

World Bioethics Day 2023 – Concept & Information

The UNESCO General Conference unanimously adopted the **Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights** on October 19, 2005. Since 2016, the International Network of the **International Chair in Bioethics** (Porto, cooperation partner of the World Medical Association), therefore celebrates the World Bioethics Day in October. At more than 260 locations on six continents of the network, events are organized by the participating universities and educational institutions to recall **Article 16** of the Declaration this year in October on the 8th World Bioethics Day. This article calls for "**protecting future generations**".

We from "**ethucation**" (ethics and education), the **Austrian branch** of the International Network, would like to take this opportunity to look at this appeal formulated in Article 16 and its implications from the perspectives of bioethics, law and medicine in an interdisciplinary event.

It has long been clear that the inherent interconnectedness of **humans, animals and the environment** requires a "One Health" strategy, as demanded by WHO and other International Organizations. We need to put this concept into practice to ensure health and well-being, i.e. "a healthy life for all people of all ages and to promote their well-being" (SDG 3 of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals). Only if the global community boldly implements these demands and goals, "protection of future generations" may be realistic. Thus, this goal of the future implies the realization of health and well-being in the present, raising the issue of responsibility and care between generations.

In the event "**Protecting Future Generations - Ethics between Generations**", we will discuss medical, legal and ethical aspects of the implementation of "**One Health**". What are the medical challenges of the climate crisis? What are the prospects of climate lawsuits in court? How to implement intergenerational responsibility and care for each other in health care structures? What does SDG3 (health and well-being) mean in this context? Finally yet importantly, how can and must we, as members of research and educational institutions, promote the "One Health" or the "Planetary Health" approach?

Expert inputs will be given by **lawyer Michaela Krömer** (St. Pölten) on "**Status and Prospects of Climate Lawsuits**", and by **Lukas Kenner, Professor of Experimental Pathology**, Medical University of Vienna and member of the Bioethics Commission on "**Medicine & Climate**". A **group of students** (MUI, LFUI, MCI, UMIT) will develop ideas on "**Designing Futures**" in a workshop with **Antje Bierwisch (Professor of Innovation & Entrepreneurship, MCI)** and report on them at the event. Following this, the speakers and other experts will **discuss** on the podium and with the audience. Afterwards there will be an opportunity for an informal exchange of ideas over drinks.

The event will take place on Thursday, October 12, 2023, from 16 to approx. 19 h. We will announce location and the exact program later.