

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN BIOETHICS:
THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

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SAVREMENI PROBLEMI U BIOETICI:
NACIONALNI I REGIONALNI KONTEKST

Rada Drezgić and Vojin Rakić (eds.)

Priredili Rada Drezgić i Vojin Rakić

Introductory Note

The collection of articles in front of you, reader, is the product of primarily Serbian authors, participants of the conference (*New Perspectives on Bioethics*), an international event that took place on 13-15 October 2011 at the Institute for Philosophy and Social Theory of the University of Belgrade. It is largely the result of the work of researchers on the subproject “Bioethical Aspects: Morally Acceptable Within the Biotechnologically and Socially Possible” within the larger project “Rare Diseases: Molecular Pathophysiology, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Modalities, and Social, Ethical, and Legal Aspects”, funded as of 2011 by the Serbian Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development (project # 41004). The texts in the collection differ among each other both thematically and in terms of quality (so much that the editors abstained even from dividing them into subsections), but have in common that they reflect the current state of bioethics in Serbia. This state can be characterized by less or more laudable terms, but what is beyond doubt is that the proliferation of publications dealing with bioethics in the previous years in Serbia clearly testifies about an enhanced interest of the academic public in the discipline. This publication offers one more piece of evidence for that.

Apart from contributions of Serbian authors, it also features articles by the Italian bioethicist Sivia Salardi and the philosopher from Croatia Snježana Prijčić Samaržija. Both authors have participated in the mentioned conference and cooperate with Serbian bioethicists who have contributed to this volume. Some other conference participants, both from Serbia and abroad, have offered their presentations for publication elsewhere. Some of them have published their conference talks in foreign volumes and journals, having written entirely new texts for this publication. All in all, this collection is both in terms of content and structure a good reflection of the diversity that characterizes the state of bioethics in Serbia.

Vojin Rakić