

Prof. Fernando Lolas Stepke (Chile) – the Winner of the 3rd Annual Fritz Jahr International Award for Research and Promotion of European Bioethics, 2018



Prof. Fernando Lolas Stepke

The winner of the 3rd Annual “Fritz Jahr” International Award for Research and Promotion of European Bioethics that was awarded by the *Fritz Jahr* Documentation and Research Centre for European Bioethics of University of Rijeka and the Centre of Research Excellence for Integrative Bioethics at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb is Professor Fernando Lolas Stepke from Chile. The official award ceremony was held on May

18th, 2018 at the Faculty of Health Studies in Rijeka. The prize was awarded to Professor Lolas by Professor Amir Muzur, Director of the *Fritz Jahr* Centre. Along with the award, Professor Alan Štusić, Dean of the Faculty of Health Studies, handed over Professor Lolas a Diploma of conferring the title of Visiting Lecturer of the Faculty of Health Studies. Accompanied by his wife Luz Carolina Echevarría and Ambassador of the Republic of Chile in Croatia, Juan Luis Nilo, Professor Lolas gave a lecture titled “Anthropological Medicine of the Heidelberg School” (with special regard to the contributions of Viktor von Weizsäcker and Paul Christian), and a few days later, during the 17th Lošinj Days of Bioethics in Mali Lošinj, Croatia, he

held the plenary lecture named “The Hermeneutical Dimension of the Bioethical Enterprise”.

Professor Fernando Lolas Stepke is a psychiatrist specialized in psychosomatic medicine, educated in Germany and the United States of America. He is an enthusiast for history and literature. His main area of work is at the Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics Studies and Program of Global Bioethics of the Institute for International Studies at the University of Chile as a Director, and as a vice-Director of Chilean High Council for Education. Professor Lolas is also a member of the International Commission for Bioethics of UNESCO, the Ethical Commission of World Association for Psychiatrists and the World Federation of Association for Biological Psychiatry. As one of the most influential bioethicists in the Latin America and despite being a psychiatrist, he noted that the psychiatrist’s profession depends on the area a psychiatrist is working in, and that a psychiatrist always has to deal at the same time with ethical problems, group analysis and group interactions. Although the principles of bioethics in Latin America are under the influence of the USA, Professor Lolas points out the influence and similarities between Europe and Latin America, mostly because of the cultural heritage that Latin America has inherited from Europe. Professor Lolas had an important role in the Panamerican Health Organization (PAHO) which is a part of the World Health Organization (WHO). He is also a member of the Chilean Language Academy, the Royal Spanish Academy and an Honorary Doctor of a few universities across Argentina, Brazil and Peru. In addition to being a member of the Advisory Board of the journal *Jahr*, he is also the Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Acta Bioethica*.

Toni Buterin