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EDITORIAL

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I am honoured to present you the nineteenth issue of the Journal of Intercultural Management and Ethics (JIME).

The current issue includes interesting papers from various fields portraying the diversity of the research community and the cross-disciplinary approach of this journal. The main field of the papers in this issue is ethics.

Myles Owens and Walter E. Block examine the effectiveness of the Corporate Average Fuel Economy program regarding its ability to reduce pollution. Using a variety of automotive reports from the Congressional Budget Office, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the United States Department of Transportation the authors determine that these standards largely subsidize driving costs for consumers and disincentivize the need for electric vehicles. The authors conclude that CAFE should be repealed, and other more effective environmental policies be examined.

Hershey Friedman and Clifton Clarke demonstrate what happens when uncontrolled greed wins out over human life. The authors emphasize that the value of a life is infinite, and no cost-benefit analysis can justify purposely selling a product or service that can harm any person. Their paper provides several examples demonstrating that millions of people have perished because of corporate malfeasance.

Amna Ben Amara reveals that metaphors are central discursive strategies that can be employed in the Othering process and identity construction. As such, although Trump’s rhetoric has already provoked a cottage industry of books, the role of his ideologically motivated metaphors in detecting his perception of American national identity has remained largely undiscovered. The aim of her research is to investigate the highly racialized dimension of Trump’s metaphors and their role in marginalizing undocumented immigrants from the nation’s popular imagination.

Stefano Amodio and Aurelian Virgil Baluta put into scientific circulation the ideas contained in a document initially available only on media, part of the speech of an Italian MEP, Mrs. Alessandra Moretti. Their paper includes the general theme of social development under the conditions of respecting some fundamental principles of ethics, showing that the education is a key element of social development. The authors reveal that the combination of factors such as employment or unemployment are correlated with the perspective of gender and social origin on the basis of a multicriteria analysis.

Sana Loue shows that many Western nations, including the United States, utilized what have been called both negative and positive eugenic measures, seeking to eliminate “negative traits” from the populace through strategies that included restrictions on immigration, involuntary sterilizations of those deemed to be unfit, and segregation, while utilizing “positive” measures such as better baby contests, fitter family contests to encourage selective reproduction. The author reveals that, in contrast, eugenicists in late Imperial Russia and the early Soviet period focused their efforts on positive eugenic strategies in an effort to halt what was seen as the growing degeneracy of the population and encourage the proliferation of desirable traits. An examination of the underlying basis for the “positive” approach and the reasons for its cessation raise important ethical issues for consideration today.
Rodica Gramma emphasizes the important differences that should be taken into consideration, when the ethical concepts are used in the analysis of the specific practical situations in healthcare. The author underlines that the definitions of medical ethics, bioethics, and public health ethics seem to resemble in their ultimate scope, but look very different in their relational interactions among stakeholders. The ethics approaches and their potential effect on human rights protection are discussed in the presented case study analysis of a legislative act on late term abortions for social reasons in the Republic of Moldova.

Beatrice Gabriela Ioan, Bianca Hanganu and Irina Smaranda Manoilescu show that neurotechnologies include specific devices and procedures for accessing, monitoring, investigating, evaluating and manipulating the structure and functioning of the human brain. Neurotechnologies may also be used for enhancement purposes, i.e., neuro-enhancement, in order to increase the individuals’ mental and physical capacities. The authors analyze, based on the literature data, the ethical challenges raised by the use of neurotechnologies for enhancement purposes of the human being. The ethical analysis of neuro-enhancement starts from the blurring boundary between therapy and enhancement and is polarized between arguments in favor and arguments against this application of neurotechnologies. The authors conclude that neurotechnologies designed to enhance the human being are still in their infancy. and these technologies must be evaluated and regulated ethically and legally in an anticipatory manner.

Anton Carpinschi reviews some faces and symptoms of the captive mind in communism and after communism starting from the idea that the captive mind -- a socio-mental alchemy with deceptive propagandistic ingredients is a "banal evil" in the spectacle society in which we all live. The stake of his paper is deciphering the states and feelings hidden behind the faces and symptoms of the captive mind.

I am confident that you will value the articles in this issue of the Journal.

Finally yet importantly, I would like to express my gratitude to all the colleagues who contributed to this issue, either as authors or as reviewers.