UNESCO CHAIR IN BIOETHICS 9th WORLD CONFERENCE
BIOETHICS, MEDICAL ETHICS & HEALTH LAW
Royal Continental Congress Center – Naples, Italy – November 19-21, 2013

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Prof Amnon Carmi, Director of the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics and Luigi De Magistris, Mayor of Naples and other Authorities introduced the World Conference.

Bioethics starts from Naples. It happens today, at the 9th UNESCO Chair in Bioethics World Conference “BIOETHICS, MEDICAL ETHICS AND HEALTH LAW” at Royal Continental Congress Center.

The supremacy of moral values overcomes complex social problems: this is the common denominator of each session and presentation. “Since fifty years it has been discussed the construction and development of the meaning of Bioethics”- said Prof. Carmi, head of UNESCO Chair in Bioethics. The original idea slowly gained its direction and followers. Now it’s time for a more important, complex and difficult step to spread the bioethical message to the society, planting into the soul of people the ethical values. This task may and should be realized with two different tools: an educational and a legal one. The experts attending this Conference with their knowledge, wisdom and courage, are expected to undertake this mission and to motivate this process.

Prof. Carmi reported the example of Moses, that coming down from Mount Sinai with the ten commandments, said to his people: “Listen and doe!”.

Luigi De Magistris, Mayor of Naples, underlined the importance of ethics in public management. Law can often overstep ethical values: the most painful events against human dignity have been backed up by a legal frameworks. He said: "Ethics should come before Law." This statement has completed his idea that a democratic society should put at its very center the intrinsic value of human being, which cannot suffer the consequences of a law very often based on the logic material possession. De Magistris reported examples from current critical social events that very often has in their focus sad stories of immigrants treated as criminals by current Italian law which considers clandestinely a crime, stressing the need for an amendment to that legislation.

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