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27.10.2009

Conference on "The Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine: 10 years on"

Date: 3 November 2009

Venue: Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe, Room 1 (Strasbourg)

Organisers : The Council of Europe Steering Committee on Bioethics (CDBI) and the Slovenian authorities, under the Slovenian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers

Description: The aim of this Conference is to consider the impact of the [European Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine](#) (also known as the Oviedo Convention), its topicality and the timelessness of the principles which it lays down. The following topics will be examined and discussed at the Conference:

- the impact of the Convention in both legislative and practical terms;
- the reasons for the failure of some States to ratify the Convention;
- if appropriate, the extent of the challenge to some of the principles in present-day reality.

Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and Borut Miklavcic, Minister for Health of the Republic of Slovenia, will open the Conference.

Will speak at the event, among specialists, scientists, experts in health law :

- Prof. Herman Nys, Director of the Centre for Biomedical Ethics and Law, Leuven University, Belgium
- Prof. Göran Hermeren, Chair of the European Committee of Ethics of Sciences and New Technologies of the European Commission
- Prof. Sheila McLean, Member of the UNESCO International Bioethics Committee
- Prof. Sadek Beloucif, Chair of Steering Committee of the Biomedecine Agency, France
- Dr Nancy Berlinger, Deputy Director, The Hastings Center, United States of America
- Jean-Paul Costa, President of the European Court of Human Rights.

[Link to the Programme](#)

Note to editors

The [Conference](#) is **open to the media** and will be broadcast **live** on the website www.coe.int. The opening sitting will begin at 9 am.

Press contact (requests for interviews in particular) :

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