



Globethics.net

Building New Bridges Together Strengthening Ethics in Higher Education

Annual Report 2020



Learning from Listening - 1 Dignity is the foundation

“Throughout the whole event, the bridges were built from one session to the other. One of the main ideas from the session on ‘Creating New Societal Visions in Higher Education: Values for Living Together’ was the sense in which people wanted to move in this context from students as degree seekers to change-makers. This concern was addressed in the next workshop, ‘Bridging the Gaps: Ethical Foundations of Online Teaching and Learning Pedagogies’, in a more profound question: what kind of change-makers are we going to be in the field of higher education and our disciplines? Teaching and learning are both person-centred and oriented towards the common good.

“Fundamental questions about what it means to flourish as human beings and about how technology and artificial intelligence could serve humans and communities, and not the other way around were unveiled during the conversation. During the pandemic, technological evolution has been an opportunity as well as a disruption that everyone, institutions, teachers and students, have had to sort out. It has showcased the inequalities around technology, which lead to disparities in education. Despite accessibility to connectivity or equipment, there is a general feeling about resolving the pandemic in terms of technology. We were not ready because the approach taken missed the ethical foundation and the anthropological vision. Access to technological and digital advancements is important, but one must not forget that there is a human being on the other end. Solidarity and human dignity are at the foundation, characterised by autonomy and interdependence. These might be the bridge between online teaching and learning pedagogies.”

Extract from the report by Listener Mary Roch, USA on Track 2: Bridging the Gaps: Ethical Foundations of Online Teaching and Learning Pedagogies of the Building New Bridges Together International Conference June 2020

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Foreword

Strengthening Ethics in Higher Education by Building New Bridges, Listening and Learning

Executive Committee:

left to right:

Amélé Ekué,

Academic Dean

Obiora Ike,

Executive Director

Lucy Howe López,

Deputy Executive Director

If the year 2020, the year in which we saw the drama of a global pandemic unfold, has shown us anything it is that we are interconnected. At Globethics.net we learnt that our vision and mission to embed ethics in higher education is more important than ever, as a long term investment in the health of our societies and of our environment. How so? Putting ethics and values first in a process means asking if we should do it at all, and, if so, how the process should or could be carried out, with what and by whom, and so on step by step.

Ethical thinking and values-driven decision-making are deliberate, informed, reflective and intentional acts, which we learn how to do and make our own over time. This learning takes place in our families first, in our schools, in our studies and professional lives, through listening and practice. It happens through example, which is why learning how to be a responsible leader with integrity, whether you lead a family, a school, a business, a country or quite simply your own good self, is so important.

In the following pages you will find not only stories, reports and figures but also accounts from 'Listeners' who took part in our international conference in June 2020. The theme of the conference, one of the main highlights in the year, provides the theme for our report, 'Building Bridges Together: Strengthening Ethics in Higher Education'.

The conference Listeners had the role to report back what they heard from the presentations and exchanges, to sum up what they heard and to tell us thereby what was learnt.

The act of building bridges is a powerful image. You have to want and need to get to the other side. The process of building and crossing the newly built bridge to get to a new place is like listening, with an open mind, to get to a new awareness of something or someone. Learning is the place we get to on the other side. We can only do it with others though, with those who build and journey with us, maintaining the communication, keeping it open.

We have learnt so much this last year and, tragically, lost so many. Although travel and physical distancing has meant that we have not been able to meet in ways we were used to in the 'olden' days, the need is still there to reach out to each other. We have not only managed; thanks to technology we have gone beyond and been able to meet each other in ways that were less possible before.

We are in a world living with COVID-19, living with enormous challenges. We can face them and overcome them, by building, journeying, listening and learning to get to new places, together.

Amélé Ekué
Academic Dean

Obiora Ike
Executive Director

Lucy Howe López
Deputy Executive Director

Ethics

..If ethics was a note of music
It would espouse all musicality
That embraces the whole beauty
Of the world and humanity

If we think that ethics is a piece of art
Then feeling and living its beauty with all one's heart
Is the greatest gift given
That deserves to be honoured..

..Ethics is the sweet melody of life
That caresses its true value and meaning
With a dance of the minor and major chords
Using the soft sound of values and virtues

The musical notes and chords of this song of life
Play the melody of responsibility
Cradled by the sound of freedom
To create a harmony of values and serenity

By Anja Andriamasy

Poem extract from the book 'Who Cares About Ethics?'



Academy

Building New Bridges through Qualitative Online Education in Troubling Times

The Globethics.net Academy resembles a blossoming young plant. It is still fragile, demands particular care and above all attention for its future development. However, it is a growing plant, whose vibrancy radiates broadly. This was undoubtedly one of the learnings in this, in many ways, challenging year 2020. It has proven worthwhile to continue the strategic orientation of emphasising quality, both in terms of a careful growth in course development and in the consolidation of the quality framework. This is particularly valid against the background of the organisation's major objective of becoming a higher education institution

and the programmatic benchmarking and institutional accreditation it currently undergoes.

It was gratifying to observe that despite the challenges, the online course programme could be pursued and expanded. The onsite training-of-trainers courses, however, had to be discontinued due to the global health situation. This was received by the Academy team as a stimulating challenge to develop concepts for transforming these onsite applied ethics courses into blended-learning packages, which will serve as a complementary element to strengthen the visibility of the course offer as a whole.

- E** **Empowering** students, professionals and partners through online courses, blended learning and training in applied ethics
- T** **Transforming** institutions and individuals through capacity building for ethical governance and through ethics education
- H** Using a **Holistic approach** in ethics education that takes into account the local and global contexts in which individuals and institutions live and work
- I** Promoting **Integrity** at the heart of ethics education for coherent institutional and self leadership
- C** Enabling individuals and institutions to build key knowledge, **Competence** and skills in the teaching and practice of ethics
- S** Illustrating through best practices of life-long learning how ethics contributes to institutional **Sustainability** and personal development

Highlights

- *Four new course programmes:* In 2020, four new online courses on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Sustainable Development, Cyber Ethics, Responsible Leadership, and Ethics in Higher Education for Administrative Professionals were offered, in addition to the flagship course on Ethics in Higher Education for Teaching Professionals.
- *Benchmarking and Quality assurance documentation:* In April 2020, the Academy team completed and submitted comprehensive benchmarking documentation to the accreditation agency in the United Kingdom, **cont.**



“Online learning opened a door for me during COVID-19 lockdown”

“The COVID-19 pandemic put most of us in a lockdown situation. There was no more real life except for the one happening inside the walls of our homes. Suddenly, everything changed. I had to take care of my mother who is over 80. I am a biochemist and pharmacist and I love teaching. I teach bioethics to medical undergraduate students. I also love travelling. All my life started to be virtual, classes, chats with friends, birthdays by Zoom for days, weeks, months...

“Once I heard ‘When in crisis, bet on your job’, so I started looking for something to improve my knowledge. I found this very interesting course on Cyber Ethics with Globethics.net. For me it meant a double challenge, meeting new people and talking about ethics in English, given that I speak mostly Spanish. It happened that I was waiting for every weekly meeting with renewed excitement, reading the main textbook, learning about new ideas, new concepts, because it was more than medical ethics, it was about finances, about media, about robotics. A wonderful body of work was consolidated. The instructors were incredible, very respectful about everyone’s vision; they guided us in a very dedicated manner. In this new virtual way of life, this course helped me a lot, not only for my job, but for my life. Every week, I pretended I traveled abroad to have my classes. Finally, as I said to the organisers, the Cyber Ethics course was one of a handful of highlights for me in an overall challenging period. I would repeat it again if possible.”

*Andrea Actis
Argentina*

New Members of the Pool of Ethics Experts in 2020



Meera Baidur
Professor of Philosophy
India



Paul Dembinski
Director Observatoire de la Finance; Chair-holder
University of Geneva
Switzerland



Dicky Sofjan
Core Doctoral Faculty,
Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies,
Graduate School, Universitas Gadjah Mada
Indonesia



Retha Visagie
University of South Africa; Directorate Research Support; Research Ethics and Integrity in Social and Health Sciences
South Africa



Meggy Kantert
Consultant, Coach in Organisational Management; Intercultural Training; Project Management
Germany

Categories

- Academic
- Capacity building

In total
30 members
20 countries

cont. the National Academy Recognition Information Center (UK NARIC). The documentation substantiates the quality portfolio of the Academy not only for the course participants and instructors, but for the organisation as a whole. The statement of academic freedom, the documents on research partnership and the assessment strategy as a comprehensive best practice catalogue, which includes an anti-plagiarism policy document, an adapted grade distribution scale and a prior learning assessment policy, illustrate the progress the Academy has made in consolidating its quality structures. Subsequently, UK NARIC provided the Academy with three new quality framework documents.

- *Joint Course Offer and Course Development:* The year 2020 has been a significant one to consolidate strong collaboration between educational institutions. After signing the partnership agreement in September 2019 between Globethics.net and Jesuit Worldwide Learning, 2020 has been the year to build together the programme and learning materials for the Executive Certificate Programme in Interreligious Cooperation for Peace. The three-part programme will be opened for students in the Spring Semester 2021, with the first part focused on Religious Studies. Furthermore, Globethics.net also signed a partnership with Milpark Business School to jointly offer the Globethics.net Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development online course in the Spring Semester 2021.
- *Global Pool of Ethics Experts:* The Academy has had the privilege to welcome five new international expert members (see panel to the left).

- *Bulding New Bridges Together Online Conference June 2020*: The Academy provided the concept and design of the conference, 'Building New Bridges Together: Strengthening Ethics in Higher Education after COVID-19', and offered substantial support in the organisation, international liaison, evaluation and reporting processes.

Global Pool of Ethics Experts 2020

It is crucial for the Academy to showcase its unique value proposition while being at the same time committed to distance education and to nurturing solid academic relationships in all regions of the world, both on institutional and individual levels. The global pool of ethics experts exemplifies the international academic exchange and collaboration that Globethics.net endeavours to promote. In 2020, the Academy increased the number of members and diversified its profile. Five new members from India, South Africa, Switzerland, Germany and Indonesia, representing diverse religions and worldviews (including Hinduism and Islam) and fields of ethical expertise were welcomed. A new concept for the structure of the pool of ethics experts was developed to accommodate the need for a more transparent and differentiated classification of the experts' profiles, resulting in three groups; academic experts, capacity building experts and staff member experts.

Online Courses 2020

In 2020, the Globethics.net Academy offered six online courses that attracted 126 students from 20 nationalities. The increase ratio of 400% from one course in 2019 to four courses in 2020, within less than 12 months, constitutes, especially against the background of work-intensive benchmarking and accreditation processes, a major achievement in 2020.

126 students

77% graduates

The course on Ethics in Higher Education for Teaching Professionals, the Academy's flagship online course, was offered twice in 2020. Both of the courses were offered to a preset group of students coming through institutions: the University of South Africa (UNISA) and the Jesuit Refugee Service (Afghanistan).

The other four online courses, Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development, Cyber Ethics, Responsible Leadership and Ethics in Higher Education for Administrative Professionals, were offered for the first time as pilot courses throughout March and towards the end of 2020.

Course participation in 2020

1	Corporate Social Responsible Leadership and Sustainable Development	14
2	Ethics in Higher Education for Teaching Professionals	17
3	Responsible Leadership	10
4	Cyber Ethics	4
5	Ethics in Higher Education for Administrative Professionals	25
6	Ethics in Higher Education for Teaching Professionals - UNISA	56

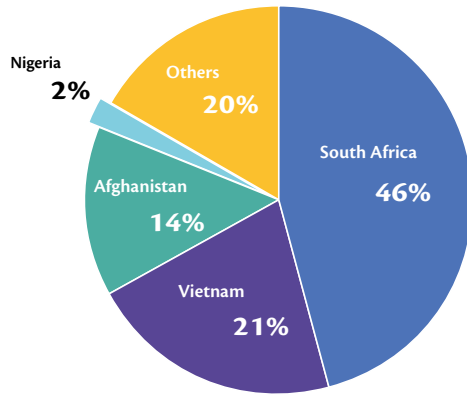


“The course on Cyber Ethics shaped my mindset on ethical standards”

“It was indeed a great privilege for me to study Cyber Ethics with the Globethics.net Academy and the opportunity I got to study on scholarship. Cyber Ethics shaped my mindset on ethical standards, values and virtues needed to regulate and sanitise the cyber world. Issues on fintech, blockchain, artificial intelligence, robotics, autonomous machines, cybersecurity, cyber law, cyber fraud and other relevant fields were seriously discussed based on ethical standards. My participation in the weekly lessons, assignments, live sessions and group discussions ushered me into a new platform of learning, especially sharing ideas with my instructors and other participants from across the globe and scaling through the obstacles of the pandemic.

“It is my heart’s desire for the Centre for Social Media Studies, a digital technology training institute I founded in Nigeria, to collaborate with Globethics.net in providing cyber ethics education among government agencies, universities, colleges of education, polytechnics and secondary schools. In future, we look forward to cyber ethics learning become part of the educational curriculum in all levels of education in Nigeria, Ghana, Africa and the globe at large. The dignity of the cyber world is a priority to our existence on earth as long as the world keeps growing in technology and digital innovations and this is why implementing cyber ethics education is necessary.”

John Kofi Annan
Nigeria



In addition to the Globethics.net Academy monitoring the delivery of courses through the online learning platform, one or two instructors were associated with each online course. Each instructor watched and followed the students progress, moderated and encouraged the class debate through the forums on the learning platform and met periodically with students during the live sessions. After the courses, the feedback collected from the students demonstrated a very positive appreciation for the live sessions, which allowed the students to connect with other parts of the world and share experiences. Some students have highlighted these events as a welcome escape from lockdown due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Thanks to this exercise, the Academy has gained invaluable experience in course management and its promotion. The experience in 2020 will stand the Academy in good stead moving forward into 2021 when a two semester rhythm and a freemium pricing model will be introduced. These measures will support promotion initiatives to broaden the outreach, diversify the participants' profiles and contribute to income generation.

Course Development 2021

In addition to delivering online courses in 2020, the Globethics.net Academy worked together with other institutions on educational programmes for 2021. Globethics.net and Milpark Business School signed a partnership agreement to jointly offer the Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development online course in the spring semester of 2021.

The collaboration with Jesuit Worldwide Learning on the development of the Interreligious Cooperation for Peace Executive Certificate Programme brought together a high-profile, multi-religious team of academic experts from India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and the United States. The course comprising 24 units in three distinct segments (religious, cultural and ethical studies) benefited from a professional design accompaniment by a company in Germany and will be introduced in the spring semester of 2021.

In November 2020, the Academy convened an international reference group to help develop a course on Teaching Ethics Cross-Culturally to support faculty and curriculum development in ethics in this area.

Students in 2020 by country

(Figures as at December 2020)

My Personal Tree of Knowledge learning concept introduced in Interreligious Cooperation for Peace Executive Certificate Programme



Library

Building New Resources to Strengthen Ethics in Higher Education

The Globethics.net Library is a free, open online digital repository aimed at providing quality resources on applied ethics, education and religious studies from all over the world. Content in the Library is available in multiple languages and is harvested from more than 3,000 open access repositories. The Library's thematic and institutional collections have been developed with experts and partners and documents are also uploaded by individual Globethics.net participants, making the Library a unique resource for students, researchers and for all interested in using the Library.

The Library has been conceived to share and promote research and reflection on ethics among scholars, especially with and from the majority world, which often faces barriers to participation in the global dialogue on ethics because of a lack of access to knowledge resources.

The Library currently holds more than 3.6 million documents, including articles, books, reference works, dissertations, conference papers, case studies, and educational resources, many in full text and via a multilingual portal accessible free of charge.

- E** **Empowering** users of the repository through free access to knowledge resources on applied ethics and related fields
- T** **Transforming** lives through the sharing of and exchange on knowledge
- H** With a **Holistic approach**, gathering and curating content across disciplines, cultures, religious and secular world views from all over the world in different languages
- I** Promoting **Integrity** with respect for standards in research and use of intellectual property
- C** Enabling **Competence** in providing high quality information resources, tools and services to enhance learning and research
- S** In a **Sustainability** way using open information and communication technologies, standards, and strategies to preserve and make available knowledge resources for and to future generations

Highlights

- *New Collection Builder User Interface (UI):* After the successful launch of the new Library repository on 15 November 2019, Novalogix SA, Globethics.net IT provider, had to adapt and reconfigure the entire Library data environment encompassing the machine harvester and the data exporter/importer. This ensures that Open Archives Initiative (OAI) harvested data is regularly exported, converted, uploaded, and assigned to the various collections in the Library repository. Furthermore, a new Collection Builder UI has been developed in order for the Library staff to easily create and manage the collection queries and instantly execute data uploads resulting in 3-4 thousand items monthly.



Photography: LWF Albin Hillert

“More than a library, a life experience”

“I have been part of the Globethics.net community for more than six years! Time really does fly when you’re surrounded by intelligent, dedicated, and interesting people. While working in communication for church organisations, Globethics.net has been a powerful ally in helping me develop and distribute texts on ethical and theological reflection. Without the support of an impressive digital repository of resources and a publisher willing to do small scale and affordable projects, I never could have found a way to share important discourse within and beyond my own networks. The resources available to me through Globethics.net have helped me learn about the publishing process, project management, and elevate my work to a professional level.

“I learn the most from the people I meet through Globethics.net with such fascinating and accomplished backgrounds and a wealth of experience and stories. They challenge and enhance my own ethical reflection and professional activities. I meet theologians, lawyers, ethicists, philosophers and activists, all bringing fresh insight to our shared questions and problems. The value of Globethics.net lies also in its global scope. We too often work in isolated language, cultural and political bubbles and my work has suffered from that.

“In connecting with the web of Globethics.net participants, I am confronted with the incompleteness of my own worldview and how my privilege impacts the lives of everyone else. Ethics matters in a world where there is an abundance of diversity but a scarcity of interaction. Ethics challenges me to a critical self-examination of this, toward empathy and humility. As we tackle the big and small ethical questions of our time together, I look forward to my small part in strengthening Globethics.net!”

Erin Green, Belgium

Top 10 Collections by Views in 2020

1	Journals AtoZ	36%
2	Theology and ecumenism	12%
3	Journal of Dharma	10%
4	Ethics in Higher Education	8%
5	Ethics collections	7%
6	Business Ethics	6%
7	Educational collections	6%
8	Codes of Ethics	5%
9	Chinese Christianity	5%
10	Globethics.net collections	5%

- *Author profiles:* Thanks to the new Library system (DSpace), it was also possible to create author profiles of Globethics.net's renowned published authors and scholars, showcasing all their publications referenced in the Library.
- *OCLC WorldCat:* In addition, all data from Globethics.net Publications are synced each month with OCLC WorldCat, the world's leading library discovery system, through the DSpace enabled OAI-PMH server, making them more visible to Library users worldwide.
- *Building New Bridges Together Online Conference June 2020:* During the Globethics.net conference on 'Building New Bridges Together: Strengthening Ethics in Higher Education' held from 17-25 June 2020, the Library staff had the opportunity

to present the Globethics.net Library to the hundreds of students, teachers and researchers participating in the event. In addition, the Library created a special conference collection comprising all the contributions, papers and presentations that were delivered.

- *New collections and journals:* In 2020 the Library developed new collections on Cyber Ethics, Environmental ethics, and Religion and Sustainable Development and added new journals, such as the *Australasian Journal of Educational Technology*, *Education Research International*, *International Journal of Development Education and Global Learning*, and *Transformation in Higher Education*.
- *Promotional activities:* The Librarians actively participated in various events, to promote Globethics.net services and resources to international partners. These included the: Biblio Suisse conference on 20 August 2020; 49th assembly of the European Theological Libraries federation (BETH) on 8 September; workshop for theological students organised by the Oxford Centre for Religion and Public Life/Barnabas Fund on 28-30 September; and the webinar for Master students in social work organised by St Joseph's College on 18 December 2020. Other promotional efforts have been made in producing and making available short online video tutorials on how to use special features and functionalities of the Library.

Special Projects - Theology and Ecumenism

The Macau Ricci Institute collection, developed with the partner institution was finalised in 2020. It covers more than 300 scholarly works on the history of Jesuit

missionaries in China, the Chinese wisdom traditions, including Confucian ethics, as well as the *Macau Ricci Institute Online Journal of Moral Leadership, Social Innovation and Comparative Spirituality*.

Also due to this cooperation, the Library user interface is now available in the Chinese language.

The Asian Christianity/Theologies collection, supported by the Foundation for Theological Education in South East Asia (FTESEA), has been substantially enriched, particularly through the integration of the *Journal of Dharma*, the international quarterly published by the Centre for the Study of World Religions (CSWR), established at Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram (DVK), Pontifical Athenaeum of Philosophy, Theology, and Canon Law, Bengaluru, India, which is also the host for the Globethics.net Regional Office in India.

Use of the Library

In 2020, 26,579 users (on average 2,215 per month), mainly from countries in Asia, Europe and North America, including the United States (4,256), India (2,362), Switzerland (1,804), Indonesia (1,653), United Kingdom (785), Brazil (696), and Canada (627), viewed a total of 134,642 pages, 63,245 collection pages and downloaded 8,149 full texts in our Library.

Among the most viewed and downloaded content figure the *Journal of Dharma*, Ethics and Educational collections and the Chinese Christianity collection. The following Globethics.net Publications were among the most downloaded texts in the Library:

1. “The advocates (professional conduct) regulations”; a book chapter on codes of ethics for advocates in Uganda;

100,000 new documents

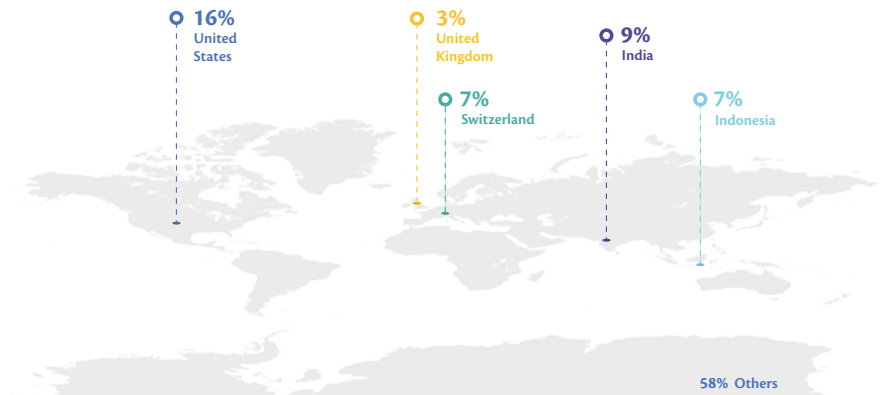
48,106 sessions

2. “Diritti dell’uomo e società democratica”, co-published with Fondazione Vittorino Chizzolini, on human rights and democracy in 2019; and
3. “Human rights, religious freedom and faces of faith”, published jointly with the Conference of European Churches in the same year.

Record levels of views and downloads peaked in March and November with 7,172 and 6,434 collection page views, and 959 and 928 full text downloads respectively. In December more than 2,700 users visited the Library, the highest number in a month in 2020.

Library users in 2020 for the top 5 countries (42% of the total)

(Figures as at December 2020)



Network

Building New Connections, Meeting and Learning Together

The year 2020 was the year when all organisations were forced to go online. Since its beginnings in 2004 Globethics.net was conceptualised as an online platform. However, the majority of the events organised in the past were onsite. In 2020 Globethics.net had to go one step further and not only triplicate the number of events but place most of them entirely online, free and open to all the Globethics.net participants.

Cyber Ethics and the Pandemic

As the pandemic and the various measures and regulations taken to combat it extended across the globe, an online meeting on the 'Cyber Ethical Challenges of COVID-19' was co-organised by Globethics.net with

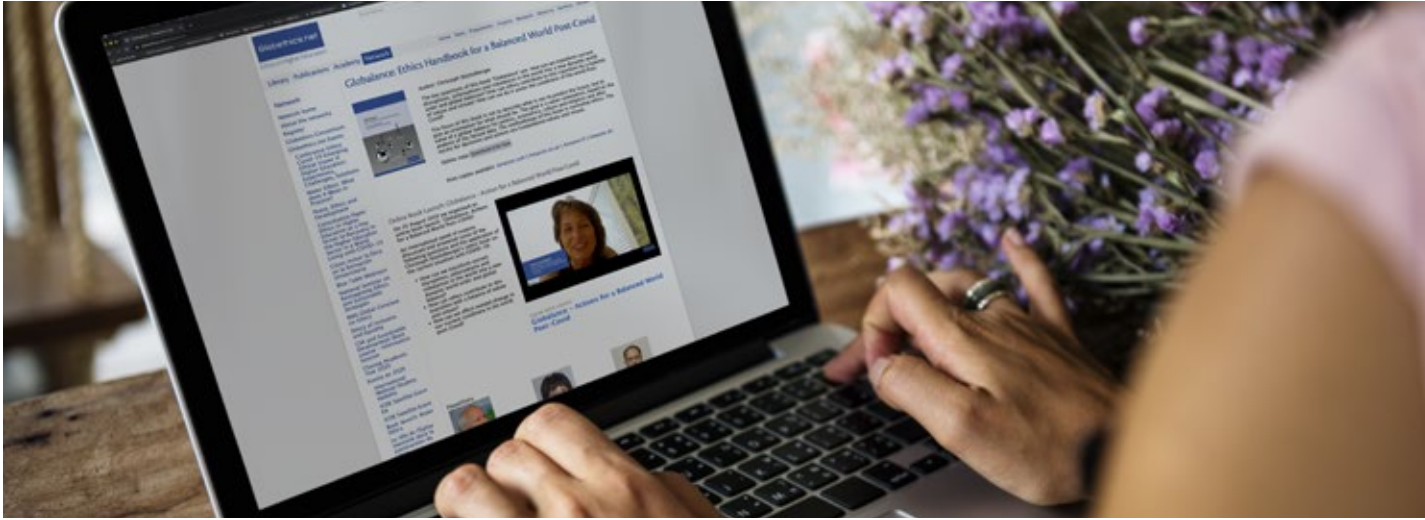
the Cyberlaw University in India on 12 May 2020. The three keynote speakers - Globethics.net President and Founder Christoph Stückelberger, Honorary Chancellor of Cyberlaw University Pavan Duggal and founder of the Bringspring Company in China Cui Wantian - addressed critical ethical challenges related to emerging security, social and technical issues posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The exchange in the web meeting between speakers and participants focused on the benefits of using the Internet during the COVID-19 pandemic, enabling vital services to provide information and to communicate and manage emergencies. At the same time cyber ethical challenges emerged, including threats to cybersecurity, increases in cybercrime, governments collecting more personal data and information than before, voluntary or compulsory tracing and tracking and the deepening of inequalities in education and in work for those without Internet access.

Re-imagining the Economy and Education

With a virtual room full of students, an online roundtable organised by Globethics.net and EduBiz provided the opportunity for a fruitful exchange with entrepreneurs, managers, employees, teachers, professors and students on COVID-19's impact on the economy and education, and to share thoughts to overcome these challenges.

- E** **Empowering** participants with online knowledge resources on applied ethics and related fields available free of charge
- T** **Transforming** institutions and individuals through capacity building and opportunity for exchange on applied ethics
- H** With a **Holistic approach** to ethics and global problems
- I** Promoting **Integrity** through all our events
- C** Enabling **Competence** with tools, courses, training and resources
- S** In a **Sustainable** way for mutual benefit for the common good



For more than two hours students and professionals shared their experiences with the aim to reflect on the measures adopted by their institutions and if in some way these measures affected their values or had ethically compromised them in any way. EduBiz, a Globethics.net partner based in Romania focused on enabling young people in their studies and capacity-building for their future careers, ensured that student voices were put to the forefront in the debate.

Sustainable Development - Paradigms and Problems during the Pandemic

Before COVID-19, the Latin American region was already experiencing a complex socio-economic context that was aggravated by the emergence of the pandemic. The preservation of work and the production of goods and services are a key and sensitive element for the recovery and development of the populations of the region.

In this context the seminar on 'Sustainable Development, paradigms and challenges in the face of

the pandemic and post-pandemic' was organised by the Reformed University of Colombia (CUR), QONAKUY, Globethics.net, CREAS (Regional Ecumenical Advisory and Service Center) and The International Program on Democracy, Society and New Economies (UBA- Economic Sciences). The aim of the seminar was to offer a space for dialogue and reflection about the challenges to sustainable development in the region and the new paradigms, with an interdisciplinary, regional, ethical and interfaith approach.

10 online events

37 hours of discussions

International Conference

Building New Bridges Together: Strengthening Ethics in Higher Education after COVID-19

Building New Bridges Together: Strengthening Ethics in Higher Education after COVID-19 International Conference, 25 June 2020

Panelists (left to right, top-down):

Esther Mombo (Kenya), Rudolf von Sinner (Switzerland/Brazil), Kanan Kitani (Japan), Upolu Lumā Vaai (Fiji), Dicky Sofjan (Indonesia), Pamela D. Couture (Canada), Obiora Ike (Nigeria/Germany), Maria Lucia Uribe (Colombia), Christian Anieke (Nigeria)

Every year Globethics.net has organised an annual flagship event on different topics related to ethics and most recently to ethics in higher education. Participants are invited from the regions and from among different stakeholders usually with around 50-100 people attending. This year due to COVID-19 restrictions, the event was transformed into an entirely online event and Globethics.net took the opportunity to invite its whole network to participate.

From 17 to 25 June 2020, Globethics.net organised a pre-conference and an International Conference on the last day entitled 'Building New Bridges Together: Strengthening Ethics in Higher Education'. It attracted a total of 852 participants on the main day of the conference on 25 June 2020 from around the world.

The transition from classical teaching to online learning has posed many questions regarding access

“
Inequality is the biggest hurdle towards achieving the value of togetherness.”

*Suparna Chakraborti,
India*



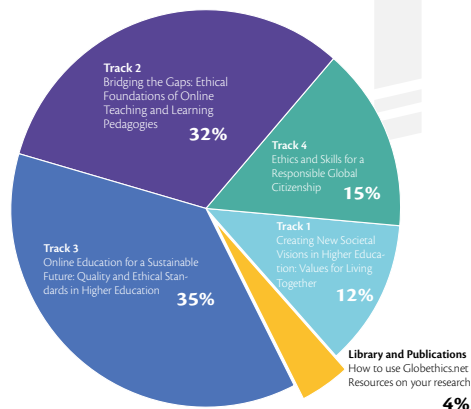
to education and educational resources. In the move to online tools, the need to strengthen technological literacy became more apparent to close the digital gap. Beyond higher education, the role of online learning was also discussed in facilitating professional development and adaptability in the labour market. Ethics plays a major role in navigating the pandemic and beyond, and the need to develop a shared language and common understanding has never been more pertinent.

The event aimed to foster dialogue and deepen understanding around potential solutions through an online programme from 17 to 24 June with the journey building-up to the main day on 25 June 2020.

Four Tracks, One Aim

Over two weeks participants engaged in several online activities, such as online workshops on four thematic tracks, nurturing the global conversation on different topics. Participants were also encouraged to view and vote on the digital posters and virtual papers or met to discuss in the different online forums.

- Track 1: 'Creating New Societal Visions in Higher Education: Values for Living Together', focused on identifying best practices and forging new ties between higher education and social actors.
- Track 2: 'Bridging the Gaps: Ethical Foundations of Online Teaching and Learning Pedagogies', drew attention to values, such as inclusivity, equity, sharing, integrity and transparency during the learning experience, with reflections on digital literacy and how to close the digital gap.
- Track 3: 'Online Education for a Sustainable Future: Quality and Ethical Standards in Higher Education', deepened understanding on how ethics and quality standards contribute to and



“ Higher education should not only emphasise intellectual formation, but also knowledge transformation”

*Jenne Jessica R. Pieter
Indonesia*

accompany the transition from offline to online learning and on how to equip students, teachers and institutions for a sustainable future

- Track 4: 'Ethics and Skills for a Responsible Global Citizenship,' concentrated on cooperation among higher education institutions and public and private partnerships. This was to both challenge and strengthen the higher education sector, bringing it to a new level of quality with values-driven standards. and to ultimately lead to the formation of responsible global citizens.

International Conference Evaluation

The evaluation conducted of the whole event afterwards showed that most of the participants were more interested in Tracks 2 and 3, on understanding the challenges and opportunities online education brings and of including ethics standards in education.

The main aim of the pre-conference and the International Conference programme was to bring together people and having them interact. This was achieved successfully and welcomed by participants as there was quite a well balanced distribution of results when the participants answered the question 'What was the most interesting activity during the event?'

Conference Participants' responses to the question 'Which of the Thematic Tracks and presentations during the preconference programme was most relevant for you?'



*Book launch event
on 1 September 2020
on **The Role of the
Maronite Church in the
Construction of Lebanon***

*Panelists (left to right):
Ignace Haaz, Globethics.net
Publications Manager
Amélie Ekué, Globethics.net
Academic Dean
Didier Ostermann, Author*

**The Role of the Maronite Church in the
Construction of Lebanon**

The year 2020 marked the centenary of Lebanon and was the occasion for Globethics.net to launch the book by Didier Ostermann, *Le rôle de l'Église maronite dans la construction du Liban* on 1 September 2020 in a physical and online event in French and English.

Globalance: Action for a Balanced World Post-COVID

In the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic as some countries started to open their borders, the book by Globethics.net President, Christoph Stückelberger, *Globalance: Ethics Handbook for Balanced World Post-COVID*, was launched by Globethics.net in an online event with a panel of speakers.

High level panelists at the launch included Prof. Dr Liu Baocheng from China, Prof. Dr Divya Singh from South Africa with special appearances by Prof. Dr Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker, former Co-President of the Club of Rome and by Ms Doris Leuthard, former

President of the Swiss Confederation. Ms Leuthard emphasised the need for 'bridge builders' in her address. In her role as President she noted that one must first agree on values, and once this is achieved, establishing whether priorities are aligned. She spoke of the importance of greater cooperation and multi-stakeholder dialogue to succeed in a healthy balance, which are also necessary to dismantle hierarchies based solely on power. She concluded her talk by highlighting the importance of making decisions, but also taking responsibility for those decisions.

ICDE Presidents' Forum - Satellite Events

To start up the conversation on 'Recalibrating Educational Leadership,' the International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE) encouraged partners to organise satellite events before the ICDE Presidents' Forum 2020 on 25 November 2020.

Globethics.net as an ICDE member organised two satellite events through their Regional Programme Offices, one in East Africa and one in Latin America.

Both events focused on the role of online learning during the pandemic and addressed the challenges faced by institutions, students and governments.

Institutions agreed on the challenges suffered during the pandemic to adapt their learning systems to online learning and the stress caused to their staff. During the debate the need was manifested for institutions to collaborate to overcome these challenges.

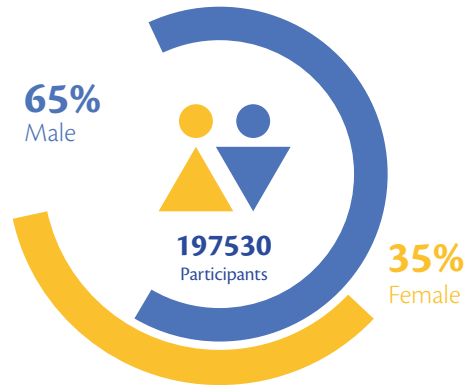
COVID-19 has highlighted in a stark way the inequalities in terms of connectivity among students. In Latin America, only 51% of students have access to a broadband connection. Universities that offered online courses before the pandemic through connections provided on campus equipped their students to overcome the connectivity problems off campus.

Student Mobility and its Ethical Implications

With over 300 registrations bringing together participants from 45 countries, Globethics.net India, Scott Christian College and the Journal of Dharma hosted an online event on 3-4 December 2020 on the ethical aspects of international education and student mobility, examining cultural differences, conflict and tools.

The Globethics.net Network

Globethics.net registered participants come from all over the world, mainly from Indonesia (25,248), India (24,843), Pakistan (12,249), Nigeria (7,194) and China (6,989). They have in common their interest in applied ethics, and in having quality resources in ethics. All of the online events organised during the year due to the pandemic had a positive impact on the network, making it grow in number to 197,530 registered participants in the network in March 2021 as well as many more visits to our website. The Globethics.net International Conference recorded an historic peak

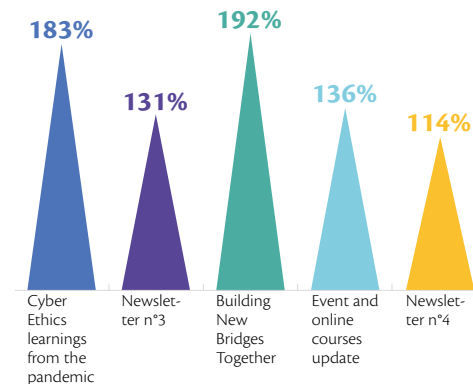


Participants by gender

(Figures as at March 2021)

in sessions on 24 June 2020, with 1,180 after one of the email reminders to sign up for the conference went out. During this year, the volume and quality of messages sent by email to participants has improved with clear instructions and calls for action generating more sessions than e-mails with broader content.

In general, the Network is made up of individuals linked to the education sector, with a predominance of male over female.



Increase of sessions after targeted emailing

Publications

Building and Sharing New Knowledge and Research on Applied Ethics

Globethics.net Publications publishes scholarly works focused on promoting applied ethics in higher education. Since 2007, over 220 publications have been published with authors from around the world. As a publishing house, Globethics.net Publications is committed to producing high-quality books accessible to a broad audience and is passionate about promoting and empowering ethical reflections from the majority world.

Most of the volumes can be downloaded for free in a PDF format directly from the Globethics.net Publications webpage, www.globethics.net/publications.

- E** **Empowering** authors and researchers by making their work available to the public and empowering readers with knowledge
- T** **Transforming** thought and practice through the sharing of learning and knowledge on applied ethics
- H** With a **Holistic approach** in the publication of texts from around the world in different languages on a range of topics
- I** Promoting **Integrity** in research and publishing with respect for authors
- C** Enabling **Competence** through research across disciplines
- S** In a **Sustainable** way for authors and readers using print on demand soft copies of publications available to download for free

Print copies can be purchased on demand through the website or via Amazon and bulk print copies are also offered at special rates and with a significant discount for orders from the Global South. Editorial quality and research integrity are core values therefore the Globethics.net Publication team is vigilant in detecting severe research misconduct and deploys industry-standard software to verify manuscripts.

Highlights

- *New publications:* During 2020, 21 books were published by Globethics.net, with some titles directly related to the pandemic.
- *Online events:* The restrictions due to COVID-19 opened up the possibility for online and livestreamed book launches in 2020, involving many Globethics.net regional programmes and partners across different continents.
- *Strong collaborations:* The first book was published in 2020 following the signing of the partnership agreement between the World Council of Churches and Globethics.net in May 2019.

New Releases

In the Education and Ethics Series, the second volume related to the 2018 training/conference at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA) was released in 2020 following the first volume that came out in



“Excellent sources of learning for scientific integrity”

“I do not have much experience with Globethics.net publications yet, however, these publications are excellent for those in the field of education, as our knowledge is always being refreshed by what is new from writers around the world.

“In the Indonesian context, there are many problems related to ethical issues. This is a concern for the world of education here. It is very important for teachers to always train and develop their ethical sensitivity and one way to do this is by reading books that are relevant to this issue. Thus, teachers can become better student companions in dealing with the ethical problems that students face.

“For Indonesian intellectuals, the Globethics.net publications are excellent sources of learning for the development of scientific integrity through writings on situations from around the world as a comparison.”

*Alviani Permata
Indonesia*

Publications Series

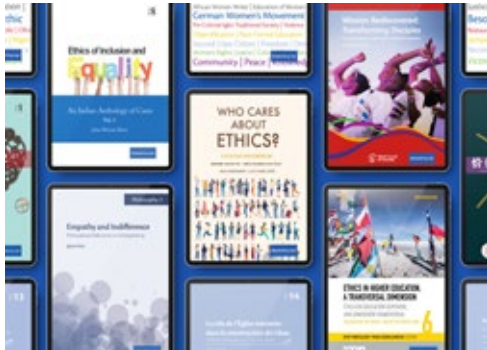
1	Focus	58
2	Theses	37
3	Global	17
4	Praxis	15
5	China Christian	10
6	Co-publications	10
7	China Ethics	9
8	Readers	8
9	Education Ethics	7
10	African Law	7
11	Texts	6
12	CEC	6
13	Agape	5
14	Reports	5
15	CEC Flash	3
16	Philosophy	2
17	Paideia	2
18	Education Praxis	1
19	Ethical Sieve	1
Globethics.net Publications		209

2019. The books feature research on ethics in higher education within the East African context.

John Mohan Razu, published the third volume of his series on the *Ethics of Inclusion*. This volume compiles an anthology in which the author demonstrates a relationship between theoretical discussions of equality and the central socio-economic, politico-cultural and religious problems facing India and the world at large today. The *Ethics of Inclusion* is not only a three-volume book, it is a three-year project (2018-2021), the result of a deep engagement. Another set in this series is authored by the Globethics.net Founder Christoph Stückelberger in his 5 volume *Global Ethics Applied* publication also available in the Reader Series.

In July 2020, after the first COVID-19 wave, when the situation in some countries started to look up, the Globethics.net President released his latest publication, *Globalance: Ethics Handbook for a Balanced World Post-COVID*. It is a book that “comes at the right time, to give us the inspiration to live together, globally and peacefully”, as the former President of the Swiss Confederation Doris Leuthard expressed during the book launch in August 2020.

Having a balance between all the different parts of the world is very important at Globethics.net Publications. This year there were two publications from the South American context: the second volume for *Ética y economía: la relación dañada*, in the Focus Series; and *Ética en Educación Superior, Una Dimensión Transversal*, in the Education Ethics Series. This last publication is an example of the strong collaboration that has been built with educational institutions. In 2019, Globethics.net, together with the Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina, organised a conference on ‘Ethics in Higher Education: A Transversal Dimension’. One year later, the publication of all the conference papers reinforces the cooperation.



Book launches

The book launch of *Ethics of Inclusion and Equality: An Indian Anthology of Cases Vol 3* was hosted online by Santosh Gnanakan, Agriculture, Crafts, Trades and Studies (ACTS) group of institutions, on 17 February 2021 with participants from all over the world. The book launch included special performances, prayers, gratitude and praise from recipients to the author, John Mohan Razu. The book is a three-year project (2018-2021) and gives grounded research on social norms and a comprehensive Indian anthology of cases.

A gathering was made possible at the Museum of History of Science in Geneva in September 2020, during eased restrictions. It was an opportunity to distribute the text *Water Ethics: Principles and Guidelines*, an ethical charter for those who prefer wisdom in a nutshell.

The result of strong collaborations

The five volumes on water ethics are born of the long term collaboration with Benoît Girardin, Evelyne Fiechter-Widemann and the partner institution Workshop for Water Ethics (W4W). The books have delivered good multilateral work, based on a massive and solid project of bringing together all those impacted

by water scarcity to engage in concrete solutions. The Spanish translations of the more technical part of the Blue Ethics project will be completed in 2021.

The World Council of Churches (WCC) joined the Globethics.net Ethics in Higher Education Consortium on 14 May 2019. One of the fruits is the co-publication of a WCC book, *Mission Rediscovered: Transforming Disciples* by author Kenneth Ross. The WCC organised an online book launch on 2 December 2020 and this book which is also promoted on the Globethics.net Publications website, has been very successful and one of the most viewed. Following these results, Globethics.net Publications and the WCC are preparing a series for 2021.

These examples, and many others, such as Stefania Gandolfi's work building up a Paideia Series on human rights and educational rights, and the Agape Series in collaboration with the Geneva Agape Foundation, show long term engagement in developing significant university research projects. With over 2.2 million downloads since 2007 and 431,000 in 2020 alone, Globethics.net is consolidating its activities as an academic publisher, making a clear impact with over 220 titles (including translations) in 19 series.

Book covers of some of the books published on 2020

21 new titles

431,000 downloads

Partnerships

Building and Crossing New Bridges Together

Globethics.net is privileged to work with reliable partners around the world. Even in a difficult year new partnerships were formed with institutions aligned

with the vision to embed ethics in higher education. The selection here includes academic and service partners and Globethics.net Consortium members.



Supporters

Special Thanks

Immense gratitude is due to Globethics.net funding and project partners for all of their support in 2020. They invest not only financial but also moral support, practical guidance and accompaniment in furthering the vision and mission to embed ethics in higher education.

Support partners in 2020 included

- U.W. Linsi-Stiftung
- Bread for the World - Protestant Agency for Diahkonie and Development
- Porticus Foundation
- Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund / Fastenopfer
- Evangelisches Missionswerk in Deutschland (EMW)
- Foundation for Theological Education in South East Asia (FTESEA)
- Globethics.net Founder Fund
- Globethics.net Consortium Members
- Globethics.net Regional Programmes

Support from Bread for the World allowed Globethics.net to conclude the third phase and start the fourth phase of the African Church Assets Programme with the production of a handbook for participants on ethical assets management moving in the fourth phase to ethical investments with a focus on organisations based in Ethiopia and Kenya. The Porticus Foundation continued support for the

development of an ethics self-assessment tool for universities due to be pilot tested in 2021.

Further development of the Globethics.net Library was made possible with the on-going support of EMW in Germany, Fastenopfer in Switzerland and the Foundation for Theological Education in South East Asia.

U.W. LINSI-STIFTUNG

**Brot
für die Welt**

 **PORTICUS**


FASTENOPFER


EMW


FTESEA

Globethics.net core activities as well as academic programme development were supported by the U.W. Linsi Foundation.

Income was also received in 2020 for special projects organised together with the Globethics.net Regional Offices who in turn contributed with in-kind support.

A big THANK YOU to all our supporters.

Globethics.net has a transparent policy on funding and its finances. For more information about our donors, or for practical information about donations, please visit our website

Accounts

Financial Year 2020*

*All figures shown in
Swiss francs (CHF)

Auditor's Statement

"Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements and the proposed appropriation of available earnings do not comply with Swiss law and the company's articles of incorporation and Swiss GAAP RPC 21, based on core Swiss GAAP RPC."

Geneva, 9 March 2021

BfB Société Fiduciaire, Bourquin frères et Béran SA



Balance Sheet

Assets

Petty Cash	7,479.40
Cash in Bank	1,456,064.41
Prepaid Expenses / Accrued Income	9,445.50
Accounts Receivable	21,825.70
Long-term investments / Deposits	50,015.60
Total Assests	1,544,830.61

Liabilities and Fund Balances

Liabilities

Accrued Expenses	39,465.66
Other Liabilities	90,980.95
Total Liabilities	130,446.61

Fund Balances

Special Funds

Founder Fund	6,789.50
Cassam Fund	1,000.00
Sustainability Fund	976,491.02
Foundation Capital	50,000.00
Total	1,034,280.52

Funds for general operations

Beginning balance, January 1	318,222.86
Add: Surplus during the period	61,880.62
Balance end December 31	380,103.48
Total Fund Balances	1,414,384.00
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	1,544,830.61

Income

Unrestricted Income

Private Foundations	2,000,000.00
Other Income	3,763.30
Subtotal	2,003,763.30

Restricted Income, including projects

Academy	326,394.82
Library	78,800.00
Network	102,468.7
Publications	29,955.23
Subtotal	537,618.75
Total Income	2,541,382.05

Expenses

Academy 734,249.00

Ethics in Higher Education Projects	233,948.42
Africa Asset Management Project	58,604.22
Staff Costs and share in Management & Administration Costs	441,696.36

Library 509,555.57

Library Software Adaptation and Maintenance	158,063.49
Licensed Content	1,787.30
Server Fees	25,781.50
Online Marketing	1,906.52
Staff Costs and share in Management & Administration Costs	322,016.76

Network 581,558.98

Website Maintenance	38,772.00
Website Upgrade and Migration	48,572.60
Regional Programmes	143,877.16
Staff Costs and share in Management & Administration Costs	350,337.22

Publications 105,256.32

Publications Production Costs	12,532.51
Staff Costs and share in Management & Administration Costs	92,723.81

Fundraising 155,053.82

Fundraising Expenses	2,959.79
Staff Costs and share in Management & Administration Costs	152,094.03

Bad Debts Written Off 230,793.00

Total Expenses 2,316,466.69

Net Surplus before Allocations	224,915.36
Allocation to Sustainability Fund	-163,034.74

Net Surplus during the period 61,880.62

*All figures shown in Swiss francs (CHF)

Leadership

Board of Foundation* and Organisation

* As at December 2020

The Board met four times by videoconference in 2020 in April, July, October and December due to the travel restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to attending the meetings, the Board members also play an important advisory role in their respective fields of competence and in their regions.



Mr Pavan Duggal
(India)

Advocate, Supreme Court of India, President, Cyberlaws.net, Chairman, International Commission on Cyber Security Law



Ms Rita Astfalck
(Switzerland)

General Manager of the U.W. Linsi Foundation



Dr Siti Syamsiyatun
(Indonesia)

Professor, Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies (ICRS), Yogyakarta, Indonesia and Director of Globethics.net Indonesia Regional Programme



Dr Christoph Stückelberger
(Switzerland)

President, Founder and former Executive Director of Globethics.net, Professor of Ethics



Dr Divya Singh
(South Africa)

Chief Academic Officer, Stadio Holdings Ltd; Former Vice Principal: Advisory and Assurance Services, University of South Africa



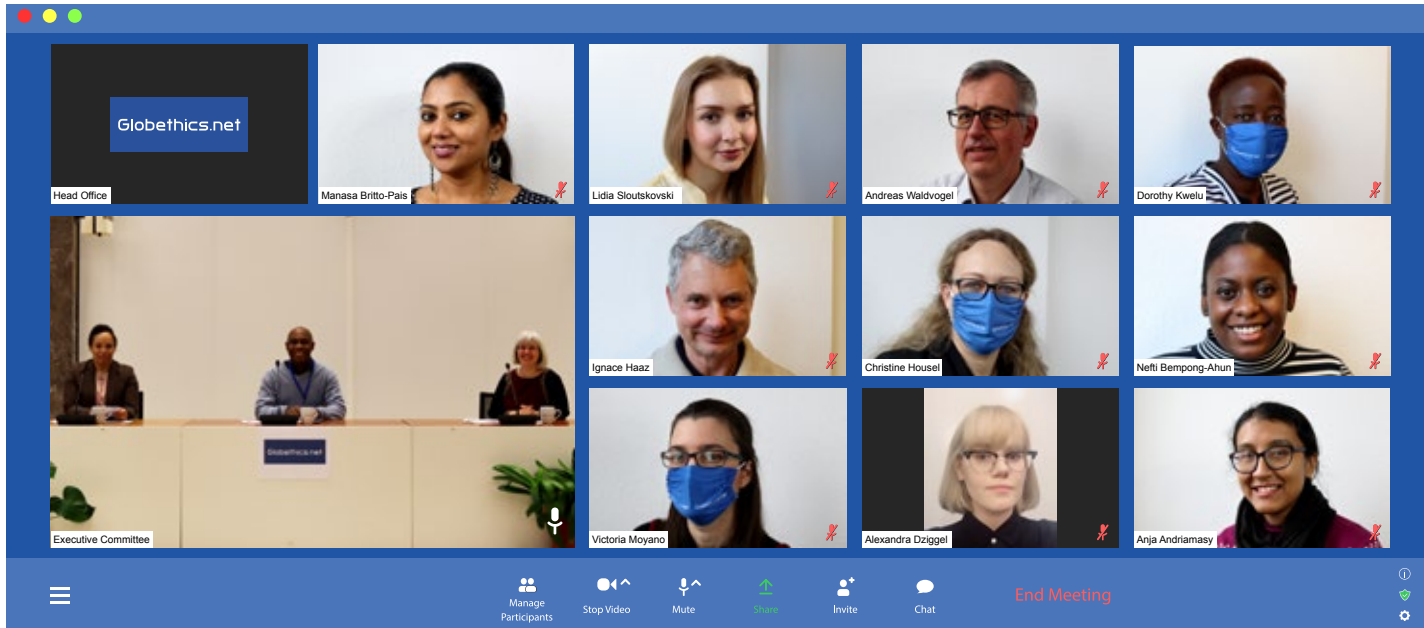
Dr Rudolf von Sinner
(Switzerland/Brazil)

Professor of Systematic Theology, Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue; Moderator of the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Education and Formation Commission



Prof. Asha Singh Kanwar
(India/Canada)

President and Chief Executive Officer of the Commonwealth of Learning; Former consultant: UNESCO's Regional Office for Education in Africa



Head Office Team (status March 2021)

Executive Committee: Obiora Ike (Executive Director), Lucy Howe López (Deputy Executive Director), and Amélé Ekué (Academic Dean)

Academic Programmes and Resources: Anja Andriamasy, Amélé Ekué and Lidia Sloutskovski (Academy), Anja Andriamasy, Ignace Haaz and Andreas Waldvogel (Library), Nefti Bempong-Ahun and Ignace Haaz (Publications)

Partnerships and Promotion: Christine Housel and Obiora Ike

Finance and Support Services: Dorothy Kwelu (Finance), Anja Andriamasy and Manasa Britto (Administration), Alexandra Dziggel (Online Systems), Victoria Moyano Luna and Nefti Bempong-Ahun (Communication) and Lucy Howe López

The Globethics.net Head Office is located in Geneva, Switzerland close to the United Nations agencies, diplomatic missions and other international non-governmental organisations. The work of the organisation is carried out and supported by the Board, including the Board Committees, the Head Office team, volunteers, freelance consultants, mandate holders, the pool of ethics experts and regional and national representatives around the world (see pgs 32-33).

Globethics.net also count on the practical guidance and advice of the former Board members who have accepted the invitation to become *Senior Advisors*. Likewise some former team members contribute as *Senior Associates*, including Nadia Balgobin (training, management and procurement expert), Stephen Brown (communication and media), Amélie Vallotton Preisig (library), Deon Rossouw (business ethics), and Teodorina Lessidrenska (sustainability).

Globethics.net Head Office staff, March 2021

Globethics.net Network

As at December 2020

Regional Programme ○

National Contact ●

North America

National Contacts: 2

Partners: 31

Europe*

Regional Programme: 1
National Contacts: 3
Consortium Members: 5
Partners: 126

* Including International Organisations based in Europe

Latin America

Regional Programme: 1

National Contacts: 3

Partners: 22

Russia

Moscow

Director: Alexander Ageev

Founded: 2010

South America

Buenos Aires

Director: Eugenia Barroso

Founded: 2014

China

Macau

Director: Stephan Rothlin

Founded: 2010

Philippines

Manila

Director: Yolanda Lira

Founded: 2016

Indonesia

Yogyakarta

Director: Siti Syamsiyatun

Founded: 2010

Southern Africa

Pretoria

Director: Divya Singh

Founded: 2010





Head Office



Head Office
 Geneva, Switzerland
 Director: Obiora Ike
 Founded: 2004

Romania

Austria

Hungary



Turkey

Russia



Iran



China



Asia

Regional Programme: 5
 National Contacts: 2
 Consortium Members: 4
 Partners: 49

India



Africa

Regional Programme: 2
 National Contacts: 28
 Consortium Members: 9
 Partners: 42

Philippines



Indonesia



Papua New Guinea



East Africa



South Africa



Turkey

Istanbul
 Director: Bahar Karacar
 Founded: 2010

India

Bangalore
 Director: Jose Nandhikara
 Founded: 2010

East Africa

Nairobi
 Director: Elizabeth Nduku
 Founded: 2011

Vision, Mission and Values

The Globethics.net Foundation

The Globethics.net Foundation has its legal domicile in Geneva, Switzerland. Since 2004, Globethics.net has built up resources and partnerships and repositioned itself with this Vision, Mission and Values approved by the Board of Foundation on 4 July 2019.

Vision

“Ethics in Higher Education”

Mission

- E** Empowerment: developing talents
- T** Transformation: placing common good before self-interest
- H** Holistic approach: understanding of in-depth correlations
- I** Integrity: making values-based decisions and behaviours
- C** Competence: focusing on innovative and collective proficiency
- S** Sustainability: standing up for one world

Our Mission in Action

- *We empower teachers* in higher education through teacher training, research, course development and collaborative projects
- *We support institutions* in their efforts to introduce ethical behaviour in higher education institutions and support the integration of relevant and contextual standards and structures

Values

- *Responsibility*: responsible decisions and actions in private, professional and public life
 - *Quality first*: our priority is to serve our target groups with excellence in all of our activities
 - *Teamwork*: we combine talents and resources for best solutions and operational excellency
 - *Respect*: we respect the dignity of every person
 - *Trust*: is the basis for cooperation with our partners
 - *Contextualisation*: we translate the vision, mission and values into the cultural context
 - *Inclusion/Fairness*: we work to overcome exclusion and to recognise equality, justice and fairness for all.
-
- *We provide professions* with educational materials adapted to their profession to grow a deeper understanding of ethics in their context (for them to use to practice ethics)
 - *We encourage students* to behave ethically, showing them best practices of individuals, companies and organisations that have become successful by following ethical standards and principles
 - *We contribute* to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



Learning from Listeners - 2

“Education is not an end, it’s a path”

“The title of the third track of the Building New Bridges Together International Conference puts quality and ethical standards together. Although it may seem obvious to use them together, the exchange among speakers showed that quality and ethics are not natural bedfellows. Keeping them together will give us some challenges, no less so when education goes online. The pandemic can be a great equaliser but it can also lead to institutions becoming more insular, missing opportunities for interdisciplinarity and collaborative cooperation.

“It’s essential to understand and not forget that ethics education is impacted and influenced by social trends and perceptions as found, for example, in various forms of people or geography-based labelling, which highlight the uneven and unequal context. This raises the question in pursuing ethics and quality in higher education of how to influence the discourses that perpetuate inequality. By impacting that larger discourse our education might be more successful.

“On this path one cannot forget that education is not a goal in itself. While students want to study and teachers want to do research there is also the values-driven dimension that will be unpacked in very different ways around the world. Sustainability is essential in higher education; it is not only about course content but also about the way that we think and understand the world we live in and the respect we have for future generations. It is less about compliance and more about enhancements, less about measurements and more about ethically embedded quality.”

Extract from the report by Listener Jeremy Punt, South Africa on Track 3: Online Education for a Sustainable Future: Quality and Ethical Standards in Higher Education of the Building New Bridges Together International Conference June 2020

Globethics.net

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