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DECONSTRUCTION OF TOLERANCE AND
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Socio-Bioethics of Migration. The Deconstruction of Tolerance and Reinvention of Terror

Antonio SANDU¹

Abstract

Philosophical research, especially the one taking place in the European space, is about to widen, taking a new area: socio-bioethics of migration. The wave of refugees coming from countries that are in conflict, namely the countries that are under the influence of the Islamic State and other terrorist radical organizations, raise a series of ethical issues, among which, the most obvious are the one regarding fair treatment that the migrants and the refugees are entitled to. The issue of tolerance and of the postmodern construction of the relationship with the Other as the bearer of values that are complementary to you is, at the moment, deconstructed into that act of terrorist threat and of reinventing Terror.

Keywords: *bioethics of migration, bioterrorism, asylum, public health threats.*

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Introduction

The wave of refugees coming from countries that are in conflict, namely the countries that are under the influence of the Islamic State and other terrorist radical organizations, raise a series of ethical issues, among which, the most obvious are the one regarding fair treatment that the migrants and the refugees are entitled to. Philosophical research, especially the one taking place in the European space, is about to widen, taking a new area: socio-bioethics of migration. The issue of tolerance and of the postmodern construction of the relationship with the Other as the bearer of values that are complementary to you is, at the moment, deconstructed into that act of terrorist threat and of reinventing Terror. The recent terrorist attacks that have affected France, Belgium, and in general Europe, have re-awakened the speech of Terror.

Bioethical perspectives on migration

Cases that are already excessively publicized, such as that of refugee children that died while traveling to the countries of destination, and whose bodies were brought to shore, have brought sensitivity in the public opinion in favour of the refugees, but have also radicalized the voices – including the public ones- who oppose to the acceptance of refugees in European countries.

A number of possible situations will raise issues of bioethical nature, generated, among others, by the recurrence of diseases considered to have been eradicated in Europe, such as: polio, malaria etc.

- An important ethical dilemma will be related to the priority of the right to public health vs. the right to asylum.
- In what context could there arise situations of refusing asylum based on medical data and of the risk for public health?

It will be interesting to see if these rejections of the state of asylum will be individual, or will extend to individuals from an area of risk.

Features of the therapeutical relationship. Sensitivity to cultural diversity

There shall appear a series of ethical problems regarding the therapeutic relationship (doctor-patient) that is different in the transcultural

and transreligious context. Medical care will have to be given in therapeutic conditions that are sensitive to cultural diversity, in particular in issues of confidentiality and communicating the diagnosis, particularities of the therapeutic act, especially in emergency and life-saving therapies, mental diseases etc. In ensuring equitable conditions of access to health care, there shall arise numerous challenges for the health systems of the receiving countries, in the context of the sudden increase and massive request for health care.

The hybrid war and using migrants in bioterrorist operations

Another issue will be that of using own population in the hybrid war carried by the Islamic state, pushed in the migrating process possibly intentionally, by terrorist leaders.

The threat of bioterrorism as vulnerability of security opens another direction of work in studying the ethical acceptability of risks implied by the migrating phenomena on the extremely large scale.

Conclusions

We support the active role of philosophical community in promoting the values of tolerance and acceptability of human values in general, in the context of a multicultural era, arguing in favour of the need to sensitize the scientific community in the field, in order to participate actively to the public debates on the issue of the security impact of massive migration, and especially of reinventing Terror as a speech.

Biodata



Antonio SANDU currently works as Professor PhD at the “Stefan cel Mare” University of Suceava, and as a Senior Researcher at the LUMEN Research Centre in Social & Humanistic Sciences in Iași (Romania). He was appointed Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Ethics and Health Policy of “Gr. T. Popa” University, Iasi. He has a BA in Philosophy, another one in Social Work, and the third BA in law. The author also has a MA in Probation and Social Reintegration from “Al. I. Cuza” University. He has a PhD in Philosophy from the “Al. I. Cuza” University, Iași (Romania), with a thesis

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His main areas of interest include ethics, bioethics, social work and social philosophy. He has authored more than 15 books in Social Work, Philosophy, and Applied Ethics, with more than 100 articles in scientific peer-reviewed journals.

The original contributions of the author’s scientific activities start from the social construction of reality, and social constructionism seen from a semiological perspective. He analyses the social construction of reality by developing his very own version of social constructionism at the intersection between the constructionist paradigm and the theory of communicative action.