Infant male circumcision: Should the practice be regulated?
Barbora Palesova, King’s College London

The current review of the medical- and rights-based implications of infant male circumcision provides a partial justification for the decision of the Cologne district court and other recent European initiatives to ban or regulate the practice. It is argued that the procedure is only justifiable in the presence of a medical indication. It is further argued that the parental preferences and their rights alone should not be legally sufficient to provide a consent to remove a healthy tissue from a newborn’s body. Instead, the potential harm and medically unnecessary nature of the procedure make the right to bodily integrity, and other rights enshrined in core human rights documents central arguments in favour of regulating MC, making it safer, painless, and a matter of the concerned child’s (or becoming adult’s) fully informed consent. Barbora Palesova will present her work and the audience will be invited to participate in a group discussion.