



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF SYMPOSIA ON MORPHOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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L'Aquila, May 8th, 2019

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

In regard to the Law proposal n. 733 on body donation that has recently been approved by the Italian Senate, we would like to express our deep concern that, in its current state, this decree would halt dissection activities at the anatomy Departments of Italian Universities, greatly hindering research and education activities in our field.

I would also like to note that body donation is a well-established practice in many foreign countries. Donors in other countries have the option of offering their bodies to medical institutions unconditionally and indefinitely, for long-term educational and scientific purposes.

Furthermore, there is no need for apprehension about the treatment of donated bodies: Anatomists have centuries of experience in using them, as well as in teaching their students the appropriate procedures to ensure the utmost respect, attention and care during their handling.

This said, I believe that the distinction between the use of donated bodies for teaching and research purposes, which should obviously be carried out by Universities and anatomy Departments, and their use for surgeon training activities should be maintained.

Thank you for your attention, and we hope you will consider these observations.

Best regards,

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