



Research Ethics Network in CEE | Newsletter #5

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the fifth edition of our Network Newsletter!

Sincerely,
Vilnius Team

Spring school on Research Ethics

Spring School for Phd and Master students on current challenges in Research Ethics will be held from 8th to 11th of July 2015 in Tuebingen, Germany. Deadline for applications: May 15 2015. CFP can be found [here](#).



If you are interested in participating and presenting, financial support may be available from the Program. Please note that participation is limited to current PhD or Masters students. Contact [Vilius Dranseika](#) for further details.



New paper by Program alumni

Child's objection to non-beneficial research: capacity and distress based models

Marcin Waligora , Joanna Różyńska and Jan Piasecki
Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy

Abstract

A child's objection, refusal and dissent regarding participation in non-beneficial biomedical research must be respected, even when the parents or legal representatives have given their permission. There is, however, no consensus on the definition and criteria of a meaningful and valid child's

objection. The aim of this article is to clarify this issue. In the first part we describe the problems of a child's assent in research. In the second part we distinguish and analyze two models of a child's objection to research: the capacity-based model and the distress-based model. In the last part we present arguments for a broader and unified understanding of a child's objection within regulations and practices. This will strengthen children's rights and facilitate the entire process of assessment of research protocols.

Join EUREC association

EUREC is the European association of research ethics committees (RECs). One of its aims is to maintain and develop high quality standards in the protection of human subjects in Europe. In seeking this aim, EUREC promotes cooperation between national REC networks in Europe. EUREC holds regular meetings where representatives of national REC networks discuss the best REC working practices, share the information about the currently functioning and developing national REC networks, disseminate teaching material, and develop opinions on new challenges and emerging ethical issues. In the past two years, EUREC actively participated in the formulation of statements to the Proposal for an EU Regulation on clinical trials on medicinal products for human use. An [interactive website](#) is also created to share information and materials.



In order to become a partner of EUREC association, a potential representative of a national REC network (representative usually refers to national organization) may submit the written declaration obtained from RECs as the evidence of a REC network to the Board of EUREC. The potential representative should also be an active participant on behalf of RECs in a country. Participation of the representative in the international level (conferences, workshops, statements, other activities) is also very valuable.

If your organization would identify itself as a representative of national REC network, we would strongly encourage you to join this association. For further information, please contact Eugenijus Gefenas at eugenijus.gefenas@mf.vu.lt.

As always, we hope you enjoyed this update. You are encouraged to share information on your recent accomplishments and any other news that could be interesting and/or useful to Network members. One way to do this is via our [Network Facebook Page](#).

Please also send your news to Vilius Dranseika, vilius.dranseika@fsf.vu.lt

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