses of my articles, which directly address the issues they discuss: *Mind–Brain Identity Theory Confirmed?* (and the works cited therein).

I encourage you to write a modified version of the article that takes those theses into account, which would undoubtedly be the beginning of the expected discussion—perhaps within the pages of Qeios. I

declare that I will send an author's version of the paper to those involved in the discussion at their email addresses.

Galus, W.L. (2023) *Mind–Brain Identity Theory Confirmed?* Cognitive Neurodynamics vol.17: 1467–1487.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s11571-023-09992-6>

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.