

**28th EUROPEAN CONFERENCE
ON PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE**

Bioethics and Bio-politics

**27 – 30 August, 2014
Debrecen, Hungary**

This conference will be organised by the European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Healthcare (ESPMH) and the Department of Behavioural Sciences, University of Debrecen, Hungary.

Focus

The term “bio-politics” is either used as a philosophical or sociological term referring to the works of Negri, Agamben, Rose, or Foucault, who focused on the contemporary style of governing populations through bio-power, or as an umbrella concept referring to public policies regarding applications of biotechnology and the life sciences. Both usages suggest, that bio-politics is a central concept for modern societies. At the same time bioethics has become increasingly interdisciplinary and ever more politicized. Bioethical issues figure in presidential campaigns and parliamentary elections. Bioethicists are advisors for governments and frame recommendations for public policies. Bioethics and bio-politics have become deeply interwoven activities.

If bioethics and bio-politics are highly interwoven, then how should we understand their relationship? Does politics corrupt bioethics? How does bioethics affect policy-making? How has bioethics been affected by its role in policy-making?

Abstracts addressing these issues in the following topics will be favoured, although work on other topics can also be submitted:

Theories and concepts

Bio-sociality
Bio-citizens
Biopiracy
Frankfurt School and bio-politics
Bio-power and globalization
Foucauldian heritage

The role of bioethics in bio-politics

Intergovernmental organizations in bioethics (UNESCO, WHO, Council of Europe, etc.)
Human rights law and bioethics
Bioethics in the policy-making process
Advisory bodies and commissions;
Ethics committees
Deliberative processes and bioethics

Historical and empirical aspects of bio-politics

Population policies
Eugenics
Public health
Medicalization
Reproductive control as a form of bio-politics

Bio-political issues and bioethical perspectives

End-of-life decisions
Reproductive medicine
Research with human beings
Organ transplantation
Patients' rights
Justice in healthcare
Conflicts of interests
Human enhancement

Important Dates

1 March 2014:	deadline for submission of abstracts
1 st half of March 2014:	selection of abstracts
2 nd half of March 2014:	draft programme
1 April 2014:	first deadline for registration and payment

Language

The language during the conference will be English.

Organization

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

ESPMH Secretary

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Local Conference Coordinator

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Abstract Submission

Please send your abstract by email to the secretary of the ESPMH.

N.B: please provide a suitable abstract title and add your name and email address.

Registration

In order to register a registration form can be downloaded from the ESPMH website at www.espmh.org and should be emailed to the secretary of the ESPMH.

Registration Fee

Registration fees for *participants* include:

Welcome reception (Wednesday),
two lunches and refreshments during breaks,
conference dinner (Friday evening),
and an abstract book.

Registration fees for *accompanying persons* include:

Welcome reception (Wednesday) and
conference dinner (Friday).

N.B: registration fees will be higher after the 1st of April 2014. Fees should be transferred to the ESPMH Treasurer (details provided on the registration form).

Registration fees for participants who are not a member of ESPMH are higher than for ESPMH members.

Participants:

Paid before 1 April 2014:

ESPMH member:	380 Euro
Non member:	430 Euro

Paid after 1 April 2014:

ESPMH member:	440 Euro
Non member:	490 Euro

Accompanying Person:

Paid before 1 April 2014:	90 Euro
Paid after 1 April 2014:	110 Euro

Accommodation

Accommodation in Debrecen is the responsibility of conference participants themselves. The Department of Behavioural Sciences has reserved a contingency of rooms in several hotels close to the conference site. From a 5 star hotel to a pension or hostel prices for a room vary between 100 – 25 EUR per night. A list of hotels will be available on the ESPMH website and at the conference's facebook site at www.facebook.com/espmh2014. Online booking services, like www.booking.com, are not generally used by some hotels, so it is advisable to look at the homepage of specific hotels for bookings.

Hotel Divinus,***** approx. 85 EUR <http://www.hoteldivinus.hu/>

Hotel Óbester, **** approx. 65 EUR <http://hotelobester.hotelswhiz.info/>
 Hotel Lycium, **** approx. 65 EUR <http://www.hotellycium.hu/>
 Hunguest Hotel Nagyerdő, *** approx. 45 EUR <http://www.hortusnaturaehotels.hu/hotel-nagyerdo/szalloda-bemutatas.en.php>
 West-Hostel, Hunép-OEC, approx. 35 EUR <http://www.westhostel.hu/bemutato.en.php>

For a general overview of other options see: <http://eng.debreceen.hu/home/guide/accomodation>.

Getting to Debrecen

By train

Debrecen lies on the No. 100 line of Budapest-Szolnok-Debrecen-Nyíregyháza-Záhony direction, not incidental therefore that this is one of the most developed railway junctions of the country. At the same time, Debrecen also enables international transportation by train to Romania, Ukraine and Slovakia as well. The MÁV (Magyar Államvasutak, Hungarian State Railway Company) supports the major lines with InterCity (IC) trains.

From Debrecen to Budapest and back at least 1 Inter City train per hour is available in the 6 h – 20 h period every day. For time tables see <http://www.elvira.hu/english/index.php>

By air

Directly to Debrecen Airport: Wizzair currently operates international flights from London Luton (4 days/week), and also from Eindhoven (2 days/week). Germania operates occasional flights from Berlin. More flights are announced from March 2014 (<http://www.debreceenairport.com/?lang=en>).

Indirectly: via Budapest- Liszt Ferenc (BUD) International Airport <http://www.bud.hu/english>. The old name of the airport is Ferihegy. It serves a great number of international airlines. From Budapest Airport take bus number 200E to Ferihegy train station (20 min.) where you can take an intercity train to Debrecen.

From Budapest Airport to Debrecen it is advisable to make an online reservation for a shuttle service. For example:

<http://www.civistranszfer.hu/index.php?lang=en>
http://www.el-szallit.hu/en_EN/kezdolap
<http://agoratrans.hu/information-fees-special-offers>

By car

From Budapest, the M3 continues as the M35 highway directly leading to Debrecen. The journey from the capital takes approximately 2-2,5 hours. Other regional centres can easily be reached from Debrecen: you can reach Miskolc and Nyíregyháza – and through these Slovakia and the Ukraine – on highways M35 and M3, or M30. Debrecen is also a gate to Romania, which can be reached directly on road No. 47 via the border town of Ártánd.

Currency

The currency in Debrecen is the Hungarian Forint (HUF). Foreign currency can be easily exchanged at banks or exchange offices. Visa and Master cards are widely accepted. ATMs can be found at several places both in the city centre and in the campus area. Some shops accept Euro banknotes as well.

Visa

Please contact your local consulate for details.

Social Programme

The following social activities will be offered:

- Welcome reception on Wednesday (27 August)
- Conference dinner on Friday (29 August)
- Excursions and tours for participants and accompanying persons for an extra fee.

Abstract Booklet

All participants will be provided with a Programme & Venue information booklet and with an Abstract Booklet. Both will be handed out in Debrecen at registration. Full manuscripts 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 (see [MEPH](#)) and to submit an appropriately prepared article online for review.

About Hungary

You can find all information at <http://gotohungary.com/>

About Debrecen

Debrecen is the second largest city of Hungary with its 200.000 inhabitants. Famous for its university and spas and the old Calvinist College (1538). It hosts some internationally acknowledged museum collections and a recently established trendy museum for modern arts. It has a good public transport, and a relaxed atmosphere. Further information can be found at <http://eng.debrecen.hu/> or <http://www.debrecencity.com/en>

University of Debrecen

The university is the second largest in Hungary, it has 800 PhD students, 30.000 undergraduate and graduate students, and 2400 international students from 46 countries. The Medical and Health Sciences Center of the University houses also one of the largest and best hospital facilities in Hungary. Further information can be found at <http://www.unideb.hu/portal/en>

Department of Behavioral Sciences, Medical and Health Sciences Center

The Department was established in 1997. It has an extensive educational role in the Center, focusing on medical psychology, anthropology, sociology, ethics and philosophy. The Department hosts the Hungarian Working Group for the Cambridge Consortium on Bioethics Education (www.mti.deoec.hu/bomm) and gives editorial support to *Meditor*, a Hungarian journal for applied ethics. Ongoing research activities within philosophy of medicine and bioethics include the ethical issues in disasters, publication ethics and scientific integrity, therapeutic misconception and the ethics of clinical trials, medicalization, paternalism and end-of-life issues.

Further information can be found at www.mti.deoec.hu.