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Ethics in Higher Education: Values-driven Use of Technologies

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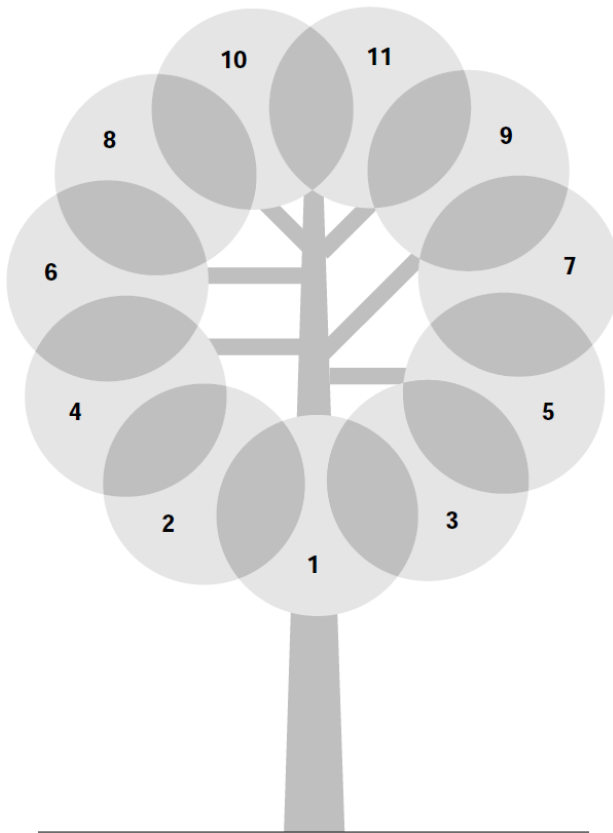Professor of Ethics Nigeria, Switzerland, China, Russia

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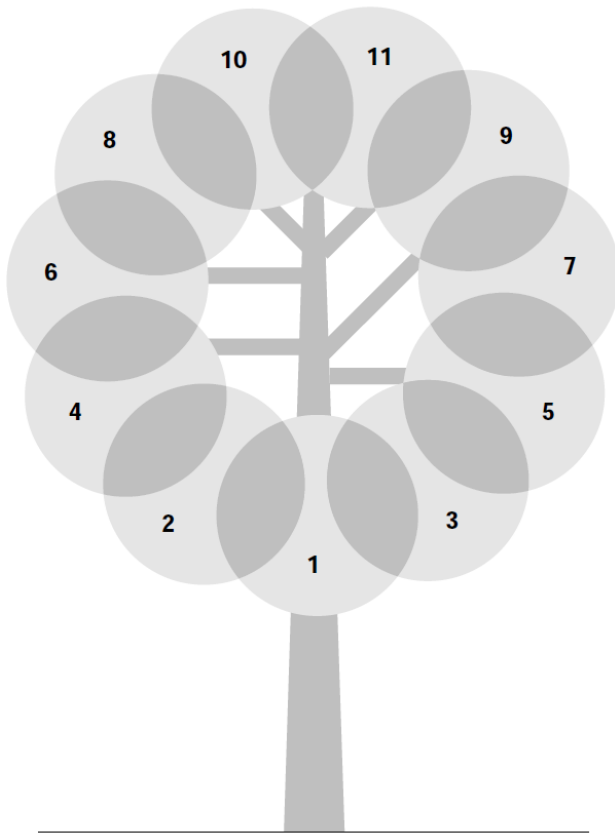
1. Why Ethics in Use of Technologies?

- Each technology – from plough to robot – is made by human beings, driven by their needs, dreams, values.
- No technology is values-neutral in its use. It is used to empower life or destroy life, to strengthen virtues or spread vices.
- Therefore, human beings need an ethical compass (values/virtues) in using (digital) technologies for the benefit of their lives and of society.

2a. Which Values (in Developing/Using Technologies) in Higher Education?

1. Dignity
2. Freedom
3. Justice
4. Equity
5. Peace
6. Security
7. Community
8. Inclusiveness
9. Participation
10. Forgiveness
11. Reconciliation

2b. **Which Virtues** (in Developing/Using Technologies) in Higher Education?

1. Honesty
2. Compassion
3. Care
4. Transparency
5. Accountability
6. Reliability
7. Respect
8. Humility
9. Courage
10. Gratitude
11. Generosity

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3a. Which Strategies for Ethics (in Digital Technologies) in Higher Education?

1. Individual and interpersonal level
Promote character education (for students and teachers) as a task of individual and interpersonal self-responsibility in order to become or remain globally responsible leaders.

2. Intra-institutional level: governance
Develop within each educational institution ethics-related poli-cies, respective institutional ethics units and a code of ethics for teaching staff and students, as key elements for governance.

3b. Which Strategies for Ethics (in Digital Technologies) in Higher Education?

3. Inter-institutional level: tools/curricula

Develop and offer concrete tools generally on ethics in Higher Education and specifically on ethical use of digital technologies in distant education: 12 online modules on ethics in higher education of Globethics.net/Unisa, ethics mobile app (ethical decision-making tools, in preparation) etc.

4. Technological level

Strengthen profound ethical teaching and training in research, innovation and use of technologies, especially in cyberspace.

3c. Which Strategies for Ethics (in Digital Technologies) in Higher Education?

5. Political level: accreditation

Include ethics in higher education in the accreditation and monitoring policies and training programmes of accreditation institutions and councils such as ICDE.

4. Globethics.net offers a global Consortium for Ethics in Higher Education

50+ Institutions of Higher Education build a global Consortium for Ethics in Higher Education, Led and coordinated by Globethics.net, a global Network on ethics with its focus 2016-2020 on EHE, 200+ partners, 176'000 registered participants.

- Online Modules on EHE

- Curricula Development

- Trainings

- Certification of Institutions

- National Policy Development etc.

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5. Summary

1. Use and development of digitial techno-logies needs to be values-driven.

2. Ethics needs to be an integral part in governance, teaching and learning in higher education

3. Globethics.net is your global partner for Ethics in Higher Education!

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شكراً جداً (Shokran Gidan)   merci

thank you   teşekkürler   ngiyabonga

baie dankie   kealeboga   diolch

yn fawr   धन्यवाद (Danyavad)   謝謝 (xiexie)

asante sana   gracias Спасибо (spacibo)

danke   grazie   adube

oshe   dankjewel   obrigado/a