

### At a glance

Publisher	Springer (contract in preparation)
Series	International Library of Bioethics
Editors	David Černý Tomáš Doležal Adam Doležal (Czech Academy of Sciences)
Format	Peer-reviewed edited volume

### Key dates

28 Feb 2026  
Extended abstracts due

30 Oct 2026 Full  
chapters due

30 Dec 2026  
Final manuscript to Springer

### Submission

Send a single PDF/DOCX with:  
title, 400–800 word abstract,  
4–6 keywords, and a short bio.

Submit to the editors  
(david.cerny@ilaw.cas.cz).

Subject line: “Psychiatric  
Euthanasia – Chapter  
Proposal”.

# Psychiatric Euthanasia

## Philosophical, Ethical, and Legal Perspectives

Psychiatric euthanasia and physician-assisted dying for persons with mental disorders has become one of the most contested frontiers in end-of-life ethics, psychiatry, and health law. We invite chapter proposals that bring conceptual clarity, normative rigor, and attention to ethical, legal and clinical realities.

### Aim of the volume

This edited volume provides a systematic, international account of psychiatric euthanasia, integrating philosophical analysis, normative bioethics, comparative law, and clinical/empirical perspectives.

### We invite chapters that...

- advance a clear thesis with defensible argumentation;
- engage with uncertainty, treatment resistance, capacity, and voluntariness;
- address safeguards, oversight, vulnerability, justice, and accountability.

### Suggested topics (indicative)

#### Foundations

- conceptual distinctions; the nature of mental suffering;
- autonomy, competence/capacity, voluntariness, ambivalence.

#### Normative debates

- parity arguments (psychiatric vs somatic indications) and their limits;
- slippery-slope and expressivist concerns; symbolic meaning and stigma.

#### Law & governance

- comparative regulation and oversight (e.g., Netherlands, Belgium, Canada);
- regulatory design: safeguards, accountability, evidentiary standards.

#### Clinical & empirical

- irremediability, prognosis, and epistemic limits in psychiatry;
- assessing voluntariness and stability of the wish to die; distinguishing suicidality-as-symptom from a sustained request
- future directions: research priorities, policy implications, professional guidance.

### Further details

Chapters may be disciplinary or interdisciplinary, but should be written in a way that is legible across fields. We encourage authors to connect normative claims with procedural, legal, and clinical realities, and to be explicit about assumptions.

### Expanded list of possible angles

- “irremediability” and evidentiary thresholds in psychiatry;
- uncertainty, risk, and the ethics of prognostic judgment;
- suicide prevention and assisted dying frameworks;
- vulnerability, coercion, and structural injustice (stigma, poverty, loneliness, access to care);
- review procedures and professional accountability; second opinions and multidisciplinary panels;
- comparative analysis of statutes, guidelines, and case law; lessons for emerging jurisdictions;
- policy implications and research priorities for the next decade.

### What to include in the abstract

- research question / thesis and contribution to the debate;
- brief outline (main sections or argument steps);
- method or approach (normative analysis, legal doctrine, empirical synthesis, etc.);
- short note on how the chapter speaks to an international audience.

### Review and editorial process

All submitted chapters will be reviewed as part of an editor-coordinated peer-review process. Editors will work with authors to ensure terminological clarity, conceptual coherence across parts, and high scholarly standards.

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