

Introduction

One of the main tasks of the research group “Challenges to the Image of Humanity and Human Dignity by New Developments in Medical Technology” is to deploy the concept of human dignity for a morally responsible and socially acceptable development and application of novel medical technologies. This includes the challenge to clarify the relationship of de facto concepts of human dignity in different social and cultural contexts and the normative justification of these concepts. The workshop “Dignity. Empirical, cultural, and normative Dimensions” will introduce into the intercultural debate on human dignity and analyse the relevance of intercultural differences for philosophical concepts of human dignity. Furthermore, the possible contribution of the empirical social sciences to an ethics of human dignity will be discussed from a practical as well as theoretical viewpoint.

Conference Program

Friday, July 16

9.00-9.20 Welcome Address by *Britta Padberg*, Executive Secretary of the ZiF

Section I Dignity as Object of the Social Sciences and Moral Philosophy

Chair: *Marcus Düwell*

9.20-10.00 *Rafael Pardo-Avellaneda and Felix Thiele*: Public perceptions of the concept of ‘dignity’ and attitudes to emerging biomedical technologies

10.00-10.20 *Commentary by Alfons Bora*

10.20-11.00 Discussion

11.00-11.30 Coffee Break

11.30-12.00 *Gesa Lindemann*: Ethics and Social Sciences – a marred relationship

12.00-12.30 Discussion

12.30 Lunch

Chair: *Reinold Schmücker*

14.30-15.00 *Ole Döring*: Dignity: A philosophical perspective on the bioethical debate and a case example on China

15.00-15.30 Discussion

15.30-16.00 *Tanja Krones*: Dignity as an argument in the discussion on reproductive choices and the status of the embryo

16.00-16.30 Discussion

16.30-17.00 Coffee Break

Chair: *Felix Thiele*

17.00-17.30 *Altan Heper*: The human dignity in the intercultural context

17.30-18.00 Discussion

18.00-18.30 *Dieter Birnbacher*: Human dignity: The relation of ethics and social science

18.30-19.00 Discussion

19.00 Dinner at ZiF

Saturday, July 17

Section II Dignity in Intercultural Context

Chair: *Georg Lohmann*

9.00-9.30 *Mohammed Ghaly*: Human Dignity in Islam: The Relevance for Contemporary Bioethical Discussions

among Muslim Religious Scholars

9.30-10.00 Discussion

10.00-10.30 *Ulrich Körtner*: Human dignity and medical ethics from a theological perspective

10.30-11.00 Discussion

11.00-11.30 Coffee Break

Chair: *Stefan Seiterle*

11.30-12.10 *Yasushi Kato and Keiko Matsui Gibson*: Bioethics in modern Japan: The case for “Dignity of life”

12.10-12.40 Discussion

12.40 Lunch and Departure

SPEAKERS

Prof. Dr. Dieter Birnbacher
Heinrich-Heine University
Düsseldorf
Institute for Philosophy

Prof. Dr. Yasushi Kato
Nanzan University
Faculty of Foreign Studies

Prof. Dr. Alfons Bora
Bielefeld University
Institute for Science &
Technology Studies (IWT)

Prof. Dr. Dr. Ulrich H. J. Körtner
University of Vienna
Faculty of Protestant
Theology
Department of Systematic
Theology and the Study of
Religions

Dr. Ole Döring
German Institute of Global
and Area Studies (GIGA)
Institute of Asian Studies
Hamburg

PD Dr. Tanja Krones
University of Zurich
Institute of Biomedical
Ethics
Executive of the Clinical
Ethics Committee of the
University Hospital Zurich

Ass. Prof. Dr. Mohammed Ghaly
Leiden University
Institute for Religious
Studies

Prof. Dr. Gesa Lindemann
University of Oldenburg
Department of Social
Sciences

Prof. Dr. Keiko Matsui Gibson
Kanda University
International Studies

Prof. Dr. Rafael Pardo-Avellaneda
BBVA Foundation
Madrid

Dr. Dr. Altan Heper
University of Würzburg
Faculty of Law
Attorney at Law
Istanbul and Stuttgart
Lecturer at University
Tübingen

PD Dr. Felix Thiele
Europäische Akademie
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ZiF Research Group:

"Challenges to the Image of Humanity and Human Dignity by New Developments in Medical Technology"

[http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/\(en\)/ZiF/FG/2009Medizintechnik/veranstaltungen.html](http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/(en)/ZiF/FG/2009Medizintechnik/veranstaltungen.html)

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Dignity

Empirical, Cultural, and Normative Dimensions

Workshop of the
ZiF Research Group
"Human Dignity
and Medical
Technology"

July 16 - 17, 2010

Organizers
Prof. Dr. Jan C. Joerden, Frankfurt (Oder)
Prof. Dr. Dr. Eric Hilgendorf, Würzburg
PD Dr. Felix Thiele, Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler
<http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/ZiF/FG/2009Medizintechnik/>

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