

Prof. José Roberto Goldim (Brazil) – the winner of the 2nd Annual Fritz Jahr International Award for Research and Promotion of European Bioethics, 2017



Prof. José Roberto Goldim,
Photo by Vedran Karuza, (2017)

The winner of the 2nd Annual Fritz Jahr International Award for Research and Promotion of European Bioethics, 2017 is Professor José Roberto Goldim from Brazil. The award is presented to scholar or institution, which portrays efforts, qualities and achievements in the research and promotion of European Bioethics. It is given by the Centre of Research Excellence for Integrative Bioethics at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb and one of the Centre of Research

Excellence for Integrative Bioethics' constituent units, The University of Rijeka Documentation and Research Centre for European Bioethics *Fritz Jahr*. The awarding ceremony took place on the 12th of May this year at the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Studies of the University of Rijeka on the occasion of the *19th Rijeka Days of Bioethics Conference*. This year's award was delivered to the winner by Prof. Amir Muzur, Director of the *Fritz Jahr* Centre, in the presence of Prof. Tomislav Rukavina, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Rijeka.

José Roberto Goldim is a Professor of bioethics at the Faculty of Medicine at the Rio Grande do Sul Catholic University and Head of Research Ethics Committee at the Clinical Hospital in Porto Alegre. Before 1988/1989 his main interests were in pharmacology and cardiology. After establishing cooperation with Prof. Joaquim Clotet, who was the first to teach bioethics in Brazil in late 1980's, bioethics has been a particular focus of Prof. Goldim's attention. Prof. Goldim and Prof. Clotet founded the first two Brazilian Research Ethics Committees in Porto Alegre. José Roberto Goldim obtained his PhD after the public defence of his thesis about informed consent in 1999. He was the first researcher to divulge in the Fritz Jahr's paper published in *Kosmos* journal in 1927. In 2004 he published its Portuguese translation on his research group's web site dedicated to the bioethical issues. Prof. Goldim is the author of the concept of the *Complex Bioethics*. It implies a pragmatic approach to the bioethics. According to Prof. Goldim, this is the concept that can transmit bioethics to real world, a tool that allows the use of different ethical approaches to the decision-making process in healthcare, research and elsewhere, a concept similar to the integrative bioethics' approach. During awarding ceremony Prof. Goldim pointed out the importance of cooperation in the field of bioethics at the international level, because many problems are perceived differently in different countries, but human beings are the same everywhere. He also stressed that the Rijeka's and the Porto Alegre's bioethical groups should realize joint projects in the future to evaluate how the intercultural issues have affected or have not affected the bioethical perspectives.

As a part of the award, Prof. Goldim and his wife, Márcia Santana Fernandes, PhD, a lawyer and researcher at the Research Laboratory for Bioethics and Ethics at the Clinical Hospital in Porto Alegre and Coordinator of the Association of Judges of the Federal Republic of Rio Grande do Sul, were guests of the *16th Lošinj Days of Bioethics* held in Mali Lošinj, Croatia from 14th to 17th of May this year. Prof. Goldim presented his plenary lecture *Bioethics in Latin America* there.

Robert Doričić