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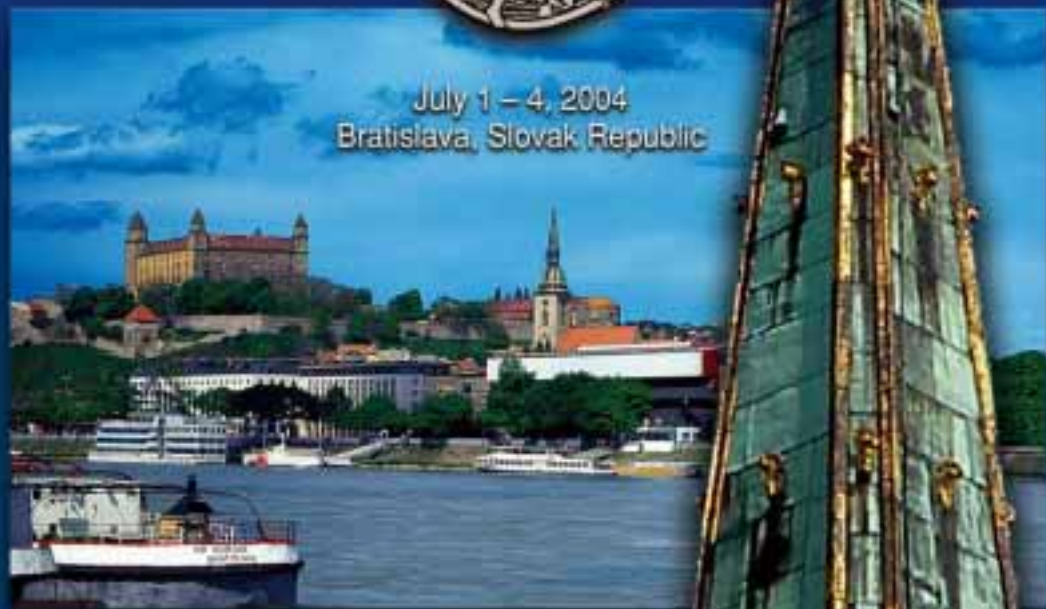
Fédération Européenne des Associations Médicales Catholiques
European Federation of Catholic Physicians Associations

10th Congress of FEAMC

**New Challenges for Medicine
and Health Care in Europe**



July 1 – 4, 2004
Bratislava, Slovak Republic



**Invitation, General Information,
Call for Abstracts**

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INVITATION

Dear Sisters and Brothers, Dear Colleagues,

The challenges of contemporary confrontations between the 'Culture of Life' and 'Culture of Death' (*Evangelium vitae*, 28) are faced nowadays by individuals, families, communities, states, and many distinguished international organisations in Europe, and all over the World. Nowadays, a particular field of this struggle lies within contemporary medicine and health care. The Catholic Church, faithful to Her mission and service to all peoples, has been paying a deep and continuous attention to these pressing issues since their very beginning, roughly a century ago.

Professing, announcing, and living the 'Gospel of Life' in contemporary World surely belongs to the Church's major tasks within the 'New Evangelisation' in Europe and beyond at the beginning of the third Millennium. Listening attentively to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, as well as to the needs and quandaries posed by unprecedented developments in medicine, life sciences and modern biotechnologies, and their impact on contemporary man and the human societies all around the Globe, should help the Church and the catholic physicians in keeping abreast with the current and prospective moral problems arising abundantly in this volatile area. The 'Ethics of Life' offers a solid, enlightening, and hopeful basis for such 'human civilisation-saving' scientific, educational, pastoral and even political efforts of today and tomorrow.

Having been entrusted to prepare a jubilee 10th Congress of FEAMC, I am pleased and honoured on behalf of the international and local organising teams, and on behalf of the Board of FEAMC to invite you cordially to take part in this important international meeting.

The organisers hope for a high quality, stimulative, thought-provoking and perspectives-presenting congress, aimed also to offer abundant possibilities of informal discussions, sharing of personal opinion and experience, as well as for contact building and networking of experts and all people of good will engaged in medicine, health care, bioethics and biopolitics in Europe and beyond.

In communicating to you this cordial invitation, I would also like to express a strong hope of the organisers, that your visit to Bratislava, since 1993 the capital of the Slovak Republic, and possibly also to other important and interesting places in this part of 'enlarged' Europe, will enable you to enjoy a unique local mixture of ancient traditions, distinguished culture and warm hospitality that have been for centuries the brightest characteristics of this 'Beautiful city on Danube' (Istropolis) and its people.

With kind personal regards in Christ,

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Josef Marek, M.D., DSc.
President of FEAMC

Prague, Advent 2003

PROGRAM OVERVIEW & GENERAL INFORMATION

July 1 – Thursday
July 2 – Friday
July 3 – Saturday
July 4 – Sunday

Arrival, registration, Symposia & Workshops, Opening Ceremony
General Sessions 1-2-3, Poster Session
General Sessions 4-5-6, Poster Session
General Session 7, Closing Mass and Ceremony

Agenda (July 2 and 3)

08:00 – 09:00	Holy Mass
09:00 – 11:00	Session 1 (Friday) Session 4 (Saturday)
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:30	Session 2 (Friday) Session 5 (Saturday)
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch
15:00 – 17:00	Session 3 (Friday) Session 6 (Saturday)

Registration Desk Operating Hours

June 30	15:00 – 21:00
July 1	07:15 – 18:00
July 2 – 3	08:00 – 17:00
July 4	08:00 – 10:00

On-site Registration Desk will be operated at the Congress Centre „Istropolis“, Trnavské myto 1.

Important Dead-Lines

Regular registration	March 1, 2004
Abstracts for Poster Presentations	March 1, 2004
Abstracts for Symposia & Workshops	March 1, 2004
Payment of the fees	April 30, 2004
Early cancellations	Before April 30, 2004
Late cancellations	Before June 15, 2004

Scientific Program

General sessions (invited and free oral papers), poster session, symposia & workshops.

Call for Abstracts

Use the **Registration Form** and the **Abstract Form** for your abstract submission. Please, note, that the abstract submission **dead-line is March 1, 2004**. Please, **indicate your preference** concerning an *oral* or *poster* presentation of your paper, as well as its placement on the program of an appropriate *Symposium* or *Workshop* (this option is strongly encouraged).

The Congress Scientific Committee reserves itself the right to accept or reject the paper, as well as to decide on its placement in the congress program either as an **oral** or **poster presentation**. The preferences of authors as indicated in the Abstract Form will be observed as much as possible in the Committee's decisions.

Poster Session

Posters will be exhibited on July 2 – 3, at the Congress Center „Istropolis“. Detailed instructions for the preparation of posters will be sent to the corresponding author together with the confirmation of the paper's acceptance.

Acceptance of Paper Confirmation

The corresponding author will be notified about the decision of the Scientific Committee **by April 15, 2003.**

Symposia & Workshops

The aim of this special **pre-congress program** is to allow enough time for discussion of the most pressing topics of contemporary medicine and health care in Europe and beyond, and to attract first-class experts to contribute towards these activities for the devoted audiences of colleagues and other interessants.

Please, feel free to contribute either as a speaker, moderator, or a panel member, and also to register as a participant according to your interest.

N.B. If you would like to organize a symposium or workshop on a special subject not listed in the provisional list, please, contact the Congress Secretariat as soon as possible.

Congress Web Page

Please, visit the congress web page at **www.feamc2004.info** for all updated congress information.

Spiritual Program

Holy Mass will be celebrated daily for the congress participants – either at the congress venue (July 2 – 3) or in the St. Martin's Cathedral (July 1 and 4). For other spiritual programs, please, refer to the actual announcements and invitations.

Official Languages

English, French, German, Italian, Slovak/Czech, Russian (simultaneous translation will be provided for general sessions only; translation in additional languages will be organized for the language groups exceeding 50 members). **Symposia & Workshops** will probably be held **in English only** (for any updates on possible simultaneous translation services for Symposia – see the congress web site).

Conference Equipment

Standard projection equipment will be available for oral presentations during general sessions, and Symposia & Workshops, i.e. data projectors (with IBM-compatible PCs), projectors for transparencies and standard dia-slides. Requests for a video-projection should be handed to the Congress Secretariat together with the **Registration Form.**

Book of Proceedings

The papers delivered within the Congress General Sessions, Symposia & Workshops will be included in the Book of Proceedings, which will be published after the congress.

Exhibition Activities

The exhibition of scientific and religious (christian) literature, doctors' and health professionals' organizations, charitable and pro-life organizations, pharmaceutical companies and similar subjects will take place at the Congress Centre Istropolis on July 2 – 3.

For details, please, contact the Congress Secretariat as soon as possible, preferably **before April 30, 2003.**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

July 1 – Thursday

07:15 - 18:00	Registration
09:00 - 15:30	Symposia & Workshops
18:00 - 19:00	Holy Mass
19:00 - 20:00	Opening Ceremony
20:00	Welcome Evening

July 2 – Friday

08:00 – 09:00	Holy Mass
09:00 – 11:00	General Session 1 – Challenges of Human Genetics
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:30	General Session 2 – Medicine and Human Reproduction
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch
15:00 – 17:00	General Session 3 – Rights of the Child and Pediatric Medicine
19:30	Social Programme (to be announced)

July 3 – Saturday

08:00 – 09:00	Holy Mass
09:00 – 11:00	General Session 4 – Justice in Medicine and Health Care
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:30	General Session 5 – Challenges in Contemporary Psychiatry
13:30 – 15:00	Lunch
15:00 – 17:00	General Session 6 – Palliative and Terminal Care
19:30	Social Programme (to be announced)

July 4 – Sunday

09:00 - 10:30	Holy Mass
10:30 - 12:30	General Session 7 – Perspectives for the Future
13:00	Closing of the Congress

July 1 – Thursday

09:00 - 10:30	Workshop / Symposium
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	Workshop / Symposium
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00 - 15:30	Workshop / Symposium

Workshops & Symposia Organisation

Each workshop or symposium will start at 9:00 and will last till about 15:30 (or shorter according to the interest of the participants). The location, where particular workshop/symposium is held, will be announced to the registered participants, displayed on the congress web-page, and at the on-site Registration Office. In Symposia more lectures will be allocated, while in Workshops more space for discussion will be preserved. Scientific Committee – according to the topics and number of papers submitted – could merge or split some workshops or symposia to achieve better topical focusing. Please, refer to the Congress Web Page for actual program updates.

Proposed Topics of Symposia

S1 - Stemm Cell Research
S2 - Human Cloning
S3 - Human Assisted Reproduction
S4 - Natural Family Planning
S5 - Obstetrics and Gynaecology in the Christian Perspective
S6 - Medicine, Health Care and Population Issues
S7 - Medical Ethics Education
S8 - Hospice & Palliative Care
S9 - International Help & Solidarity Projects

Proposed Topics of Workshops

W1 - Contraception
W2 - Post-abortion Syndrome
W3 - Postmodernism and Biomedical Ethics
W4 - Fundamentals of Medical Ethics
W5 - Medicine and Medical Ethics in Central and Eastern Europe
W6 - Ecumenism & Contemporary Bioethics
W7 - Computers, E-Medicine and the Catholic Physician
W8 - Contemporary Theology of the Body
W9 - General Practice and Family Medicine
W10 - Clinical Psychology in a Christian Perspective
W11 - Challenges of Depression
W12 - Persistent Vegetative State
W13 - Health Insurance & Health Care Policies

Venue

July 1: Symposia & Workshops: at various university premises in Bratislava, details to be announced,
July 1: Opening Mass & Ceremony: St. Martin's Cathedral,
July 2 - 3: General Sessions 1 - 6: Congress Centre Istropolis, Trnavské myto 1,
July 4: Closing Mass, General Session 7 & Closing Ceremony: St. Martin's Cathedral

Social Program

An attractive social evening program for the congress participants and accompanying persons will be organized – details will be announced in the Final Program (registration required). Guided tours of Bratislava and surroundings will be organized for accompanying persons. Post-congress tours and other T.A. services available: details see below, and in the enclosed **Booking Form**.

St. Luke Award

Limited number of supporting grants for participation of persons from CEE countries (non-candidate countries to EU only) will be available subject to funding availability. The Award will cover the congress fee and local expenses (accommodation & meals), but not the travel expenses. Preference will be given to the active participants (authors of papers accepted for oral or poster presentation) and authors aged < 35 years. Please, tick the appropriate box in the **Registration Form**.

GENERAL INFORMATION (continued)

Meals

Light lunches, refreshments and dinners will be served on Friday and Saturday at the congress venue (included in the congress fee).

Congress Fee

Participants from WE countries	110,- EUR
Participants from CEE countries	40,- EUR
Nurses	30,- EUR
Students	20,- EUR

Includes: admission to the scientific sessions, congress materials, lunches, dinners and refreshments during the breaks, participation in the main social program.

N.B. Reduction or waiver of the congress fee possible in exceptional circumstances. The well-substantiated **requests in writing** should reach the Congress Secretariat **no later than April 30, 2004**.

Methods of Payment

For your convenience (and to reduce the bank fees incurred), the **Congress Fee should be paid together with the fees for accommodation and other services** in one payment to the bank account of EMILY TOURS T.A., as indicated in the **Booking Form**, and **no later than April 30, 2004**.

Payment by money **bank transfer** or by a **credit card** (major credit cards accepted). All payments must be free of bank charges to the payee at the point of remittance. Detailed payment instructions will be given in the invoice sent to you from EMILY TOURS T.A.

Accommodation

The rooms in selected hotels of various categories have been pre-booked for the congress participants at special congress rates. See **Hotel Information** (below) and **Booking Form** for more details.

Booking Procedure

Please, complete the enclosed **Booking Form** indicating the choice of your hotel and return it **by mail, fax, or e-mail** to EMILY TOURS T. A. **no later than March 1, 2004**. Requests will be honoured in the order as received and subject to the room availability.

The **preliminary invoice** pre-confirming the reservation and indicating the **total price of services requested** will be send to you by EMILY TOURS T. A. together with detailed payment instructions.

Payment must be made **no later than April 30, 2004**. On receipt of the payment EMILY TOURS T. A. will issue a **voucher**, confirming the reservation.

Cancellation Policy

Please notify EMILY TOURS T. A. **in writing** as soon as possible, if your reservations must be cancelled. In the case of an early cancellation – **before April 30, 2004**, no cancellation fees, full refund.

For late cancellations – **before June 15, 2004**, **one night deposit** will be subtracted from the amount refunded + cancellation fee **15%** of the total amount paid. In the case of a very late cancellation - **after June 15 and before June 30, 2004**, **one night deposit** will be subtracted from the amount refunded + cancellation fee **25%** of the total amount paid.

Hotel Information

FORUM**** Down-town, about 15 min. drive from the congress venue.
Single & double standard room: 127,- EUR, single & double superior room: 143,- EUR.

DANUBE**** Down-town, about 15 min. drive from the congress venue.
Single room: 105,- EUR, double room: 115,- EUR.

DEVÍN **** Down-town, about 15 min. drive from the congress venue.
Single room: 110,- EUR, double room: 125,- EUR.

HOLIDAY INN**** A standard Holiday Inn, about 2 km from the city centre,
about 20 min. drive from the congress venue.
Single room or double room: 121,- EUR.

TATRA*** Down-town, about 15 min. drive from the congress venue.
Single room: 92,- EUR, double room: 117,- EUR.

CITY HOTEL BRATISLAVA*** Situated between the airport and the city centre –
about 15 minutes drive to each. About 20 min. drive to the congress venue.
Standard single room: 47,- EUR, standard double room: 54,- EUR.

KYJEV*** Down-town, about 10 min. drive to the congress venue.
Standard single room: 45,- EUR, standard double room: 54,- EUR.

IBIS HOTEL CENTRUM*** Down-town, about 20 min. drive to the congress venue.
Single room: 72,- EUR, double room: 80,- EUR.

BARÓNKA*** Located in the eastern part of Bratislava, in the quite Rača suburb.
About 20 min. drive to the city centre. About 15 min. drive to the congress venue.
Single room: 38,- EUR, double room solo use: 44,- EUR, double room: 53,- EUR,
little double room: 44,- EUR, business room: 63,- EUR.

SÚZA** Located in an attractive, quiet district of Bratislava with a nice view on the city and
the river Danube. Limited local transport (bus á 30 min.), good for those coming by own car.
About 20 min. drive to the congress venue.
Single room: 28,- EUR, double room: 43,- EUR.

NIVY** Close to downtown (10 min drive), about 5 min. drive from Congress venue.
Single room: 46,- EUR, double room: 50,- EUR.

ÚVS – Institute for Education and Services** Located in a quiet district of Bratislava –
Kramáre. About 15 min drive to the congress venue. Limited local transport (about 10 min.
walk up the hill), good for those coming by own car.
Single room: 23,- EUR, double room: 33,- EUR, 3-bed room: 48,- EUR.

All rates include daily charges for the room, breakfast, VAT and city tax.

Transportation

By air: Direct flights to Bratislava Int. Airport possible from several major European airports. Vienna Schwechat Int. Airport is recommended for all other passengers (only 60 km from Bratislava city centre).

Direct bus service from the Vienna Schwechat air terminal to Bratislava Bus Terminal available (see at www.eurolines.sk/en_home.htm).

By train: Easy train connection to Bratislava Main Railway Station via Vienna, Budapest, Prague, Brno.

By car: Good highway connection via Vienna (with exception of about 50 km part to the border), Budapest, Prague, Brno.

Local: Bratislava has a well-developed, rather low-priced local transport system (buses, trams, trolleybuses). Excellent availability of taxis at reasonable prices.

Banking

Name of the currency used in the Slovak Republic is the Slovak Crown (in Slovak – „Slovenská koruna“ (SKK)). Exchange offices are widely available in the city centre, railway/bus terminal, and in major hotels. The rates offered are very similar (slightly lower in hotels). It is absolutely **not** recommended to change money on the streets. All major credit cards are accepted in most hotels and in many shops and hypermarket stores.

Weather

Bratislava has a mild continental weather. July usually is a fairly hot and dry month, average temperatures 21.0 C (average range 14.0 – 26.0 C), but daily temperatures above 30.0 C may easily prevail – subject to the actual meteorological situation.

Clothing

Informal for most occasions.

Program for Accompanying Persons

An attractive excursions program will be organised in Bratislava and its surroundings. Minimum number of participants: 12 persons. Please, visit the congress web site for more information and updates. Use the enclosed **Booking Form** to register.

Pre- & Post-Congress Tours

Pre-congress and **post-congress** tours will be organised for the congress participants and accompanying persons. Please, visit the congress web site for more information and updates. Use the enclosed **Booking Form** to register.

Special Travel & Tourist Services

EMILY TOURS T.A. will operate the Travel and Tourist Services Desk at the Congress Registration Desk to provide any tourist or travel services and information you may require, as well as to book the additional tours, excursions and accommodation.

Possibility to arrange special pre- and post-congress trips and other programmes for groups and individuals. Please, contact directly EMILY TOURS T.A. for individual or group arrangements.

T1: Bratislava Sightseeing

Dates: July 1, 2, 3, 4, 2004; 09:00 – 12:00 (coach and walking)

Guided tour of the most significant historical sights of Bratislava. Price per person: 16,- EUR (a coach, guide, entrance fees, refreshments).

T2: Beautiful and Historical Surroundings of Bratislava

Dates: July, 2, 2004; 10:00 – 16:00 (Full day tour)

A guided trip of the Small Carpathian Mountains region famous for its wines and ceramics (highlights - town Modra, Castle of Red Stone). Price per person: 30,- EUR (a coach, guide, entrance fees, lunch).

T3: Boat Cruise on the River Danube – Devín Castle

Dates: July 4, 2004; 09:30 – 13:30

A panoramatic cruise on the Danube river to the ruins of the Devín Castle, incl. visit of the castle. Price per person: 14,- EUR (a guide, entrance fee to the castle, a boat, refreshments).

T4: Piešťany Spa – Trnava

Dates: July 1, 2004; 08:30 – 17:00 (Full day tour)

An attractive guided visit to Piešťany – one of the most popular and famous spa and health resorts in Slovakia, and to Trnava ("Slovak Rome") – historical and university city rich in architectural and historical sights. Price per person: 27,- EUR (a coach, guide, entrance fees).

T5: Vienna Sightseeing

Dates: July 1, 2004; 08:30 – 17:00 (Full day tour)

A sightseeing tour including the most famous sights of the Austrian capital (State Opera House, the Hofburg, the Parliament, the City Hall, and the Schönbrunn Palace). Lunch in a typical Austrian restaurant. Some free time for individual interests (shopping). Price per person: 72,- EUR (a coach, guide, lunch, entrance fees).

T6: The High Tatras and Spiš Region

Dates: July 4 – 7, 2004 (Sunday – Tuesday; 3 days/ 3 nights)

The *High Tatras* National Park, tour of the mountain health resorts and various tourist attractions. The region of Spiš, is famous for its unique historical, architecture and nature sights. Visit to *Pieniny* National Park (various attractions), to historical cities Kežmarok, Levoča, Spišský Castle and more. Price: double room/2 persons 440,- EUR, single room/1 person 290,- EUR (2 overnight stays with dinner and breakfast at **** hotel, 2 full days coach touring, guide, transfers, entrance fees), not included lunches and the transport from Bratislava to Poprad and back.

T7: Nitra – Topoľčianky – Bojnice

Dates: July 4, 2004; 08:00 – 19:00 (Full day tour)

Nitra, an important historical city since Moravia magna empire in 9th C (apostles of Slavonic people – St. Cyrill and Methodius, etc.), beautiful countryside surroundings. Topoľčianky, museum, splendid large parks. Bojnice, a huge complex of French style chateaux. Price per person: 30,- EUR (a coach, guide, entrance fees).

T8: Budapest – the Capital of Hungary

Dates: July 4, 2004, 08:00 – 18:00 (Full day tour)

A guided sightseeing tour of the city. Lunch in a typical Hungarian restaurant. Some extra time for individual interests. Price per person: 59,- EUR (a coach, guide, lunch).

PRAYER OF THE CATHOLIC DOCTOR

Lord Jesus,

Divine Physician, who in your earthly life showed special concern for those who suffer and entrusted to your disciples the ministry of healing, make us ever ready to alleviate the trials of our brethren. Make each one of us, aware of the great mission that is entrusted to him, strive always to be, in the performance of daily service, an instrument of your merciful love. Enlighten our minds, guide our hands, make our hearts diligent and compassionate. Ensure that in every patient we know how to discern the features of your divine Face.

You who are the *Way*, provide us with the gift of knowing how to imitate you every day as medical doctors not only of the body but of the whole person, helping those who are sick to tread with trust their own earthly path until the moment of their encounter with You.

You who are the *Truth*, provide us with the gift of wisdom and science in order to penetrate the mystery of the human person and their transcendent destiny as we draw near to them in order to discover the causes of their maladies and find suitable remedies.

You who are the *Life*, provide us with the gift of preaching and bearing witness to the 'Gospel of life' in our profession, committing ourselves to defending it always, from conception to its natural end, and to respect the dignity of every human being, and especially the dignity of the weakest and the most in need.

Make us O Lord, *Good Samaritans*, ready to welcome, treat, and console those we encounter in our work. Following the example of the holy medical doctors who have preceded us, help us to offer our generous contribution to the constant renewal of health care structures.

Bless our studies and our profession, enlighten our research and our teaching. Lastly, grant to us, having constantly loved and served You in our suffering brethren, that at the end of our earthly pilgrimage we may contemplate your glorious countenance and experience the joy of the encounter with You in your Kingdom of joy and everlasting peace.

Amen.

The Vatican, 29 June 2000

John Paul II.