

Bioethical Standards as a Tool for the Improvement of Human Relations Toward Health, Animals, and Plants: The Example of Three Croatian Mediterranean Local Communities

Authors : Toni Buterin, Robert Doričić

Abstract : Mainstream bioethics, narrowed down mainly to human medicine and research, can hardly be expected to efficiently face modern challenges related to environmental issues. Departing from the interpretation of "European Bioethics" as a discipline considering ethical duties not only toward fellow humans, but to all living beings, this paper presents the results of a study conducted in three communities in Croatian Northern Adriatic region, selected for their recent experience of ecological threats (Labin - thermo-electric power plant; Bakar - cokery), or representing a highly-valuable and vulnerable natural insular pocket (Mali Lošinj - health tourism, dolphin wildlife refuge, fragrant gardens programme, etc.). After targeted workshops and interviews had been organised in those communities, the results of the obtained insights were combined with experts' opinion and a list of around hundred "bioethical standards" was formed. "Bioethical standards" represent a set of principles and measures of the correct attitude of people towards their own health, animals, plants, and the eco-system as a whole. "Bioethical standards" charter might improve the level of local community environmental consciousness, and provide direct guidance for its sustainable development (including its tourism-advertising ace card). The present paper discusses the standards' potential benefits and some implementational risks.

Keywords : bioethical standards, croatia, European bioethics, local communities

Conference Title : ICSSC 2022 : International Conference on Science, Society and Culture

Conference Location : Vienna, Austria

Conference Dates : June 23-24, 2022