**29th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE**

**ON PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE**

**Medicalisation**

**19-22 August, 2015**

**Ghent, Belgium**

 **Call for Abstracts**

This conference will be organised by the European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Healthcare (ESPMH, see <http://espmh.org>) and the Bioethics Institute Ghent. The focus of the conference is on Medicalisation. When Ivan Illich launched his critique on the medical establishment, medicalisation became a synonym for a perverted evolution in Western health care. Since then, it has mainly been used as a criticism of people’s oppression by the health establishment, and has led to a call for resistance to the medical establishment. Since Illich’s criticism, the world has changed profoundly, and medicine with it. Thus, our analysis of medicalisation must take account of these developments. Recent discussions have focused on the changing engines or drivers of medicalisation, the shift to a new techno-scientific era of biomedicalisation and pharmaceuticalisation, and other calls to rethink or go beyond medicalisation as originally framed. How to unravel the numerous meanings and contexts of a concept so central to many discussions in philosophy of medicine, ethics and elsewhere? Medicalisation represents far more than a critique of medicine as such and therefore, this conference aims to unravel its current analytical potential and to develop novel analyses in philosophy and ethics, in contemporary society and in medicine. Abstracts addressing these issues in the following categories will be favoured:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Medicalisation: Conceptual analyses*** History of the concept
* Commercialisation and globalisation
* Pharmaceuticalisation
* Biomedicalisation
* Geneticisation
* Cost-benefit analysis

**Enhanced selves, medicalised selves and normality*** Genetic information
* DSM V
* Self-enhancement
* Children and behaviour
* Transhumanism

**Reproduction*** Medically assisted reproduction
* Pregnancy
* Fertility preservation
* Reproductive care
* Preconception planning and behaviour
 | **End of life*** Advance directives
* Terminal sedation
* Euthanasia and physician assisted suicide
* Nursing perspectives
* Ageing

**Prevention and lifestyle*** Health promotion and prevention
* Nudges and freedom
* Food politics
* Lifestyle and individual responsibility
* Consumption patterns
 |

The programme of the conference includes plenary sessions as well as parallel sessions. Anyone wishing to present a paper at the conference should submit an abstract (500 words maximum) before March 1, 2015. The Conference Programme Committee will select abstracts for oral presentation. Please send abstracts by e-mail to: Professor Bert Gordijn, Secretary of the ESPMH, Institute of Ethics, Dublin City University, Dublin 9, Ireland (E-mail: bert.gordijn@dcu.ie).