

**29th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE
ON PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE**

Medicalization

**19 – 22 August, 2015
Ghent, Belgium**

This conference will be organised by the European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Healthcare (ESPMH) and Bioethics Institute of Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium. Abstracts addressing the following topics will be favoured, although work on other topics can also be submitted:

Focus

The focus of the conference is on ethical and philosophical issues related to “medicalization”. Abstracts addressing the following topics will be favored, although work on other topics can also be submitted:

MEDICALIZATION: CONCEPTUAL ANALYSES

- History of the concept
- Commercialization and globalization
- Pharmaceuticalization
- Biomedicalization
- Geneticization
- Cost-benefit analysis

END OF LIFE

- Advance directives
- Terminal sedation
- Euthanasia and physician assisted suicide
- Nursing perspectives
- Ageing

ENHANCED SELVES, MEDICALIZED SELVES AND NORMALITY

- Genetic information
- DSM V
- Self-enhancement
- Children and behaviour
- Transhumanism

PREVENTION AND LIFESTYLE

- Health promotion and prevention
- Nudges and freedom
- Food politics
- Lifestyle and individual responsibility
- Consumption patterns

REPRODUCTION

- Medically assisted reproduction
- Pregnancy
- Fertility preservation
- Reproductive care
- Preconception planning and behaviour

Important Dates

1 March 2015:	Deadline for submission of abstracts
1st half of March 2015:	Selection of abstracts
2nd half of March 2015:	Draft programme
1 April 2015:	First deadline for registration and payment

Language

The language for the conference will be English.

Organization

The registration process, call for abstracts, development of the programme, publication of programme announcements and mailings to participants will be taken care of by the ESPMH Secretariat in Dublin, Ireland.

ESPMH Secretary:

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Local Conference Coordinator:

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The Bioethics Institute Ghent, Ghent University

The Bioethics Institute Ghent (BIG) is a research centre of the Department of Philosophy and Moral Sciences of Ghent University. BIG serves as a meeting point for academics conducting research and teaching on bioethical issues in all Ghent University departments. Since BIG facilitates interdisciplinary discussion about ethical and regulatory issues related to bioethics, this conference on medicalization fits within its research goals. BIG conducts original interdisciplinary research resulting in leading edge publications, and offers courses, organizes seminars, public lectures and international conferences, and assists in the formulation and development of public policy

The Department of Primary Health Care and Family Practice Ghent hosts over 60 people from different disciplines. It has five particular lines of research:

- Chronic care, Interprofessional Cooperation and Health Services
- Communication in Health Care
- Equity in Health Care
- Diagnostic and Therapeutic Strategies
- Autonomy in Health Care

The Department is integrated within the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences of Ghent University and supports the contributions of the Faculty to 'The Training in Health Equity Network' (THENet). Since October 2010, it has hosted the "International Centre for Primary Health Care and Family Medicine - Ghent University", a WHO Collaborating Center on PHC. It cooperates with 'The Network: Towards Unity for Health' and, since 2010, it has hosted the Secretariat of that Network. It is also a premium member of the European Forum for Primary Care.

Registration

A registration form can be downloaded from the ESPMH website (www.espmh.org). This should be completed and returned, and the registration fee should be paid, no later than **1 April 2015** in order to qualify for the early bird registration fee (see below). Fees are higher after that date. The fee should be paid to the ESPMH Treasurer (details provided on the registration form).

Registration Fee

The registration fee for participants covers: the welcome reception (Wednesday), two lunches, the refreshments during breaks, the conference dinner (Friday) and an abstract booklet.

The registration fee for accompanying persons covers: the welcome reception (Wednesday) and the conference dinner (Friday).

A reduced registration fee is applicable for participants who are members of ESPMH.

Participants:

Paid before 1 April 2015:

ESPMH member:	€ 400
Non member:	€ 450

Paid after 1 April 2015:

ESPMH member:	€ 460
Non member:	€ 510

Accompanying person:

Paid before 1 April 2015:	€ 100
Paid after 1 April 2015:	€ 120

Getting to Ghent

By air

Brussels Airport, and then an hour by train to Ghent

On arriving at Brussels airport, you can easily reach Ghent ('Gent' in Dutch) by train. The train station is located on the lowest floor of the airport building. Each hour (until 22.07), there are two trains that travel to 'Gent-Sint-Pieters' as an intermediate or final destination. There are also many more trains to 'Brussel-Zuid/Bruxelles-Midi', from where there are direct connections to 'Gent-Sint-Pieters'. Train tickets may be bought from vending machines (which accept major credit cards and operate in English and other languages).

Charleroi airport

If you fly in to Charleroi, take one of the (blue) shuttle buses that leave from just outside the airport terminal every 30 minutes. The shuttle takes you to the train station 'Brussel-Zuid/Bruxelles-Midi' in approximately one hour. Tickets for the bus can be bought online, or at the vending machines located at the bus stop. From the train station there are up to five trains every hour to 'Gent-Sint-Pieters' as an intermediate or final destination. Trains with destination 'Knokke Blankenberge' or 'Oostende' always stop in Ghent.

For more information on the timetables of the trains, please consult the route planner of the Belgian Rail Company. (www.nmbs.be)

By Train

Most international trains (including both Thalys and Eurostar) arrive at 'Brussel-Zuid/Bruxelles-Midi'. There are several trains each hour from this station to 'Gent-Sint-Pieters'. The trip takes about 35 minutes. Train tickets may be bought from vending machines (which accept major credit cards and operate in English and other languages). For more information on the timetables of the trains, please consult the route planner of the Belgian Rail Company. (www.nmbs.be)

By Bus

Eurolines offers a direct bus connection to the train station 'Gent-Sint-Pieters' from nearly every major city in Europe. Where they do not offer a direct connection, they frequently offer a direct connection to Brussels, more specifically to the train station 'Brussel-Noord/Bruxelles-Nord'. From there, simply take a train to 'Gent-Sint-Pieters'. (Details as above).

By Car

The most important highways that bring you to Ghent are highways E17 and E40, which intersect near the city.

Highway E17

When coming from The Netherlands or Germany: go via 'Antwerpen', then follow the direction 'Gent', and later on 'Gent Centrum (B401)'. When coming from France: go via 'Kortrijk', then follow the direction 'Gent', and later on 'Gent Centrum (B401)'.

Highway E40

When coming from The Netherlands or France: go via 'Oostende', follow the direction 'Gent-Antwerpen' (E17), then follow the direction 'Gent', and, finally, follow the direction 'Gent Centrum (B401)'. When coming from France or Germany: go via 'Brussel', next, follow the direction 'Gent-Antwerpen' (E17), then follow the direction 'Gent', and, finally, follow the direction 'Gent Centrum (B401)'.

In both cases, the elevated highway (B401) will take you directly to the centre of Ghent.

Within Ghent there is a 'ring' of public parking places. As you enter, you will be directed to this 'ring'.

Public transport

Ghent has two train stations and many buses and trams to get you to the centre in the most comfortable way. On arriving at the station 'Gent-Sint-Pieters', the easiest way to get to the conference centre is to take a taxi from in front of the station. (The fare is likely to be about €10).

Public transport is a good and cheap alternative. (The fare is about €2, tickets may be bought at automatic vending machines at the main tram stops, at newsagents, or from the driver).

Two tram-lines have stops close to the conference center:

Line 1 (RED): Direction 'Evergem' (or 'Flanders Expo'), leave at 'Gravensteen'.

Lijn 4 (GREEN): Direction 'Gentbrugge' (or 'Zwijnaarde'), leave at 'Lange Steenstraat'.

Currency

The currency in Belgium is the euro. Foreign currency can easily be exchanged at the airport or at exchange bureaus. All major credit cards are accepted, mainly VISA, and MASTER CARD. Credit cards are accepted in most hotels and shops (but not on the trams or buses, where you will need cash).

Visa

Please contact your local consulate for details.

Social Programme

The following social activities will be offered (draft):

- Wednesday: welcome reception
- Thursday: Beer tasting/Boat Trip

The traditional conference dinner is on Friday.

To get information about Ghent and city tours see:

<http://www.visitgent.be/eCache/VGG/3/114.dmdfbGFuZz1FTg.html>

Conference venue

The conference is situated at the centre of Ghent in a monastery:

Thagaste
Academiestraat 1
9000 Ghent

A map can be found at <http://www.thagaste.be/bereikbaarheid> .

To find the way to the conference centre

see as well <https://www.google.com/maps?ll=51.059403,3.719807&z=16&t=m&hl=en-GB&gl=US&mapclient=embed&q=51%C2%B003%2733.9%22N+3%C2%B043%2711.3%22E@51.059403,3.719807>.

Accommodation

Accommodation in Ghent is the responsibility of conference participants themselves. Below you can find a list of hotels, most of which are well within walking distance.

Ghent Marriott (**)**

Situated on the banks of the Lys, the Ghent Marriott hotel blends its modern design harmoniously with the historic treasures of Ghent.

Address: Korenlei 10 | 9000 Gent

Tel +32(0)9 233 93 93

Fax: +32(0)9 233 93 94

E-mail: info@marriottghent.com

Website: <http://marriottghent.be/>

Average price per person per night: € 140

NH Ghent Belfort (**)**

A 174 room hotel within the charming medieval city, standing in the shadow of the Town Hall.

Address: Hoogpoort 63 | 9000 Gent

Tel +32 (0)9 233 3331

Website: www.nh-hotels.nl/hotel/nh-gent-belfort

E-mail: nhgentbelfort@nh-hotels.com

Average price per person per night: € 110

Hotel Gravensteen (*)**

Hotel Gravensteen is based in a 19th century building (renovated in 2014). The hotel lies in the heart of Ghent opposite the famous Gravensteen, the 800-year old castle that was the seat of the counts of Flanders.

Address: Jan Breydelstraat 35 | 9000 Gent

Tel: +32 (0)9 225 11 50

Fax: +32 (0)9 225 18 50

E-mail: info@gravensteen.be

Website: www.gravensteen.be

Average price per person per night: € 110

Europahotel (*)**

A cosy and friendly business and family hotel in the city of Gent.

Address: Gordunakaai 59 | 9000 Gent

Tel: +32 (0)9 222 60 71

Fax: +32 (0)9 220 06 09

E-mail: info@europahotel-gent.be

Website: www.europahotel-gent.be

Average price per person per night: € 90

Ibis opera ()**

Situated in the Gand shopping center, close to the opera house and a short walk from the exhibition center and convention center. The hotel offers 134 rooms, including three for guests with reduced mobility.

Address: Nederkouter 24-26 | 9000 Gent

Tel: +32 (0)9 225 07 07

Fax: +32 (0)9 223 59 07

E-mail: H1455@accor.com

Website: www.ibis.com/nl/hotel-1455-ibis-gent-centrum-opera/

Average price per person per night: € 70

Youth hostel Uppelink

This recently renovated hostel is located in one of Ghent's oldest buildings and has a compelling history of its own. Its location at the outer edge of the medieval port makes Hostel Uppelink the perfect starting base

for a unique experience in the City of Artevelde. As an added bonus, you are able to enjoy the sublime view of the famous three towers.

Address: Sint-Michielsplein 21 | 9000 Gent

Tel: +32 9 279 44 77

E-mail: info@hosteluppelink.com

Website: <http://www.hosteluppelink.com>

Average price per person per night: € 55 for a single room

Abstract booklet, programme & papers

All participants will be provided with a programme as well as an abstract booklet at the registration desk. The programme will also be made available online well in advance.

Full manuscripts of presented papers can be submitted for publication in the ESPMH journal "Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy. A European Journal". Participants are invited to read the instructions for authors on the website of the journal and to submit an appropriately prepared article online for review (see: <http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/applied+ethics/journal/11019>).

About Belgium

The kingdom of Belgium is well known because of Brussels, the capital of Europe. It is a complex nation with three communities and three official languages (Dutch, French and German). The language in Ghent (the Flemish part of Belgium) is Dutch (however, most residents are more than capable of conversing in English and French). Belgium is famous for its chocolate, beer, eclectic architecture, comic strips, fictional detectives, and cuisine.

About Ghent

Ghent is without doubt one of the most beautiful historic cities in Europe and has been given many attractive names: the historic heart of Flanders, a city of all times, a medieval Manhattan, Europe's best kept secret. The city has also received many international tourist nominations. In 2008, the National Geographic Traveller Magazine ranked Ghent third in its list of 109 most authentic destinations. In the 2011 edition of the Lonely Planet's 'Best in Travel' guide, Ghent took the 7th place on the list of must-see cities.

With over 60,000 students, Ghent is the largest university town in Belgium. The presence of this young population leaves a dynamic mark on the city and this clearly adds to the lively atmosphere (see: <http://www.visitgent.be/eCache/VGG/3/114.dmdfbGFuZz1FTg.html>). The conference organizers will be more than happy to suggest places for you to visit while you are in Ghent.