

Bioethics within public lectures

Bioethics Society of Serbia (BDS) was established in 2008 at the Faculty of Medicine University of Belgrade and the main purpose of this non-profit organization is development of bioethics, bioethical education and bioethical researches. The founders are numerous experts from different scientific disciplines and humanities whose research focuses on different segments of bioethics. Members of BDS (114) have intensive international cooperation (conferences, meetings). BDS has 11 honoured members from abroad.

BDS organizes public debates and lectures every month in Belgrade Youth Centre on different bioethical issues. BDS finds these public debates and lectures as very important for future public perception of numerous bioethical issues. During 2012, 2013 and 2014. BDS considered these issues: Complementary medicine in Serbia; Problems of assisted reproduction; Ethical aspects of animal welfare; Relationship patient-physician (book promotion, authoress S. Radenović); Euthanasia –legal, medical and ethical aspects; What students know about their health?; Folic acid and its application in Serbia; On moral enhancement; On philosophy of suicide; Genetically modified organisms; Ethical, medical and legal aspects of organ and tissue transplantation; Human trafficking; Ethics of martial arts: the fight or chivalry?; On challenges of transplantation in Serbia and abroad; Human trafficking and sports; Problems of doping; Stigmatisation of professionals in psychiatry–burden of profession or social attitude of environment?; What should be changed in the Law of Organ Transplantation?; How patients in Serbia understand their doctors?; Asylum crisis; Music – Art or Medicine?; The right to die with dignity – euthanasia in modern legal discourse (cooperation with the Center for the Study of Bioethics); Accept hand and help – employ person with disabilities; Bioethics and cinema; Sociability in the internet age (book promotion, author D. Petrović); Hidden War; Prostitution and Trafficking; Corruption as a disease or business, presentation of online magazine „Firefly“. BDS is planning to publish the proceedings on these mentioned issues.

Bioethics Society of Serbia in cooperation with Belgrade Youth Centre organized humanitarian action of collecting books for the library “Vlada Aksentijević” in

Obrenovac. This library lost about 25.000 books in the catastrophic floods during May 2014. This humanitarian action under the title “Bring Books – Save Library” started on Friday, 10th October and finished on Monday, 13th October. During the action, the citizens of Belgrade donated more than 7.000 books for the library. Faculty of Sport and Physical Education University of Belgrade, Faculty of Forestry University of Belgrade and Police Academy University of Belgrade also took part in our action and donated books for the library¹.

Finally, BDS is also preparing the changes of the Law of Organ Transplantation². We plan to implement a multidisciplinary project on the prevention of organ trade, we plan to organize numerous public lectures within International campaign 16 days of women’s activism, and also, we plan to support certain sports and humanitarian actions in our society.

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¹ See: http://www.mfub.bg.ac.rs/sr/centri/bds/index.dot?host_id=6023.

² See: <http://www.mfub.bg.ac.rs/dotAsset/68534.pdf>.

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