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**STEERING COMMITTEE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE FIELDS OF BIOMEDECINE AND HEALTH (CDBIO)
COMITÉ DIRECTEUR POUR LES DROITS HUMAINS
DANS LES DOMAINES DE LA BIOMÉDECINE ET DE LA SANTÉ
(CDBIO)**

**Developments in the field of bioethics
in member states and other states
Développements dans le domaine de la bioéthique
dans les États membres et les autres États**

¹ This document contains contributions in their original language. / Ce document contient les contributions dans leur langue d'origine.

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All information received from member States regarding COVID-19
is available on the [COVID-19 selected resources internet page](#)

Toutes les informations reçues de la part des Etats membres sur le COVID-19
sont disponibles sur la [page internet de sélection de documents de ressources pour le
COVID-19](#)

ARMENIA / ARMENIE

The Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Dignity of the Human Being with regard to the Application of Biology and Medicine has been signed and ratified by the Republic of Armenia on 15 October 2025 and will enter into force for Armenia on 1 February 2026.

Although Armenian legislation mostly complies with the principles and provisions of the Oviedo Convention, we are currently conducting a detailed analysis of the alignment between the Convention and our national legislation, and all necessary legislative amendments will be carried out in Armenia before the Convention enters into force.

AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE

A) The Austrian Bioethics Commission at the Federal Chancellery published two opinions in 2024:

"Work and health in the age of globalisation and artificial intelligence"

The opinion "Work and health in the age of globalisation and artificial intelligence" of June 2024 deals with new forms of work (including platform work, AI-based work, homeoffice work and work at the bottom of subcontracting chains) and how these affect health and safety at the workplace. It examines which working conditions of the digital transformation can cause illness. It then discusses what is meant by 'good' work and fair working conditions.

https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/dam/jcr:5f054a6a-30bc-43bc-ae8d-f9d2e5088b17/072024_statement_arbeit_gesundheit.pdf

"Persistent scarcity of resources in inpatient care: on an ethically sound approach to allocation issues"

Since the end of the Covid-19 pandemic it has become clear that the issue of resource scarcity in healthcare is not only related to the recent pandemic. This opinion of February 2024 addresses the potential for persistent resource scarcity (i.e. limited and inadequate availability of health workers, medical products, and medicines) in Austrian hospitals and provides recommendations for fair and equitable use of scarce resources in the inpatient sector.

https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at/dam/jcr:6c43b5a6-0432-4279-ab37-9dca4c55bd57/stellungnahme_ressourcenknappheit.pdf

B) Legal issues

Assisted suicide

After the Constitutional Court repealed the Criminal Code as unconstitutional with regard to assisted suicide in December 2020, the Dying Decree Act came into force in 2022. Anyone who wishes to end their own life can issue a dying will under certain conditions. In 2023, an application was made to the Constitutional Court to repeal several provisions which, in the view of the applicants, are unconstitutional and represent unreasonable hurdles in the existing Dying Decree Act. A public hearing on this application was held by the Constitutional Court on 19 September 2024. In its decision of December 12, 2024, the Constitutional Court repealed as unconstitutional the time-consuming procedure that must be completed for a new dying will after the expiry of the one-year validity period. The ban on advertising was also partially repealed as unconstitutional, while two further applications were essentially rejected by the Constitutional Court.

Blood Donor Regulation

The main changes in the amendment to the Blood Donor Regulation, Federal Law Gazette II No. 30/2025, can be summarised as follows:

- Reduction in the frequency and volume of whole blood donations to protect donors
- Adaptation to the current state of the art (reduction of deferral periods for NAT testing for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV)
- Consideration of the Bioethics Commission's statement on "Intersexuality and Transidentity" (2017); explicit guidelines provided for the gender categories intersex, other, non-binary or not specified
- Elimination of testing for non-specific immune activation markers, as well-established specific and highly sensitive tests are now available for all relevant infections that can be transmitted through blood

Constitutional Court decision on social egg freezing

Lately, a woman applied for the legal ban on „social egg freezing“ to be lifted. This ban prohibits the removal and freezing of eggs without medical indication. The Austrian Constitutional Court granted this request and repealed the legal ban on „social egg freezing“ (Section 2b (1) FMedG) as disproportionate and therefore unconstitutional. The repeal will come into force on April 1, 2027

CYPRUS / CHYPRE

The Cyprus National Bioethics Committee (CNBC) has recently issued the following opinions:

- Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Political Thought (21/10/2025),
- Opinion on the use of Artificial Intelligence (24/05/2025),
- Prognostic Medical Information and Insurance Coverage (25/04/2025),
- Ethics of Predictive Analytics in Health Care: A joint Opinion of National Bioethics Commissions of Greece and Cyprus (05/11/2024)

Currently we are working on preparing the 36th NEC Forum to be held in Cyprus on the 23rd and 24th of April 2026 during the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of EU the first semester of 2026.

DENMARK / DANEMARK

New action plan for organ donation

A majority in the Danish parliament have in June 2024 agreed on a new national action plan for organ donation. Furthermore, the Government and two political parties have agreed on switching the form for consent to organ donation to a soft model of opt-out by December 19th 2024, which is also included in the action plan. The action plan sets four goals:

- Decrease the number of patients who dies waiting for an organ.
- Increase the number of people that have registered their preferences to organ donation in the national register
- Increase the number of patients in need who receives a new organ
- Increase the number of patients who receives an organ from a living donor.

The action plan also includes six initiatives:

- A switch to a soft model of opt-out as the form for consent to organ donation (for people from the age of 18 and up)
- Mandatory reminders to take a decision regarding organ donation
- Better use of donor potential in hospitals
- Strengthening of donor potential for living donors
- Implementation of donation after circulatory death (DCD)
- Ongoing monitoring and follow-up.

The soft model of opt-out as the form for consent to organ donation has been implemented by the 1st of June 2025.

A new increased focus on fertility treatment in Denmark

In recent years, several initiatives have been implemented in the field of fertility.

In 2024, the Danish Government and Danish Regions agreed that funds would be allocated to the regions, which within this framework must expand the number of trials with IVF/ICSI so that singles and couples now are offered up to six treatments IVF/ICSI-treatments for child number one.

In 2024, The Danish Government and Danish Regions agreed to further strengthen the fertility area by offering up to three publicly paid IVF/ICSI-treatments for a second child. Publicly paid fertility treatment for a second child has been available since December 2024. Furthermore, the Danish parliament decided to legalize partner egg donation without health-related justification also known as “shared motherhood”. Partner egg donation without health-related justification is only permitted in private fertility clinics for a fee. The treatment has been available since January 2025.

A political agreement from February 2025 will make it easier for women to donate eggs to infertile women and couples. The agreement will ensure greater flexibility for both the donor and the woman or couple receiving the eggs. The agreement requires a change in legislation and is expected to come into force in January 2026.

Lastly, on the Finance Act for 2026 the Danish government has announced that it will increase the number of publicly paid attempts from three to up to six attempts (IVF/ICSI) for child number two.

The 10-year plan to improve the psychiatric and mental health field

In September 2022 the Government and a majority of the political parties concluded an agreement of a 10-year plan to improve the psychiatric and mental health field.

The 10-year plan is an agreement based on a report from the Danish Health Authority

(Sundhedsstyrelsen) and the National Board of Social Service (*Social- og Boligstyrelsen*) which outlines the primary challenges and improvement points as well as potential solutions regarding mental illness and mental health in Denmark. The agreement is a long-term plan focusing on the direction for mental health treatment in Denmark as well as prevention and a stronger coherence between general practice, psychiatric hospital services and the social services. In connection with the preparation of the report, the Danish Health Authority and the National Board of Social Service obtained information on an ongoing basis from among others professional associations and patient organizations.

In November 2023, the Government concluded the next step of the 10-year plan with a new agreement with a particular focus on among other things minor psychiatric patients, urgent care and suicide prevention. In May 2025, the Government concluded the last and final step of the 10-year plan towards 2030 with a new agreement with the purpose of ensuring the necessary capacity and quality of care. The Government has prioritized over 3 billion Danish kroner (EUR 400 million) for a fully funded 10-year plan.

Abortion

In April 2025 a majority of the Danish Parliament approved three bills concerning abortion, allowing hospitals and abortion clinics to terminate pregnancies up to the limit of 18 weeks. In addition, minors above the age of 15 have a right to ask for an abortion without parental consent. Furthermore, a national abortion council will be established. These bills entered into force on June 1st, 2025.

SWITZERLAND / SUISSE

- La révision mentionnée du droit d'exécution de la loi relative à la recherche sur l'être humain : [Projet législatif terminé : révision du droit d'exécution](#)
- Le 11 septembre 2025, le Conseil des États a rejeté la [motion 25.3944](#) de sa commission des affaires juridiques. Celle-ci aurait chargé le Conseil fédéral de présenter une réglementation-cadre dans le domaine du suicide assisté (conditions, réglementation de la procédure, surveillance).
- Le 7 juillet 2025, publication de l'[avis de la Commission centrale d'éthique de l'ASSM « Don d'organes après une assistance au suicide »](#)
- Dans la perspective de l'introduction du « modèle du consentement présumé » pour le don d'organes, l'ASSM révisé actuellement ses directives « Constater le décès en vue de transplantations d'organes et préparer le prélèvement d'organes », voir [ici](#).
- Dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de la [motion 21.4341](#), la loi sur la procréation médicalement assistée est actuellement en cours de révision afin, entre autres, de légaliser le don d'ovocytes en Suisse.

TURKEY / TÜRKİYE

During 2024–2025, Türkiye continued to strengthen its national bioethics and human rights framework in line with the principles of the Council of Europe Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine (Oviedo Convention).

The Ministry of Health, through the General Directorate of Health Services, has further advanced regulatory work on patient rights and medical social services, integrating ethical principles in the management of health services, data use, and patient consent procedures.

The Türkiye Health Institutes of Strategic Research and Training (TÜSEB) launched the “Productive Health Model”, a strategic initiative aimed at ensuring national self-sufficiency in

health technologies and innovation. This programme includes ethical oversight mechanisms and public benefit evaluations for biotechnology and AI-based health applications.

The Personal Data Protection Authority (KVKK) issued a comprehensive Guideline on the Processing of Genetic Data (2023), emphasising informed consent, purpose limitation, and strict security measures for handling genetic information. This represents Türkiye's key progress in aligning bioethical practice with personal data protection and international standards.

In cooperation with the UNESCO Turkish National Commission, a symposium on "Emerging Technologies in Biological Sciences in terms of Human Rights and Bioethics" (Istanbul, November 2024) highlighted ethical reflections on genome editing, synthetic biology, and rare diseases, reinforcing Türkiye's engagement with international bioethics dialogue.

UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME-UNI

Nuffield Council on Bioethics

Council of Europe horizon scanning insights

Overview

This paper provides an update on horizon scanning (HS) insights captured by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics (NCOB) HS and foresight team since the publication of our 2024 Scan. It has been produced by 04 November 2025 specifically for the interest of the Council of Europe to inform their upcoming Autumn meeting.

Biosecurity

[Antimicrobial resistance](#) continues to be a growing public health threat in the UK, with resistant infections causing thousands of deaths annually and placing [increasing pressure on the NHS](#). The UK has been a global leader in tackling AMR through its [National Action Plan](#), which promotes responsible antibiotic use, investment in surveillance systems, and support for research into new treatments and diagnostics. Initiatives like the UK AMR Surveillance Programme and wastewater-based monitoring are helping track resistance trends across clinical and environmental settings. The UK also plays a key role in international efforts, including through the Global AMR Innovation Fund (GAMRIF), reinforcing its commitment to a One Health approach that spans human, animal, and environmental health. However, the UK government confirmed [closure of the Fleming Fund](#) (the UK's flagship international programme for supporting AMR management in lower-middle income countries).

Metagenomic surveillance – sequencing all the genetic material in a sample to detect both known and unknown pathogens. Unlike traditional disease surveillance, which has been limited to the targeted detection of known pathogens, metagenomics allows us to capture novel and unexpected pathogens. In January 2025, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) [launch the world's first pathogen-agnostic metagenomics initiative \(mSCAPE\)](#) aimed at rapid detection of infectious diseases. This bio-surveillance system will run across up to 30 hospitals in England enabling rapid response to emerging pandemic threats and management of AMR to prevent outbreaks of resistant strains.

Mirror life refers to the theoretical possibility of life forms based on mirror-image biochemistry, where molecules like amino acids and sugars have opposite chirality to those found in all known Earth life. In the UK, interest in mirror life intersects with synthetic biology, astrobiology, and biosecurity research. Institutions such as the University of Cambridge and the Francis

Crick Institute have explored chirality in origin-of-life studies, while UKRI-funded projects have considered its implications for detecting alien life or engineering novel biological systems. Though still speculative, mirror life challenges assumptions about the universality of life's molecular architecture and opens up new ethical and scientific questions for future bioscience policy. There are ongoing [national and international discussions](#) about how to manage the benefits and risks.

Geopolitical landscape

Shifting geopolitical dynamics, including increased defence spending, evolving global alliances, and the growing influence of major powers such as China, appear to be influencing the UK's research and innovation landscape. [These developments have led to greater investment in defence-related R&D](#), which may create new opportunities for innovation but also intensify competition for public research funding across sectors. [Public perspectives on defence R&D remain diverse, prompting efforts to align defence innovation with broader societal benefits, for example, by demonstrating dual-use applications that support both national security and civilian needs.](#) This evolving context invites careful consideration of how to balance strategic priorities with inclusive and collaborative research agendas.

AI and Genomics

Advances in genomics (e.g. high-throughput sequencing and declining costs), multi-omics (analysis of genomic data alongside other layers of data, or 'omics', such as epigenetics and proteins), and machine and deep learning techniques have driven interest in AI-powered genomics health prediction (AIGHP) and prevention-focussed healthcare.

Announced in 2022 and ongoing - [Our Future Health](#) is calculating 5 million people's polygenic score reports to generate vital evidence around the psychological, behavioural, and social impacts, and the potential clinical utility, of polygenic screening and personalised risk information.

AI in clinical practice

[In UK clinical practice, artificial intelligence is increasingly being used to enhance efficiency and improve patient outcomes.](#) One key application is natural language processing (NLP) and predictive modelling, which help unlock valuable insights from the free-text sections of electronic health records and clinicians' notes. These tools can forecast the risk of future medical events, enabling earlier interventions and more personalised care. Additionally, AI is being piloted to improve operational efficiency, for example, by predicting when patients are likely to miss appointments and automatically prompting reminders or rescheduling, [helping reduce strain on NHS resources and improve service delivery.](#)

AI in drug discovery

[AI is expected to play an even more central role in drug discovery, with several promising developments on the horizon.](#) Advances in generative AI and foundation models tailored to biomedical data could enable the design of entirely novel molecules with desired therapeutic properties. Tools like AlphaFold, which has already transformed protein structure prediction, are likely to be [integrated with other AI systems to accelerate target identification and drug design, particularly for complex diseases.](#) We may also see more automated lab platforms powered by AI that can rapidly test and iterate on drug candidates, shortening development timelines. Additionally, the convergence of AI with multi-omics data, real-world evidence, and patient stratification could lead to more personalised and effective treatments.

AI, climate and health

[Climate change is increasingly recognised as a critical factor influencing public health in the UK, prompting innovative approaches to prediction and preparedness.](#) AI and data modelling are being used to monitor and forecast air quality, helping individuals make informed decisions, such as planning low-pollution running routes, through [projects like those led by the Alan](#)

[Turing Institute](#). Integrating climate and health data is also enabling better responses to extreme weather events; for example, the UKHSA and the Met Office have developed a [Weather-Health Alerting System](#) that provides early warnings to the health and social care sector when adverse temperatures are likely to impact population wellbeing. More broadly, climate change poses risks to healthcare infrastructure and service delivery, where predictive tools and early warning systems will be essential for resilience and adaptation.

Geoengineering

Solar Radiation Management (SRM), also known as solar geoengineering, involves techniques to reflect sunlight and reduce global temperatures. In the UK, [research funders have begun exploring](#) interventions such as marine cloud brightening, stratospheric aerosol injection, and cirrus cloud thinning. However, these approaches raise significant ethical questions. The NCOB recently launched a [project](#) which aims to provide an independent and balanced ethical analysis of SRM by identifying key ethical trade-offs, engaging diverse stakeholders, examining current and future research practices, and considering the interests of present and future generations as well as non-human species. The goal is to develop clear recommendations for embedding ethics into SRM decision-making.

Psychedelics

Psychedelic medicine is gaining momentum in the UK as a potential treatment for mental health conditions such as depression, PTSD, and addiction. Research institutions like [Imperial College London](#) and [University of Exeter](#) are leading clinical trials on substances including psilocybin and MDMA.

The [Royal College of Psychiatrists has called for more research](#) into the efficacy and safety of psychedelics as a potential means to treat mental disorders.

Growing interest in psychedelic therapies is met with cautious policy development, as regulators seek to [balance innovation with safety and public sentiment](#). Should current clinical trials continue to yield positive results, clearer regulatory pathways and expanded clinical access may emerge.

MEXICO / MEXIQUE

The National Bioethics Commission of Mexico (CONBIOETICA) has worked throughout 2024 and 2025 to strengthen the culture of human rights and bioethics within the fields of healthcare and research in our country. In this regard, the following activities have been carried out to address ethical challenges and provide orientation for healthcare professionals in the provision of services and research at the national level.

Bioethics at the federal level

At the federal level, CONBIOETICA regularly performs network activities with the State Bioethics Commissions (CEB) to contribute to strengthen their performance, as well as to address emerging issues in the federal entities. Since the last report, the following activities have been carried out:

- Meetings with the State Bioethics Commissions (CEB) and the Regional Bioethics Councils (CRB)

Two virtual meetings with the Regional Bioethics Councils have been held since May, which focused on the main aspects of the updated version of the Code of Bioethics in development since 2022, and the guidelines for healthcare personnel in the face emerging issues and challenges in our country. Meetings were also held with the State Bioethics Commissions (CEB) of Jalisco, Tlaxcala, Yucatán, Oaxaca, Baja California, San Luis Potosí, and Colima to address specific topics. The meeting the Commission of Colima was celebrated within the framework on the instalment of its new administration. A meeting was also held with the Commission of Michoacán regarding preparations for the 18th National Meeting of State Bioethics Commissions.

Advisory role

Bioethical assessments

With regard to its advisory role, CONBIOETICA regularly issues bioethical assessments on health law reform initiatives of the Federal Congress, as part of the review process carried out by the Coordinating Unit for Citizen Liaison and Participation (UCVPS) of the Ministry of Health, in order to contribute to prevent human rights violations, as well as to improve conditions for vulnerable populations, within a framework of health equity and sustainable development. During the period considered, three assessments were issued on the following topics:

- a) Clinical trials
- b) Dignified death
- c) Gene regulation and therapeutic use of stem cells

Positioning statement and Guidelines on scientific integrity for health research

In order to foster a culture of scientific integrity among in the field of health research, the National Bioethics Commission since has been working throughout the year in the consolidation of an institutional statement, as well as guidelines on the subject, with the assistance of renowned experts of the fields of health and higher education. These instruments are currently under review with the members of the advisory council.

External consultation

CONBIOETICA regularly collaborates with diverse public and private organizations or institutions to address challenges and emerging issues for health professionals in the fields of health care and research. In the period considered, the following actions have taken place:

- Internal Regulations of the National Council for the Prevention and Control of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (CONASIDA)

In June 30, CONBIOETICA took part in the revision process of the Internal Regulations of the National Council for the Prevention and Control of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (CONASIDA). To ensure the continuity of accessible, sustainable, and patient-centered care models, the Committee on Standards and Human Rights, in accordance with the Internal Regulations of CONASIDA, formulated guidelines to provide and administer antiretroviral treatment for people living with HIV, including a framework for prescribing treatment for a period of three months, under clinical and operational conditions that allow it. This measure

aimed to promote continuity of treatment, improve adherence, reduce barriers to accessing health services, optimize institutional resources, and above all, improve the well-being and quality of life of service users, without compromising the quality of care in their clinical follow-up.

- National Policy on Medicines and Health Supplies (PONAMIS)

In July 2025, CONBIOÉTICA took part in the integration of the National Policy on Medicines and Health Supplies (PONAMIS). This participation involved the elaboration of a diagnosis on the situational context of Mexico with regard to health research, which considered the normative framework a review of the diverse actors involved, as well as the current challenges facing health researchers. The National Bioethics Commission developed a proposal to join the strategy in the Research and Production of Health Supplies component.

- Revision of the Technical guidelines for safe abortion care in Mexico

In order to update the contents of the Technical guidelines for safe abortion care in Mexico, Conbioetica developed in October an assessment on the contents and issued suggestions to improve the conceptualization of various aspects of the care required by women and persons with the capacity to gestate, such as informed consent as a process to be carried out within a framework of confidence and trust, as well as a definition of conscientious objection, which leaves out all unrelated actors from this individual exception, among other aspects.

Education and Training

A) Academic fora on emerging issues in bioethics

On June 26, 2025, the 11th Bioethics Forum in Nursing Practice was held in coordination with the National Institute of Respiratory Diseases, with the purpose of addressing bioethical issues that may arise in health care from a nursing approach.

From August 14 to September 11, CONBIOÉTICA, with the support of experts in the field, conducted a virtual workshop on research integrity for members of Research Ethics Committees and researchers.

The CONBIOÉTICA 2025 Keynote Lecture Series began on August 28 with the presentation: "Ethics in Scientific Communication: Truth and Perception" by Lluís Montoliu, focusing on the public communication of science. On September 11, Constanza Ovalle delivered the lecture "Considerations of a Latin American Bioethics", addressing the regional needs and challenges in bioethical issues within the region.

From June to October 2025, various training programs for members of Research Ethics Committees were implemented. As a result, 1,425 members were accredited, as well as 1,585 members of Hospital Bioethics Committees.

B) Management of Specialized Information in Bioethics

The Library of the National Bioethics Commission (CONBIOÉTICA), located on the ground floor of the institution's headquarters, continued to offer free access to its specialized collection on bioethics, health, and related disciplines. This space, with capacity for up to 50 simultaneous users, serves as a center for training and outreach, where conferences, institutional meetings, and workshops are held for the general public. Its purpose is to promote ethical reflection and strengthen scientific integrity through the analysis of cases. The library

has also been used for the review of informational content within the health sector and to provide support to members of research ethics committees.

In period being reported, diverse interlibrary cooperation agreements were updated, reaching 108 partner institutions, thereby strengthening networks for knowledge exchange and bibliographic collaboration.

In terms of knowledge management, the Library facilitates access to specialized databases that include more than ten thousand digital resources on bioethics, health, and related topics. Necessary measures were taken to ensure continuous access to high-quality information services, such as the EBSCO platform, which provides reliable and up-to-date content to support academic research processes. The acquisition of new materials is underway to expand the institutional collection. Between June and October, 1,350 service requests were attended, providing personalized guidance for the use of digital platforms and bibliographic resources. The free nature of this service is a core value that promotes equitable access to knowledge and contributes to the development of an informed citizenry capable of making ethical decisions regarding health and human rights.

As part of its mandate to disseminate scientific knowledge, the Information Services Department published five monthly catalogues between June and October, compiling recommendations of articles, podcasts, films, and other relevant resources from indexed academic sources, both national and international. In this same regard, the Weekly CONBIOÉTICA Newsletter published 23 issues in this period, consolidating its role as an effective channel for disseminating bioethical content and providing bibliographic assistance to subscribed users.

With regard to digital communication, outreach campaigns have maintained a consistent impact. The official CONBIOÉTICA Facebook page currently has 8,782 followers, and the Library's newsletter has over 5,677 subscribers, reflecting the sustained interest of various social sectors in the information services offered by the Bioethics Knowledge Center and in content related to bioethics.

The institutional website recorded a steady flow of visitors throughout the period, reaching 49,939 users.

C) Editorial Offerings

Regarding CONBIOÉTICA editorial output, the Gaceta CONBIOÉTICA continues to serve as the official scientific communication outlet of the National Bioethics Commission. Over the years, it has become a reliable source of news and analysis on emerging health issues from a bioethical standpoint. Since June 2025, the following actions have been carried out:

Continued operation of the Official Website of Gaceta CONBIOÉTICA.

Evaluation of submitted articles through the electronic editorial management platform.

Publication of Issue No. 52 (January–June 2025) on the official website; Issue No. 53 (July–December 2025) is currently in the editorial process.

Preparation of 57 graphic and multimedia materials to meet institutional requirements for the dissemination of emerging issues in bioethics.

Bioethics Committees

Registration of Hospital Bioethics Committees

The National Bioethics Commission initiated the registration of Hospital Bioethics Committees (CHB) in 2013, from then until October 27th, 2025, a total of 1,464 Hospital Bioethics Committees have been registered, which are currently installed within health care institutions of the public, private and social sectors of the National Health System in 32 states, as follows:

Sector	Institution	Registrations issued
Public	State Health Services (SESA, SSE, SME, IMSS-Bienestar)	518
	Secretary of Health- National Institutes of Health	29
	Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS)	305
	Institute of Security and Social Services for State Workers (ISSSTE)	54
	Health Services of Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX)	25
	Institute of Social Security for Armed Forces (ISSFAM)	37
	Health Services for Secretary of the Navy SEMAR	4
	University Hospital	5
Private	Private Hospitals	471
Social	Private Assistance Institutions (IAP), Private Beneficence Institutions (IBP)	16
Total		1464

Registration of Research Ethics Committees

The National Bioethics Commission initiated the registration of REC on January 11, 2016. Until October 24th, 2025, a total of **517 Research Ethics Committees** had been registered with establishments of the public, social and private sector in 32 states, as described below:

Sector	Institution	Registrations issued
Public	Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS)	111
	State Health Services (SESA and IMSS-Bienestar)	125
	Higher Education Institutions (IES)	56
	Secretary of Health - National Institutes of Health	13
	Ministry of Health (SSA)	18
	Institute of Security and Social Services for State Workers (ISSSTE)	15

Sector	Institution	Registrations issued
	Institute of Social Security for Armed Forces (ISSFAM)	9
	Health Services of Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX)	10
	National System for Integral Family Development (DIF)	2
	The National Council of Humanities, Sciences and Technologies - Public Research Centers	1
Private	Private Hospitals	78
	Others	37
	Higher Education Institutions (IES)	23
	Authorized Third Parties for Bioequivalence (TA-BE)	19
TOTAL		517

Bioethics at the International level

The National Bioethics Commission, in the period being reported, participated in the following international activities:

➤ **International Collaboration of the Ministry of Health**

With the aim of strengthening the Ministry of Health's international collaboration, the National Bioethics Commission participated in July in the renewal of the Memoranda of Understanding between the Ministry of Health and the health authorities of the French Republic. In this regard, Conbioetica made the suggestion to directly establish the obligation of ensuring compliance with the human rights framework regarding the programs or projects being implemented, as well as giving priority to the protection of life, solidarity, freedom, equality, and mutual respect.

In October, an assessment was issued with regard to the Cooperation Agreement between the Ministry of Health of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Ministry of Health of the United States of Mexico. This agreement establishes the framework for collaboration of both countries on the subject of traditional medicine.

➤ **PAHO/WHO Cooperation Strategy with Mexico 2025-2030**

In August, the National Bioethics Commission developed an assessment of the PAHO/WHO Cooperation Strategy with Mexico 2025-2030 (ECP). Conbioetica manifested its agreement with the contents of the proposed instrument, which addressed issues such as gender equality, ethnicity, human rights, climate change, and mental illness.

➤ **Network of Ethics Committees of Spanish-Speaking Countries**

On September 15, 2025, we participated in the Call for Proposals for the creation of the Network of Ethics Committees of Spanish-Speaking Countries. The objective of this project is to establish a network of bioethics committees at the state level in Spanish-speaking countries.

➤ **Consultation process on diverse instruments developed by the Council of Europe.**

In September, Conbioetica participated in the Consultation process on the accession of diverse instruments associated with the Council of Europe (CoE):

- Council of Europe Convention on the Counterfeiting of Medical Products and Similar Offences Entailing a Threat to Public Health (CETS No. 211). Conbioetica approved the contents and scope of the Convention.
- Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs (CETS No. 216). Conbioetica confirmed the validity and actuality of the instrument.
- Additional Protocol to the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine on the Transplantation of Organs and Tissues of Human Origin (ETS No. 186). The ratification of the instrument was suggested.
- Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Dignity of the Human Being with regard to the Application of Biology and Medicine: Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine (Oviedo Convention). The accession to the instrument was suggested, with a reservation to Article 7.
- Additional Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Dignity of the Human Being with regard to the Application of Biology and Medicine, on the Prohibition of the Cloning of Human Beings (ETS No. 168). The accession to the instrument was suggested.
- Additional Protocol to the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine on Genetic Testing for Health Purposes (CETS No. 203). The accession to the instrument was suggested.