

## Theme

Vivacious ethical reflection has always been one of the central characteristics of Judaism, reflected in a centuries-old tradition of rabbinic discussion and interpretation of the Torah, the corpus of moral guidelines revealed by God to the Jewish people. As times changed Jewish authorities were time and again challenged to tackle new questions and dilemmas in accord with Jewish Scripture and moral standards. In the contemporary context as well the process of Jewish ethical reflection continues unabatedly. As a result of the achievements of modern medicine and the rapid development of biomedical technology during the past decades Judaism is challenged to formulate an answer to the bioethical questions and challenges this (r)evolution entails. Despite the rich and lively bioethical discussions among Jewish scholars and rabbis their voices often remain absent in Western European bioethical debates, led by the dominant Western ideological traditions - the Christian tradition and the non-religious humanist tradition.



In order to draw particular attention to Jewish perspectives on bioethical debates with regard to the care for ill and dying persons the **Interdisciplinary Centre for the Study of Religion and World View** organises, in cooperation with the **Faculty of Religious Studies** (Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen) and **Institutum Iudaicum** (the Interuniversity Centre for the Academic Study of Judaism in Belgium), an international academic expert seminar on Jewish end-of-life ethics. Attention will be paid to specific characteristics of Jewish (biomedical) ethics, as well as to the heterogeneous ethical perspectives in Judaism, particularly with regard to specific treatment decisions at the end of life. The aim of the international seminar is to give the floor to theoretical and empirical academic research on the topic, as well as to real-life cases and practical experiences. We invite distinguished international scholars, who are considered experts on the matter. Moreover, researchers are given the opportunity to present relevant academic research on the topic. The seminar aims at stimulating high-level academic discussion and dialogue.



## International Academic Expert Seminar

“WHOEVER SAVES A SOUL  
SAVES AN ENTIRE  
WORLD”  
JEWISH PERSPECTIVES ON  
END-OF-LIFE ETHICS

22-24 November 2010  
Leuven, Belgium



## Practical Information

### REGISTRATION

The conference fee is 50€ (including conference folder, coffee/tea and one lunch on November 23<sup>rd</sup>).

Please **register before October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010** by **submitting the online registration form:**

[http://theo.kuleuven.be/page/registration\\_seminar\\_endoflife\\_ethics/](http://theo.kuleuven.be/page/registration_seminar_endoflife_ethics/)

and by **transferring 50€** to bank account 734-0066603-70 (IBAN code: BE 60 7340 0666 0370, BIC code: KREDBEBB) with reference 400/0004/26132 + name of the participant.

For K.U.Leuven staff and students participation is free of charge, lunch excluded. Yet, registration is required.

### WHERE?

The expert seminar is held in the Faculty of Theology, Sint-Michielsstraat 4, 3000 Leuven (Belgium).

Room: COVE (Collegium Veteranorum) 02.10

### FOR WHOM?

The academic expert seminar is open for professors and students, teachers, care providers, leaders and members of religious communities, pastoral caregivers, and all those who are interested in (biomedical) ethics and Judaism.

The conference language is English.

### MORE INFORMATION

<http://theo.kuleuven.be/page/icsrw/>

## Programme

### MONDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2010

- 18.00-19.00 Registration
- 19.00-19.15 Welcome • Prof. dr. Luc Anckaert & prof. dr. Bert Broeckaert
- 19.15-20.00 (1) Approaches in Jewish Medical Ethics. A Case Study in the Methodology of Jewish Medical Ethics: Orthodox Jewish Perspectives on End-of-Life Care • dr. Alan B. Jotkowitz MD

### TUESDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2010

- 9.30-10.15 (2) Balancing Heteronomy and Autonomy at the End of Life: Orthodox Jewish Perspectives on Euthanasia • prof. dr. Daniel B. Sinclair
- 10.15-11.00 (3) Treatment Choices and Stewardship: Liberal Jewish Perspectives on (Forgoing) Curative or Life-Sustaining Treatment • prof. dr. Aaron Mackler
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee & tea
- 11.30-12.30 Discussion on lectures 1-3
- 12.30 Lunch
- 14.00-15.30 Paper Session
- 15.30-16.00 Coffee & tea

- 16.00-16.45 (4) Religion and Ethics at the End of Life: A Qualitative Empirical Study among Elderly Jewish Women in Antwerp • dra. Goedele Baeke

- 16.45-17.30 Discussion on lecture 4 & concluding discussion

### WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2010

- 9.30-11.00 Paper session
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee & tea
- 11.30-12.15 (5) Dealing with Trauma in the Care of Jewish Terminal Patients. A Jewish Hospice in the Netherlands: Real-Life Cases/Practical Experiences • dra. Sasja Martel
- 12.15-12.45 Discussion on lecture 5
- 12.45-13.00 Conclusion • prof. dr. Bert Broeckaert & prof. dr. Jean-Pierre Wils

## Contact

Goedele Baeke  
Sint-Michielsstraat 4 bus 3101  
3000 Leuven  
Belgium  
+32(0)16323811  
Goedele.Baeke@theo.kuleuven.be