UNESCO INITIATIVES IN EASTERN EUROPE IN THE FIELD OF BIOETHICS

International Conference “Bioethics and Gender”
Kazan, 21-22 November 2011

Alla Ampar, UNESCO Moscow Office
Guided by the UNESCO Strategy and principles of the “Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights”, since 2006 the Social and Human Sciences Sector of the UNESCO Moscow Office identified the following principle cluster priorities:

- establishment and support of activities of existing national bioethics committees, in line with UNESCO Programme “Assisting Bioethics Committees” (ABC)

- assistance and comprehensive support of national initiatives with respect to development of educational programmes on ethics and bioethics, in line with UNESCO Programme “Ethics Education Programme” (EEP)
“ASSISTING BIOETHICS COMMITTEES” (ABC)

2000 - 2007 National Committees on Bioethics established in all cluster countries of the UNESCO Moscow Office

Since 2008 focus on the networking and capacity-building of the Committees

CONGRESS «BIOETHICS AND HUMAN RIGHTS» (2008, Kazan, Tatarstan, Russian Federation) creation of CS Regional Network of National Bioethics Committees

Goal: to foster the exchange of information, support decision-making, develop tools for standard setting, and strengthen coordination among experts and institutions in the region
2008
ETHICS TEACHER TRAINING COURSE (Minsk, Belarus) young teachers from 8 countries became acquainted with the methodologies, methods, means and resources of teaching ethics

2009
SUBREGIONAL MEETING OF EXPERTS IN BIOETHICS TEACHING (Chisinau, Republic of Moldova) focused on issues, tendencies and perspectives of international cooperation of bioethics education

Established Sub-regional Association for Education in Bioethics is aimed at increasing capacities of CIS countries in the area of ethics education
“ETHICS EDUCATION PROGRAMME” (EEP)

2009
INTERNATIONAL OMBUDSMAN CONFERENCE “BIOETHICS, HUMAN RIGHTS AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES: LEGAL AND ETHICAL ASPECTS OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING” (Baku, Azerbaijan)

- focused on current issues in the field of human rights related to rapid developments in science and technology, as well as ethical issues raised by advances in science
2010
REGIONAL SEMINAR "BIOETHICS EDUCATION AT ARMENIAN UNIVERSITIES: PROBLEMS AND PERSPECTIVES"
dedicated to the 5th anniversary of the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights (Yerevan, Armenia)

- emphasized the importance and necessity of training of specialists and improving all activities aimed at popularizing the ideas and values of bioethics and human rights in CIS countries
Since 2010 pilot testing of Bioethics Core Curriculum was conducted in

- Lomonosov Moscow State University (Russia)
- Kazan State Medical University (Tatarstan, Russia)
- International Sakharov Environmental University (Belarus)
- Yerevan State Medical University (Armenia)
2006 - 2011 LONG-TERM PROJECT «BIOETHICS AND MEDIA»
aimed to promote ethical principles, to sensitize the public,
to raise the awareness of bioethics among journalists and
introduce bioethical issues into the agenda of the mass media
of the cluster countries

- several round tables, workshops and seminars were held
  focusing on bioethics issues in the mass media
- cross-regional network of journalists interested in the
  promotion of bioethics in the media was set up
- several hand-books on problems of bioethics in the
  mass media were published for journalists with
  recommendations for journalists on how to cover
  sensitive bioethical issues
- integrated training programme for distance education
  (e-learning) on bioethics for journalists elaborated
DISTANCE LEARNING COURSE OF BIOETHICS FOR JOURNALISTS

- elaborated in partnership with the leading experts in bioethics and the UNESCO’s Institute for Information Technologies in Education (IITE)

- available for users in Russian language from the IITE platform http://lms.iite.unesco.org/

- contribute to accessibility and efficiency of tackling of bioethical issues in mass-media of the CIS countries
2011
18TH (ORDINARY) SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BIOETHICS COMMITTEE OF UNESCO (Baku, Azerbaijan)

The UNESCO Moscow Office supported the participation of leading experts in the field of bioethics from Eastern Europe. This provided an excellent opportunity to share experiences and analyse new ethical challenges in the field of bioethics in the region.
COOPERATION WITH IBC, COMEST, FECCIS AND IPACIS

Legislative Initiatives


- Model Recommendation “Ethical and Legal Regulation in Genetic Research in the CIS States” – *adopted by Council of IPA CIS in 2007*

- Model Recommendation “Conception to Collaboration the CIS member-states in Medical Education on Bioethics in complains with UNESCO Ethics Education Programme (EEP)” – *adopted by Council of IPA CIS in 2009*

- Declaration IPA CIS “Ethical Principles of Science Activity” – *adopted by IPA CIS Permanent Commission on Science & Education in 2011*
“ETHICAL REVIEW OF BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH IN THE CIS (SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS)” 2007

Analytical Review “THE CURRENT STATE OF BIOETHICS EDUCATION IN THE SYSTEM OF MEDICAL EDUCATION IN THE CIS MEMBER COUNTRIES” 2010

Topography of bioethics in 11 countries (culture, legislation, science, education, communications, EC system)

Regional contribution

Global Ethics Observatory
“ETHICAL PRINCIPLES OF SCIENCE ACTIVITY”

Analytical Review and Declaration for CIS, 2011

developed by the group of experts, IBC and COMEST members, on the basis of analysis of world and regional ethical-normative experience

proposes an ethical standard both, for science activity as such and for public and state policies aimed to secure it

provides normative basis for assessment of social and humanitarian risks and benefits of scientific research and technological developments

reflects UNESCO strategic priorities in the field of ethics of science and technology
THANK YOU!