

Methods in Bioethics and Philosophy of Medicine

23 – 26 August 2023 | Riga, Latvia

35th European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine & Health Care

This conference is organized by the [European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Healthcare](#), the [Institute of Clinical and Preventive Medicine of the University of Latvia](#), and the [Faculty of Medicine at the University of Latvia](#). Over the last 50 years many methodological approaches have been applied by scholars in bioethics and philosophy of medicine with varying measures of success. The conference will reflect on this experience and highlight debates on hard methodological problems and new exciting methodological advances. Abstracts addressing any of the issues mentioned below will be favoured, although work on other topics can also be submitted.

Methodological issues in bioethics

- Experimental bioethics
- Empirical bioethics
- Digital bioethics
- Phenomenological bioethics
- Critical theory and intersectionality
- Role of philosophical theory
- Role of ethical theories in bioethics
- The role of metaethics
- Bioethics and open science
- Citizen science and bioethics

Methodological debates in philosophy of medicine

- The role of experimental philosophy
- Analytic approaches
- Naturalism
- Phenomenology
- Eliminativism vs. reductionism
- Objectivism vs. subjectivism
- Evidence and inference
- Social epistemology

Interaction with other disciplines

- Philosophy of mind
- Political philosophy
- Logic
- Social science
- Law
- Art
- Humanities

New methodological approaches applied to old problems

- New developments in clinical bioethics
- New developments in biomedical research ethics
- Developments in public health ethics
- Ethical issues in death and dying
- Ethics issues in reproduction
- Nosology
- Holism and reductionism
- Causation
- Diagnosis
- Defining death

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Organization

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

ESPMH Secretary:

Prof. Bert Gordijn
Secretary of the ESPMH (www.espmh.org)
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Local Conference Coordinators:

[Institute of Clinical and Preventive Medicine of the University of Latvia](#), and [Faculty of Medicine at the University of Latvia](#).

Contact person:

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Administration:

Institute of Clinical and Preventive Medicine of the University of Latvia
Līga Grantiņa
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1 March 2023

Deadline for submission of abstracts

1st half of March 2023

Selection of abstracts

1st half of April 2023

Draft programme

15 May 2023

Deadline for early bird registration
and payment

Language

The language at the conference will be **English**.

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University of Latvia

Established in 1919, the University of Latvia, the only classical university in Latvia, has been a national centre of higher education for almost a century. The University of Latvia is the higher education establishment rich in traditions. The University of Latvia with its 14 000 students, 13 faculties and more than 20 research institutes is one of the largest comprehensive and leading research universities in the Baltic States.

The University offers more than 130 state-accredited academic and professional study programmes. At University of Latvia, research is conducted in over 50 research fields which represent main areas of research: the humanities and education sciences, social sciences and sciences and medicine.

More information: <https://www.lu.lv/en/>



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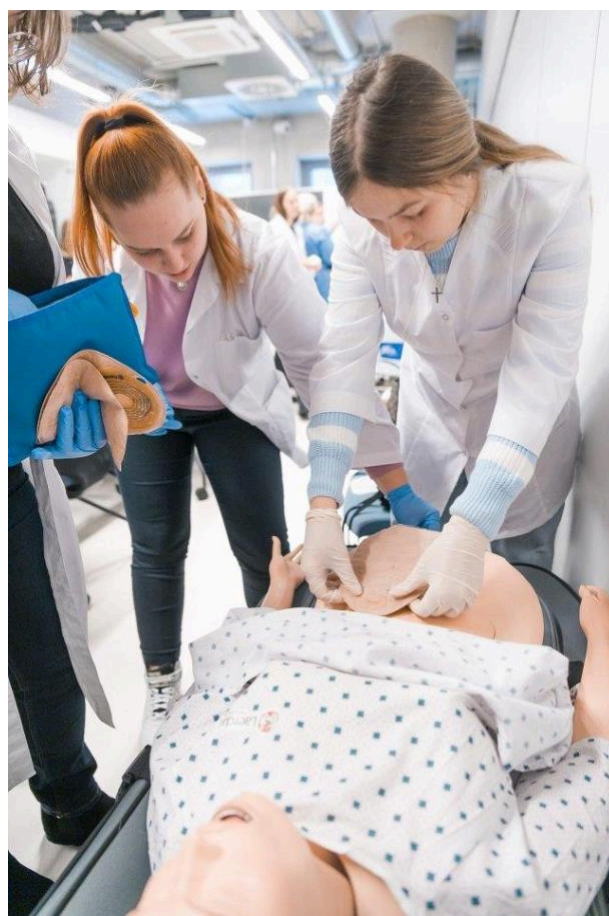
The University of Latvia Institute of Clinical and Preventive Medicine (UL ICPM) was established in 2016. The main activity of the UL ICPM is organising and conducting fundamental and applied research in medical, biological and medical ethics fields. The Institute undertakes research in public health and disease prevention, population, screening and intervention, as well as areas of clinical medicine, including oncology, microbiome and infectious diseases, internal medicine and surgical pathology, laboratory medicine and visual diagnostics, and other natural sciences

More information:

<https://www.kpmi.lu.lv/en-gb/>

Faculty of Medicine at Latvia University

Founded in 1919, today the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Latvia provides contemporary and personalized studies in healthcare. It is the fastest-growing and most requested faculty of the University of Latvia, offering five undergraduate, three graduate-level study programmes, doctorate studies, and lifelong education cycles for healthcare professionals.



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Registration

Registration takes place online at the ESPMH homepage (www.espmh.org).

To avail of the early bird registration fee (see below) registration should be completed, and the registration fee should be paid, no later than **15 May 2023**.

Fees are higher after that date. The fee should be paid to the ESPMH Treasurer (details provided on the online registration form).

Abstract booklet, programme and 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>).

Registration fee

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

The registration fee for PARTICIPANTS covers:

the welcome reception (Wednesday), two lunches, the refreshments during breaks, the conference dinner (Friday) and an abstract booklet.

Paid before 15 May 2023:

ESPMH member: € 450
Non-member: € 500

Paid after 15 May 2023:

ESPMH member: € 520
Non-member: € 570

The registration fee for ACCOMPANYING

PERSONS covers: the welcome reception (Wednesday) and the conference dinner (Friday).

Paid before 15 May 2023: € 100

Paid after 15 May 2023: € 120

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Getting to Riga

By air

Riga International Airport (Starptautiskā lidosta “Rīga”) is the largest airport in the Baltic states. The airport is located in the Mārupe Municipality west of Riga, approximately 10 km from its city center.

More information:

<https://www.riga-airport.com/en>

To get from the airport to the city center, you can use either **bus** or **taxi**.

Bus: busroute 22 schedule:

<https://saraksti.rigassatiksmelv/index.html#bus/22/b-a/en>

Bus 22 is the only route in Riga public transport system where the ticket can also be bought from the transport vehicle driver. Payment for the ticket is with a bank payment card only, ticket price- 2€

Taxi: Bolt App is the safest and cheapest option from the Airport to the city centre (Bolt App: <https://bolt.eu/>). Avoid getting scammed by taxi drivers in front of the airport! RedCab and BalticTaxi are also reliable taxi companies which you don't necessarily need to use an app for. Prices vary depending on taxi availability, time of day and other factors

By bus

Riga International Bus Station (Rīgas starptautiskā autoosta) is located in the city center (Prāgas iela 1, LV 1050). It is the main bus station serving for domestic and international long-distance buses to Tallin, Vilnius, Warsaw and other cities.

For connections and timetables visit

<https://www.autoosta.lv/time-table/?lang=en>

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While in Riga

Public transportation

Riga has three methods of public transportation:

- Tram
- trolleybus and
- bus.

Public transport operates between 5:30 and 23:30.

Timetables, fares, and purchase information are available in Latvian and English at www.rigassatiksm.lv.

It is possible to purchase the following types of tickets:

- 90-minute ticket (€ 1,50)
- 24-hour ticket (€ 5,00)
- three-day ticket (€ 8,00)
- five-day ticket (€ 10,00)
- one-month ticket (€ 30,00)

There is also a **QR code ticket**, which allows to make payments for the trips with a smartphone in online mode. In order to use the code ticket, the customers will have to install a mobile application on their smartphones.

(see <https://www.rigassatiksm.lv/en/tickets-and-e-ticket/code-tickets/>)

Shopping

Food shops

(Mostly open daily 8:00 – 22:00):

- Rimi,
- Maxima,
- Stockmann,
- Lidl,
- Mego,
- Aibe,
- Lats

Narvesen/ Reitan convenience stores

(Hours vary individually, most opening times are 7:00 – 20:00)

for refreshments, press and public transport tickets.

Social programme

On Thursday, August 24th there will be a sightseeing tour of Riga city centre.

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Currency

The official currency of Latvia is the Euro.

Visa

Please contact your local consulate for details.

Conference venue and accommodation

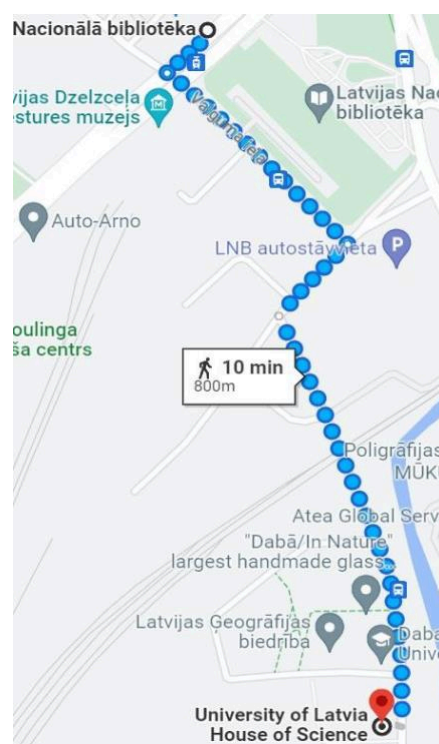
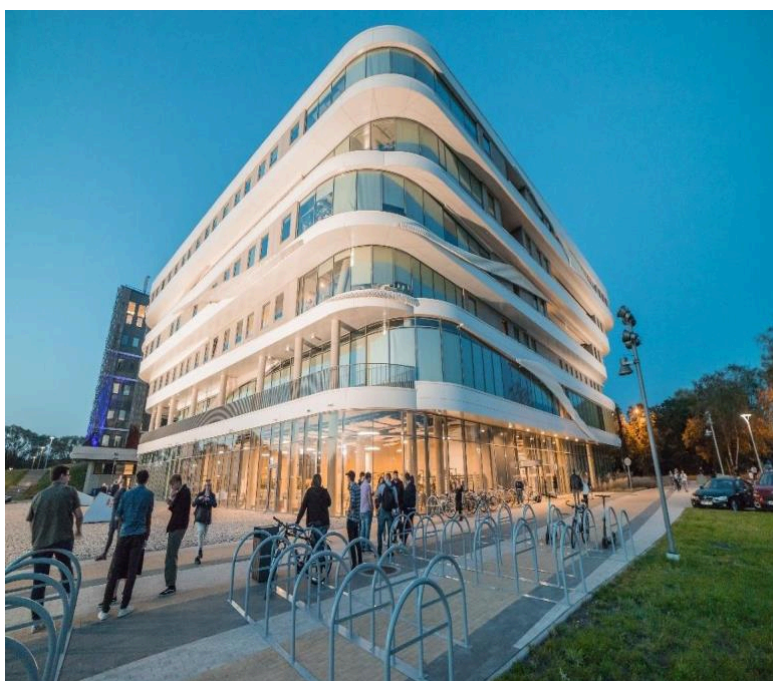
The conference will be held in the **House of Science**, a building located in the new campus of the University of Latvia in Torņakalns. Address: Jelgavas iela 3, LV – 1004

Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/6L2FmYieoNv9uRP19>

Getting to the venue

The House of Science is a 10 minute walk away from public transport stop “Nacionālā bibliotēka” for tram routes 1, 2, 5 and bus routes 3, 4, 7, 8, 21, 22, 25, 32, 38, 43, 54, 55, 63

Information on ticket types and prices at: <https://www.rigassatiksme.lv/en/tickets-and-e-ticket/code-tickets/>



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Conference participants are responsible for their own accommodation. Riga offers a high number of quality accommodation from luxury hotels to hostels and bed and breakfast all within easy reach to the conference venue. There are also many options for Airbnb apartments. In the month of August, accommodation in Riga on average costs 100 euros per night.

Below is a list of hotels with the best public transport connections to the conference venue.

Kempinski *****

<https://www.kempinski.com/en/grand-hotel-kempinski-riga>

Mercure Riga Centre ****

<https://mercure-riga.com/en/>

Hilton Garden Inn Riga Old Town ****

<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/rixrlgi-hilton-garden-inn-riga-old-town/>

Wellton Riverside SPA ****

<https://www.wellton.com/en/hotels/wellton-riverside-spa-hotel>

Rixwell Konventa Sēta Hotel ****

<https://www.rixwell.com/en/hotels/rixwell-konventa-seta-design-hotel>

Radisson Blu Elizabete Hotel ****

<https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blu-riga-elizabete>

Radisson Blu Rīdzene ****

<https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blu-riga-ridzene>

Radisson Blu Daugava ****

<https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blu-riga-daugava>

Relais Le Chevalier ****

<https://www.lechevalier.lv/>

Bellevue Park Hotel ****

<https://hotelbellevue.lv/>

Park Inn by Radisson Riga Valdemara ****

<https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/park-inn-riga-valdemara>

Park Inn by Radisson Riga Barona ****

<https://www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/park-inn-riga-barona>

Ibis Riga Centre ***

<http://ibisrigacentre.lv/>

Primo Hotel ***

<https://www.primohotel.lv/>

Rija Domus Hotel ***

<https://www.rijahotels.com/en/hotels/rija-domus-hotel>

Hotel Janne ***

<http://hoteljanne.lv/en/>

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About Latvia

The Republic of Latvia is a country in the Baltic region of Northern Europe. It is one of the Baltic states and is bordered by Estonia to the north, Lithuania to the south, Russia to the east, Belarus to the southeast, and shares a maritime border with Sweden to the west. Latvia covers an area of 64,589 km², with a population of 1.9 million. The country has a temperate seasonal climate. Its capital and largest city is Riga. Latvians belong to the ethno-linguistic group of the Balts and speak Latvian, one of the only two surviving Baltic languages. Russians are the most prominent minority in the country, at almost a quarter of the population. After centuries of Teutonic, Swedish, Polish-Lithuanian and Russian rule, which was mainly executed by the local Baltic German aristocracy, the independent Republic of Latvia was established on 18 November 1918 when it broke away from the German Empire and declared independence in the aftermath of World War I.

The country's de facto independence was interrupted at the outset of World War II, beginning with Latvia's forcible incorporation into the Soviet Union, followed by the invasion and occupation by Nazi Germany in 1941, and the re-occupation by the Soviets in 1944 to form the Latvian SSR for the next 45 years. The peaceful Singing Revolution started in 1987, and ended with the restoration of de facto independence on 21 August 1991. Since then, Latvia has been a democratic unitary parliamentary republic.

More information:

<https://www.latvia.travel/en/about-latvia>



Emergency numbers in Latvia

- Ambulance and medical assistance 113
- Fire and rescue service 112
- Police 110

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About Riga

Riga is the capital and largest city of Latvia. Besides its geographical location and complex history Riga is a very interesting city to visit. The city is more than 800 years old with a great variety of different cultural influences – western as well as eastern. Riga offers dynamic cultural life. Latvian National Opera gathers world-level artists. Concert halls regularly offer classical and popular music concerts, exhibition halls present works of world-known classical and contemporary cultural life of Riga is generous in various manifestations.

Architecture of Riga is beautiful and diverse. Heritage of 800 years old Gothic churches, built by founders of Riga, medieval buildings in the Old Town, exquisite Art Nouveau, as well as wooden buildings make Riga a true pearl of architecture.

Riga's restaurants offer fusion cuisine, where one can taste Latvian traditional meals, and original meals offering an astonishing combination of tastes and taking you for an exciting gastronomic journey. The Old Town is cut out for leisurely shopping – little shops offering souvenirs, art galleries are settled in the narrow streets of the Old Town, but shopping centers offer items both of foreign and local brands.



Places to see in Riga:

- Old Town
- Āgenskalns market
- Latvian National Museum of Art
- National Library
- The Academy of Sciences
- The Open-Air Ethnographic Museum

More information:

<https://www.liveriga.com/en/>