

Emerging Bioethical Challenges in a Changing World

Prague, 25–28 August 2027

Organised by the [European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Healthcare](#) and [the Second Faculty of Medicine, Charles University, Prague](#).

Call for abstracts

Bioethics faces increasingly complex challenges. Armed conflicts, humanitarian crises, climate change, emerging infectious diseases, erosion of the rules-based international order and growing geopolitical instability are placing profound pressure on health systems, human rights and international solidarity. At the same time, advances in medical technology, including AI, gene editing, metabolic drugs, robotic-assisted surgery, wearables and remote monitoring, are transforming medicine and healthcare. Yet advanced therapies and preventive interventions are unevenly accessible, with much of their development and supply concentrated in high-income countries. Against this background, the conference invites contributions that critically examine emerging bioethical challenges in a changing world. Topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Global crises, displacement and vulnerability • Armed conflict and the protection of health workers, facilities and patients • Climate change and intergenerational responsibility • Forced displacement, migration and access to healthcare • Emerging infectious disease threats and pandemic preparedness • Vulnerable populations and obligations across borders Democratic norms, human rights and bioethics • Democratic backsliding and political polarisation. • Human rights, the rule of law and the right to health • Professional integrity and dual loyalty in politically contested environments Equitable access and global health justice • Technological innovation and unequal access to healthcare • Intellectual property and the right to health • Capacity-building, technology transfer and the fair distribution of benefits from innovation	Research ethics and global exploitation • Ethical standards in international clinical trials • Post-trial access obligations • Data sovereignty and genetic data collection • Fair benefit-sharing Global bioethics and cross-cultural dialogue • Moral pluralism and cross-cultural approaches to bioethics • Postcolonial critiques and epistemic justice in bioethics • Solidarity, global governance and shared responsibility Beyond individual autonomy • Pros and cons of autonomy-based approaches • Relational and collective approaches to healthcare decisions • Vulnerability, dependency and relationality in care
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Researchers wishing to present a paper at the conference are invited to submit an abstract of no more than 500 words, (**Word** format) by **1 March 2027**, to Bert Gordijn, Secretary of the ESPMH [bert.gordijn@dcu.ie]. Please include the proposed paper title, the author's name(s), and contact email address. Accepted abstracts will be scheduled for oral presentation.