Frédéric Fruteau de Laclos Extension du domaine de la théorie. Quand la philosophie se confronte au terrain

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We would like to defend the idea of a philosophy *from* the field, as distinct from recent attempts at a philosophy *of* the field. In the latter case, we are often dealing with professional philosophers who, armed with ready-made concepts, set out to apply them to experience. However, it's quite a different matter to venture out into the field without having any preestablished concepts, but asking ourselves whether the terrain – in this case, the territories inhabited or traversed by humans – might not conceal concepts itself. Such would be the approach of a philosophy *from* the field. A proper understanding of this approach goes hand in hand with the rediscovery of a host of efforts, produced during the blind spot of the 1930s, to open up to the great variety of modes of thought different from our own. Today's debate on the terrain of philosophy would have much to gain from this anamnesis of the historical-philosophical dynamics of the French interwar period.