The 2nd International Conference on Ethics Education was held in Ankara between the 21st and 23rd of May, 2014. The conference was an activity of the International Association for Education in Ethics (IAEE) and Ankara University. After the inaugural conference in Duquesne University Pittsburgh in the United States of America in May of 2012, the Ankara Conference continued to contribute to the development of the IAEE.

The conference had a broader impact on the ethics education in all over the world. More than 180 scholars from 23 different countries participated, including representatives from Japan, Colombia, the United States, India, Israel, Ireland, Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, Brazil, France, Mexico, Kazakhstan, Saudi Arabia, Bulgaria, Jordan and Malta. I am really grateful to all of the colleagues who travelled for long hours to reach Ankara and share their academic experiences with us.

There were four keynote speaker sessions, and there were eight conferences that were in plenary sessions (The topics and keynote speakers were as follows: The Principle of Vulnerability in Present-day Global Bioethics (HENK ten HAVE), Ethics Education From UNESCO’s Point of View (DAFNA FEINHOLZ), Tackling 21st Century Ethical Challenges: The Role of Education, Legislation and Moral Enhancement (BERT GORDIJN), Medical Futility: The Importance of Public and Professional Education (ALIREZA BAGHERI), Education In Medical Ethics And Medical Law: The French Model (ANNE MARIE DUGUET), Making Bioethics Everyone’s Business: Origins of Respect for Human Vulnerability and Responsible Conduct of Research (KERİM MÜNİR), Ethics, Non-Discrimination and Non-Stigmatization in the Light of Article 11 of the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights of UNESCO (VOLNEI GARRAFA), and Patients’ Rights Legislation in Azerbaijan: Current Situation and New Proposals (VUGAR MAMMADOV).

The conference also hosted one panel discussion, which included a discussion on Bioethics Post-Graduate Programs: Students Feedback by our PhD students. The discussion was moderated by ALIREZA BAGHERI and HENK Ten HAVE offered comments. There were six parallel oral presentations in that took place in four halls, in addition to two sessions for poster discussions.

The next conference will be in Natal, Brazil in 2015, and the IAEE General Assembly will be held on the second day of conference. In addition, a gala dinner will take place in Cengelhan, a conference dedication to Mausoleum of Ataturk has been scheduled, and a trip to the Anatolian Civilizations Museum has been organized.

The Journal of Medicine and Law, the official journal of the World Association for Medical Law, issued a call for papers for accepted and presented studies in this conference. Participants had until the end of June 2014 to submit their full texts.

I would like to offer my impressions on this very fruitful meeting, as the chair of the conference in Ankara, the “world capital of ethics for three days in May.”

Berna ARDA, MD, Med Spec, PhD
Ethics Editor, Balkan Medical Journal
IAEE Chair of the Board, Vice President of WAML
Ankara University Faculty of Medicine