A Journey of People with Values

Globethics.net 2004-2014
Congratulations - asante sana - 谢谢

"Wow… This is the most inspiring platform I have ever seen… Amazing indeed!"
Nigeria

"I can’t afford to buy books that I urgently need for my teaching in ethics at University level. But now I am so excited about the Globethics.net online library. This helps me a lot to get access to incredibly many articles and books, for free.”
Indonesia

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Ethiopia

"La calidad de los trabajos de este grupo académico es impresionante y los temas básicos son formidables.”
Puerto Rico

"Congratulations for initiating the Globethics.net library. It is indeed an important forum for reference on global ethical issues.”
Kenya

"I found publications from developing countries in your online libraries which I never found before in our German libraries. Thanks for these voices from the South!”
Germany

"全球伦理网中国地区的论文竞赛激励着我思考我的职业伦理道德”
China

"The idea to set up Globethics.net was not only right, but highly desirable. Special thanks to Christoph Stückelberger for the brilliant idea. I am proud and happy to be part of your success.”
India

"Merci de votre compréhension et vos efforts déployés pour mettre sur pied ce grand projet.”
Haiti

"Your newsletter gives knowledge how to build our individual and society’s ethical values in every field. Today where we face corruption, law and order, poverty, gender discrimination, inequality and terrorism, it is our ethical responsibility to take part in the development of our community and our country to make the world peaceful for the coming generation.”
Pakistan

"Nous allons participer à ce réseau et nous sommes d'avis de partager nos expériences afin de contribuer au processus du développement du monde en fonction du respect de l'éthique et des principes fondamentaux du droit humain. Merci bien et bon courage”
Niger

"The quarterly forum of Globethics.net India connects me to other people who look for integrity”

"I am impressed by the range of material and appreciated having it available.”
United Kingdom

"I thank over 125,000 participants, the staff, volunteers, and supporters for their wisdom and joy in building together this wonderful global community for a humane world Special thanks to President Walter Fust for his guidance and amazing connectivity.”
Christoph Stückelberger

"The paper competition of Globethics.net China stimulates me to reflect on my professional ethics”

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"I am impressed by the range of material and appreciated having it available.”
"How did you have the idea to create Globethics.net?" Many people have asked the founder Christoph Stückelberger this question. He tells the founding story:

"As General Secretary of the Swiss Protestant development agency ‘Bread for all' (from 1992 to 2004) and a professor of ethics I always tried to support development by promoting ethical orientation, fair trade (I founded several fair trade initiatives) and anti-corruption efforts (as the founder of the Swiss chapter of Transparency International). From 2002 to 2008 I initiated and led a programme to support and establish ethics centres in developing countries for value-based advocacy in economic and political transformation in China (Nanjing and Shanghai), Kenya (Nairobi) and Cameroon (Yaounde). In 2003 we started to link these ethics centres in Africa and Asia.

"In 2003, the World Summit for the Information Society (WSIS) in Geneva opened my eyes to the key role of information technologies in development. This led me to the vision of creating a global network on ethics for development, based on the three pillars of ethics, development and the internet. The internet I saw as a platform to develop together common global values and respect that at the same time embraced the diversity of values, cultures and religions. I developed the concept of a global community of individuals, of institutions and of documents.

"With a web designer in Geneva and with the support of Evelyn Appiah from Ghana we created the website, logo and name, Globethics.net. I invited 25 persons from all continents to the founding workshop in Bossey near Geneva for one week from 23 to 28 August 2004. Twenty-five persons – professors of ethics and campaigners, development practitioners and officials of international organisations, men and women from all continents – developed during this planning workshop the concept, goals, research principles, network methods, data collection ideas and the profile of Globethics.net. We appointed together a Steering Committee of persons from India, Brazil, the USA, Russia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lebanon and Switzerland and myself as Founder President [see list p.14]. Each workshop participant received a personal page on the new website (similar to today) and an institutional page. Globethics.net was born!"
Globethics.net decided to develop its Global Digital Library on Ethics in 2007 and developed the complex concept and software during one and a half years. The online library together with a completely renewed website technology was launched on 9 October 2008 giving free access to full text versions of hundreds of thousand documents. The library has grown to become the leading global digital library on ethics. The idea was and remains to ensure access to good quality and up to date knowledge resources in the field of applied ethics to enable persons and institutions, especially in the Global South to become more visible and audible in the global conversation on ethics.

A second library, the Global Digital Library on Theology and Ecumenism (GlobeTheoLib) was launched in September 2011 with plans to develop a digital library on philosophy and others on major religious traditions in the future. In June 2012, Globethics.net got the mandate for 2012-2014 from the African Innovation Foundation AIF to implement the African Online Library on Law and Governance (African Law Library ALL) on the same technological platform as Globethics.net. It was launched in November 2013 in Addis Ababa and in December 2013 in Geneva. It developed fast and on 1 July 2014 ALL became independent from Globethics.net and was integrated in the AIF platform. Participants have the opportunity to submit their own documents on applied ethics to the libraries in their own language as well as having access to articles, books, reference works, journals and special collections. The documents in the library are fully searchable and are drawn from open access repositories, paid-for commercial books (mostly reference) and journals as well as material from partner institutions and participants themselves who have uploaded their own documents. The Globethics.net libraries are developed as an international project with the assistance of many partners, technical, scientific, business and network partners.

The quantitative outcome of Globethics.net during the first ten years can be measured in figures. The 49 Chinese articles of paper competitions on ethics have been downloaded 300,000 times within a year from the Globethics.net website “Forum” by students who learn from other students about ethics and values. The 45 books of Globethics.net own publications have been downloaded over 250,000 times from the website under “publications”, most of them by those who cannot afford to buy books. From the libraries there have been over 5,5 million page views of the Globethics.net website during the last five years, an expression of the thirst for value-orientation. Almost 2,000 persons participated in the 18 international conferences and in Globethics.net training sessions. The testimonials on pages 2-3 are examples of impact.

The long term impact is much more difficult to measure, especially in educational programmes such as Globethics.net. The impact is on transformation in behaviour and policies. The leaders reached by Globethics.net impacted their institutions, professions, businesses and societies in reducing corruption and inequality, increasing governance integrity and ethical professional decisions in business, media, medicine, parliaments, public administration, courts, NGOs, academic and religious organisations. Training of entrepreneurs in Asia and Africa led directly to improvements for employees’ health and environment and to increased philanthropy. Belonging to Globethics.net as a global values-driven community has encouraged tens of thousands of persons in their struggle for an ethical society.

www.globethics.net/libraries
The **Regional Programmes** represent Globethics.net in large countries or regions covering five to 20 countries. They are all hosted by an institution, often a university or ethics centre. They have two or three directors who hold senior academic or other professional posts, employed programme executives and advisory boards. From 2009 to 2014 the programmes have grown steadily in importance and now represent key pillars of Globethics.net. They provide regional content for the libraries, organise conferences as well as a wide range of contextualized projects and publications. The programmes enrich global outreach by establishing relationships with local contacts, attracting new participants and by improving access through translations of website content and important documents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regional Programme</th>
<th>Year started</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Africa</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Francophone Africa</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The **National Contacts** represent Globethics.net in specific countries where they are focal points for coordination, but without financial support from the Head Office. They were established in 2013 and number 40 in total in 2014.
### Globethics.net International and Regional Conferences

The list includes only conferences organised by the Globethics.net Head Office. In addition, the Regional Programmes have organised over 30 conferences and workshops between 2009 and 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Conference Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>23-29 Aug</td>
<td>Geneva, Switzerland</td>
<td>Founding Workshop of Globethics.net</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>22-26 Sept</td>
<td>Bangkok, Thailand</td>
<td>Annual International Conference: “Responsible Leadership”</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
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<td>Beirut, Lebanon</td>
<td>Regional Conference: “The Use of Holy Scripture in Conflict Resolution”</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>27-31 Aug</td>
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<td>Annual International Conference: “Fundamentalism and Ethics”</td>
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</tr>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>25-29 Jan</td>
<td>Nairobi, Kenya</td>
<td>Annual International Conference: “Care and Compassion: Sharing Values across Cultures and Religions”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>27-31 Apr</td>
<td>Mysore, India</td>
<td>Global Ethics Forum: “Global and Contextual Ethics”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2 May</td>
<td>San José, Costa Rica</td>
<td>Regional Conference: “Enhancing Life Ethics in Science and Technology”</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>3 May</td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey</td>
<td>Regional Conference with Turkish Ethics and Reputations Society (TEID): “Capitalism 2.0 and Ethical Leadership”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>9-10 Jun</td>
<td>Bangalore, India</td>
<td>Global Ethics Forum: “Equal in an Unequal World”</td>
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**www.globethics.net/gef**

**Global Ethics Forum Geneva 2010**

**Business Ethics, Mysore, India 2009**

**Responsible Leadership, Bangalore, Thailand 2013**

Due to an increase in demand for Globethics.net’s knowledge and expertise in the field of ethics, and its application in various contexts, Globethics.net has been implementing projects in collaboration with other organisations since 2009. Often they take the form of consultancies, conferences, workshops, or seminars. One of the largest projects to date has been the African Law Library (www.africanlawlibrary.net), a mandate of the African Innovation Fund, which came to fruition in 2014 (see page 6).

One example of these projects includes the IFLA/FAIFE Satellite Meeting organised by Globethics.net in August 2014 that centred on questions concerning information ethics, in preparation for the larger IFLA meeting in Lyon.

Research
Research and research projects that Globethics.net engages in are always related to various relevant topics in ethics, driven by international needs, and are focused on practical implementation as well as on theoretical foundations. Often our research projects are developed from conclusions made at our annual Global Ethics Forum (GEF). Examples would include the Business Ethics Network of Africa (BEN-Africa) conference held in October 2014 in South Africa as follow up of GEF in Bangalore, the special collection on Confucian Ethics in the Globethics.net library, research on the scientific foundation of the understanding of Global Ethics, the Africa-China Survey, the Global Survey on Business Ethics in Teaching, Training and Research and many others.

Workgroups
Globethics.net’s research workgroups are online, meaning they can transcend borders and avoid the usual limitations that inhibit international collaboration and conferences. The workgroups are online communities of practice where participants can conduct research by reviewing literature, sharing views on issues, preparing conferences, holding online seminars, or edit publications collaboratively. The workgroups can be open or private, or be made to specifically invite persons with relevant interests in the Globethics.net network. Currently, there are more than 30 active workgroups with anywhere between 5 to 100 participants.

One example is the Global Ecumenical Theological Institute (GETI), which was a major event for about 150 younger advanced theology students from all regions of the world and all Christian denominations that took place in Busan, Korea in November 2013. The 150 students used the workgroup space for documentation, as a forum, and to follow up with a publication.

Publications
Globethics.net publishes scholarly works in applied ethics (theological, philosophical), doctoral theses, publications on African law and practical tools of ethics that Globethics.net is committed to making accessible to a wide audience. In the last five years Globethics.net has published 50 publications, with over 265,000 downloads from all around the world. Additionally, professional editing services, international cataloguing (ISBN etc.) and marketing through the global network are provided. Globethics.net publications are also produced at a low cost to the authors, and digital copies are always available for free to the public from our website. Publications are always available in the original language, in order to respect the diversity of languages, but translations are possible after discussion. For bulk orders of hard copies, we provide special rates for orders from the Global South, with price adjustments, and single print copies can be ordered through Amazon.
From the very beginning Globethics.net has been international, inclusive and innovative. This applies also to the way that Globethics.net is governed, inviting respected experts, representing all continents, and various religions and sectors.

**The new Board of Foundation members took up office on 1 January 2009, representing all continents, and various religions and sectors.**

**Afr**
- Prof. Dr. Samuel Risk, Lebanon, Executive Director of Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue
- Ms. Muteho Kasongo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Professor of Ethics and development specialist
- Dr. Parichart Suwanbubbha, Indonesia, Professor of Gender Studies, UTC
- Prof. Dr. Walter Fust, President of the Board, Executive Director of the Global Humanitarian Forum Geneva, Switzerland (Global, Politics)
- Prof. Dr. Heidi Hadsell, USA, Professor of social ethics and President of Hartford Seminary (North America, Christian Ethics)
- Prof. Dr. Muhammad Māchāsin, Director of Islamic Higher Education, Ministry of Religious Affairs, Indonesia (Asia, Islam)
- Dr. Paribart Sowonabhibba, Professor Mahdoll University Research Center on Peace Building, Bangkok, Thailand (Asia, Buddhism)
- Mr. S.D. Shibuul, Chief Operating Officer, Co-founder and Member of the Board Infosys, Bangalore, India (Global, Private Sector)

**Ar**
- Rev. Dr. Samuel Kohla, Former General Secretary of the World Council of Churches (Africa, Judiciary and Churches)
- Dr. Clorlde Fonseca, Minister of Science and Technology, San José, Costa Rica (Politics, Education)
- Dr. Juan Samavis, Director of the International Labour Organization (International organizations)
- Ms. Jill Cousins, Director of the European Digital Library, The Netherlands (Europe, Online Libraries)

**Eu**
- Mr. Walter Fust, President of the Board, Executive Director of the Global Humanitarian Forum Geneva, Switzerland (Global, Politics)
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**Lat**
- Latin America: Prof. Dr. Paula Carneiro de Andrade, Brazil, Professor of Philosophy
- North America: Prof. Dr. Heidi Hadsell, USA, Professor of social ethics and President of Hartford Seminary
- Europe: Mr. Pavel Shekin, Russia, General Secretary, Expert Council on Ethics and Economy, Moscow Patriarchate
- International Representative: Dr. Martin Bra, Switzerland, World Council of Churches
- Chairperson and Founder: Prof. Dr. Christoph Stückelberger, Switzerland, Professor of Ethics and development specialist

In 2008 the decision was taken to strengthen Globethics.net as an institution by changing the legal status from an association to a foundation with a Board of Foundation, which has given not only important start-up funds were provided by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), also as some private foundations and smaller development agencies. Particular thanks are due to the Linsi Foundation, which has given not only significant financial support during every year of the last decade, but has also provided moral support for the Globethics.net endeavour since the beginning. The list of institutions and individuals who have supported and continue to support Globethics.net has grown from an organisation with a turnover of about CHF 215,000 when operations started in 2005 to nearly CHF 3 million in 2013, over ten times more than in the first year. Important start-up funds were provided by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Agroforestry Research Network, the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO and various companies who have supported. Since 2013 private companies in China have been supporting the China programme. For more details about all those who have given so generously over the years please see the annual reports on the website at www.globethics.net/web/gb/about-us/reports.
Thankfulness for the past, Confidence in the future

Thankfulness is the word that I would use to sum up the first ten years of Globethics.net. Confidence is the word that comes to mind when I look at the next ten years.

I am deeply thankful because it is a great privilege to meet and have exchanges with thousands of committed, qualified, values-driven people and institutions from around the world. I feel deeply that this global community of individuals and organisations make a difference, that they work for transformation and that they strive towards justice, peace, freedom, sustainability and human dignity.

Global ethics is not only a concept, it is a daily reality that I experience in Globethics.net. I do not hide the difficult times that we had as a start up with many sleepless nights worrying how to pay salaries with the little funds we had or the challenges in developing the innovative product of the global online libraries. I have experienced all the fears and hopes of a social entrepreneur.

My confidence in the future is based on the trust that the Board, the staff in the Head Office, the Regional Programmes, the participants and countless users of the website, the 200 partner institutions and long term donors are committed to the mission and potential of Globethics.net. My confidence is also based in my faith that God energizes, guides and supports our imperfect efforts and that you, the participants in our network, are nourished and carried by your different faith or non-faith-based convictions and motivations. Let us continue to promote values-driven leadership, to stand up for justice and freedom, to care for creation and to embrace each other for peace.

Prof. Dr Christoph Stückelberger,
Globethics.net Founder
and Executive Director