

Croatian Unit

World Bioethics Day 2017

Report

The Croatian Unit of the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics took great pleasure in celebrating the World Bioethics Day 2017 with an event that took place on 19th October at the University of Zagreb and centred around the topic of Article 10 of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights – “Equality, Justice and Equity”, specifically “Dignity in healthcare – access to healthcare”. The event brought together various academics in the field of bioethics as well as interested students.

The event started with the welcome addresses by the vice-dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Zagreb, Assist. Prof. Tereza Rogić Lugarić and the vice-rector and the Head of the Centre for Excellence in Integrative Bioethics of the University of Zagreb, prof. Ante Čović.

The introduction to the topic of the event was given by assist. prof. Sunčana Roksandić Vidlička (Head of the Unit) and prof. Selma Šogorić (member of the Unit), followed by three short 15-minute presentations on the contemporary topics in Croatian medical law and bioethics. The first one, presenting the practical examples in regard to access to healthcare in Croatia was given by prof. Vanja Vučićević Boras (School of Dental

Medicine, University of Zagreb), followed by a presentation on the challenges in adjudication concerning medical malpractice and respecting the dignity of victims by Renata Pražetina Kaleb, a judge of the Municipal Criminal Court in Zagreb. For a theoretical view on the topic, assist. prof. Barbara Preložnjak (Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb) gave a short but thorough presentation regarding equality and the right to healthcare.

The event continued with a presentation by a Local representative of the UNESCO Chair, prof. Iris Goldner Lang (Faculty of Law, University of Zagreb) on the topic of Access to healthcare in the EU, followed by a special guest lecture by prof. Ksenija Turković, an eminent expert and a judge of the European Court of Human Rights that provided insight into how the ECtHR engages with violations of the ECHR in regards to the access to healthcare and protection of human dignity.

Third part of the event was the student debate competition on the topic of "Equality, Justice and Equity – Access to healthcare." Participants were students from Faculty of Law, Faculty of Social Sciences, School of Medicine and the Faculty of Catholic Theology, all belonging to the University of Zagreb. Commentators, prof. Ana Borovečki (School of Medicine), prof. Vanja Vučićević Boras (School of Dental Medicine), prof. Hrvoje Jurić (Faculty of Social Sciences) and assis. prof. Aleksandar Maršavelski (Faculty of Law), were pointing out to expressed opinions from the perspective of international regulations, UNESCO Declaration and Biomedical Convention of CoE.

This year, the award for the contribution for development of bioethics in Croatia was given, by unanimous decision of the UNESCO Chair Unit Board Members was given to eminent prof. emeritus Nikola Visković. The Student Essay Writing Competition was won by Domogoj Dananić, law student on the topic: Legal ambiguity of a concept of dignity – dignity as a cat in the box. Second, third and fourth place was won by Jakov

Erdeljac (Faculty of philosophy), Mislav Mikac (Faculty of Catholic theology) and Tena Kampać (Faculty of law).

The event concluded with lectures on the future topics in bioethics that will be researched: prof. Tamara Čapeta (Faculty of Law) gave lecture on Artificial Intelligence – Ethical and Legal Issues and prof. Darko Polšek on Personalized medicine and behavioural economics.

Gallery

Selection of videos from the event is also available at: <http://bit.ly/2k6O0AF>

