

St. André International Center X for Ethics and Integrity

Ethics of End-of-Life Care: Contributions from the Arts and Humanities

11 - 15 February 2026 • Rome, Italy

An intensive ethics seminar organized in cooperation
with the Pontifical Academy Pro Vita, Vatican City
and the Château Saint André Center, France

Objective

Care for the dying and their loved ones is a most rewarding but also challenging endeavor. Such care can evoke complex moral questions that often defy standard methods of ethical analysis. In this seminar, we enter into dialogue with the arts and humanities to gain new insights about the human condition, find meaning in the final phase of life, and achieve a truly dignified death.

Approach

Whereas internationally renowned experts will introduce the themes, the core of this seminar will be a sustained discussion among all participants. Conversations will extend from the classroom to cultural excursions in the city of Rome and many shared meals. Participants are encouraged to prepare a short presentation to stimulate still more dialogue. Registration is limited to 20 persons.

Combination with the Annual Conference of the Pontifical Academy for Life

Immediately following the seminar, participants can attend the two-day annual conference of the Pontifical Academy for Life (16-17/2/2026). The topic of the 2026 meeting is Healthcare for All: Sustainability and Equity. A private audience with Pope Leo has been scheduled as well.

Teaching Staff

Jos Welie, MA, MMedS, JD, PhD, President of the St. André International Center for Ethics and Integrity (France/Netherlands) and Professor Emeritus of Medical Humanities (USA) (Seminar Director) • Christof Betschart, PhD, President of the Teresianum University, Rome (Switzerland/Italy) • Andrea Ciucci, PhD, Pontifical Academy for Life (Vatican City) • Andrea De Santis, PhD, Dean of Philosophy, Ateneo Sant'Anselmo (Italy/Germany) • Henk ten Have, MD, PhD, Professor of Health Care Ethics, Anahuac University (Netherlands/Mexico) • Corry A. Lebeque, PhD, Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Theology, Laval University (Canada) • Linda Scheirton, PhD, Professor Emerita, Creighton University (USA) & Chateau Saint André Center (France)

