

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN CHURCHES

« Human life in our hands ? The Churches and Bioethics »

A CEC consultation – Strasbourg (France)

27 – 29 November 2003

Under the auspices of Mr Walter Schwimmer,

Secretary General of the Council of Europe

In co-operation with the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe » (CPCE) and

the “Centre de Sociologie des Religions et d’Ethique sociale” of the

University Marc Bloch from Strasbourg,

With the support of Interpharma, the Conseil Général du Bas-Rhin, the Region Alsace and
the Uniting Protestant Churches in the Netherlands

Thursday 27 November 2003

9.30 - 11.45 : welcome and registration of participants in the hall of the Ciarus

12.00 – 13.00 : lunch at the self-service of the Ciarus

13.15 : departure for the **Council of Europe** by special bus
formalities to get in for security reasons : **don’t forget your identity papers,
with photo !**

Moderator : Dr Egbert SCHROTEN, Professor of Christian ethics at the University of Utrecht (Netherlands), Director of the Academic Centre for Bioethics and Law of Health, President of the National Committee on animal Biotechnology of the Netherlands.

14.30 – 15.15

- Opening and presentation of the consultation by Revd. Rüdiger NOLL, Director of the Church and Society Commission and Associate Secretary General of CEC
- Welcome by a senior officer of the Council of Europe
- “CEC and Bioethics” by Dr SCHROTEN, Moderator of the former Working Group of CEC on the topic.

“Genetic testing, liberty and discrimination”

15.15 – 16.15 : introduction to the topic and points of view of the Churches by :

- Dr Andrea DÖRRIES, paediatrician and human geneticist, Director of the “Zentrum für Gesundheitsethik an der Evangelischen Akademie Loccum, Hannover” (Germany), member of the former working group of CEC
- Dr Stavros BALOYANNIS, Professor of Neurology, Director of the Department of Neurology at the Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki (Greece), member of the former working group of CEC
- Dr Jean-François COLLANGE, Professor of Ethics at the Faculty of Protestant theology in Strasbourg (France), member of the French national consultative ethics committee, member of the former working group of CEC

16.15 – 16.45 : coffee break

16.45 – 18.15 : round table on **“Religions and bioethics”** with representatives of

the Catholic Church : Professor Marie-Jo Thiel, professor of ethics and moral theology, Catholic Faculty of Theology, Marc Bloch University, Strasbourg
the Jewish religion : Mr Francis Weill, MD Emeritus, Medical Faculty, Besançon
the Muslim religion : Mr Mohamed Latahy, former president of the Mosque of Strasbourg

18.15 : return to the Ciarus and dinner at the self-service

20.15 : celebration in a Protestant church in Strasbourg, followed by a drink

Friday 28 November 2003 at the Ciarus

- Moderator : Dr Mireille JEMELIN, Professor of organic chemistry and biochemistry at the Ecole supérieure de Santé de Lausanne (Switzerland), representative of the Federation of Swiss Protestant Churches in the discussion group between Pharmaceutical Industries and Churches, member of the former working group of CEC

“Prenatal and pre-implantation diagnosis : the question of eugenism”

9.00 – 9.15 : meditation

9.15 – 10.15 : introduction to the topic and points of view of the Churches by :

- Dr Anna ROLLIER, researcher in biology and genetics, Professor at the Faculty of Medicine in Milan (Italy), member of the former working group of CEC
- Revd. Anton ILIN, medical doctor and theologian, Secretary of the Representation of the Russian Orthodox Church in Brussels (Belgium), member of the former working group of CEC
- Dr Ulrich KÖRTNER, Professor of Theology, President of the Institute for systematic theology and of the Institute for Ethics and Law in Medicine at the University of Vienna (Austria)

10.15 – 11.00 : discussion in small groups on one of the two topics : “Genetic testing” or “Prenatal and pre-implantation diagnosis”

11.00 – 11.30 : coffee break

11.30 – 12.30 : discussion in small groups (continued)

12.45 – 14.00 : lunch at the self-service of the Ciarus

“Regenerative medicine and respect of the embryo”

14.00 – 15.00 : introduction to the topic and points of view of the Churches by :

- Dr Donald BRUCE, Director of the Centre for « Society, Religion and Technology » of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh (United Kingdom), member of the former working group of CEC
- Dr Wilfried HAERLE, Professor of Ethics and systematic Theology at the Seminary of theological Sciences at the Faculty of Theology of Heidelberg (Germany)
- Dr Stavros BALOYANNIS (Greece)

15.00 – 15.45 : discussion in small groups

15.45 – 16.15 : coffee break

16.15 – 17.15 : discussion in small groups (continued)

17.15 – 17.30 : short break

17.30 – 19.00 : round table on “**Society, politics and bioethics**” with

