

How we work?

Grounded in everyday life: competition, scarcity of resources, and cultural differences repeatedly lead to conflicts. Together with our partners, we strive to find solutions to such conflicts and dilemmas. We build bridges

- **between the responsibility of the individual** (leadership ethics),
- **the responsibility of collective actors** (corporate and organizational ethics),
- **and the moral value of political and economic systems** (institutional ethics).

What do we want to achieve?

It is our goal to embed responsible behavior in everyday life: in decision-making processes, leadership structures, programs, and strategies. To this end, we want to reach out to the various decision-makers from all spheres of society. They are the ones who impact change, who are role models, and who can shape the opinions and actions of many other people.



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Our Mission

The Wittenberg Center for Global Ethics (WCGE) is a non-profit think tank. We offer current and future decision-makers training in ethics applicable to everyday situations. We work independently, on a scientific basis, and with a global outlook. We initiate dialog processes, offer seminars, support research projects, provide impetus, and develop concepts. We partner with experts from the worlds of politics, business, science, civil society, and religion.

What drives us?

We believe that a code of ethics is imperative. Globalization and digitalization have triggered rapid change and led to growing uncertainty. Traditional rules, standards, and processes are increasingly being challenged. More than ever we need principles, approaches, and values that will give us steadfast direction in everyday life and in times of change because change requires cooperation built on trust. In turn, a trustful alliance requires common points of orientation.

Wittenberg Center for Global Ethics

Ethics for everyday use –
independent, scientifically grounded
and with a global outlook





Our Topics

Our work is aligned to current developments and issues. Recurring focal areas include:

Business ethics

How can we reconcile profit-making and public interests? What concepts for entrepreneurial accountability and open market competition do we need in a global society?

Responsible leadership

What focal points can decision-makers rely on in increasingly more volatile, complex, and ambivalent environments? How can they refine their ethical compass?

Digital transformation

Which points of orientation build trust and are worth maintaining in times of disruption and permanent change – and how? How can we structure, manage, and solve conflicts and dilemmas in sensible ways?

Compliance and integrity

How do structures and values, “rules of the game,” and an “understanding of the game” work together best? How can we promote a common culture of integrity in a world where diverse traditions and values abound?

Our Work

Together with our partners and supporters, we develop ideas, concepts, and formats for researching, teaching, and applying a code of ethics for everyday situations. A few examples:

Seminars

- **Wittenberg Leadership Colloquium** (in cooperation with leading international corporations)
- **Academy for Energy and Acceptance** (with support from the innogy Foundation for Energy and Society)
- **International Business Ethics Colloquium** (with support from the Friede Springer Foundation and in cooperation with the University of Stellenbosch Business School USB)
- **International seminars on “Ethical Challenges in the Diplomatic Service”** (in cooperation with the German Federal Foreign Office)

Dialog

- **Wittenberg Process for Social Partners in the Chemical Industry** (in cooperation with BAVC and IG BCE)
- **Code of Responsible Conduct for Business Initiative** (in cooperation with over 50 companies and organizations)
- **Initiative for Sustainable Value Creation Chains** (in cooperation with econsense and with support from DEG)
- **Freedom – Order – Leadership: Dialog Process on the Occasion of the Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017** (with support from the Federal Commissioner for Culture and Media – BKM)

- **Code of Ethics for the Private Sector in Uganda** (in cooperation with GIZ)

Science

- **International doctoral program “Ethics and Responsible Leadership in Business”** (with support from the Karl Schlecht Foundation)
- **Establishment of four endowed chairs for economic and business ethics** (with support from various foundations)

Impulses and concepts

- **Ethical compass for good leadership** (in cooperation with over 500 international junior and senior executives)
- **Measuring integrity** (in cooperation with various companies)
- **Mission and value management** (in cooperation with various companies)

