

GEOETHICS: THE ETHICS OF THE HUMAN–EARTH RELATIONSHIP

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Many processes that directly affect the lives of societies, such as the natural environment, natural resources, natural disasters, climate change, and unplanned urbanization, are related to the Earth. Investigating and managing these processes requires knowledge and experience; using this knowledge requires ethical obligations.

Decisions regarding our planet affect rocks, soils, minerals, waters, and other natural processes, as well as shaping human life, cultures, and the living conditions of future generations. Therefore, in every field, from the use of natural resources to urban planning, from disaster risk reduction to the protection of geological heritage, the fundamental question should not only be "What can we do?" but also "What should we do, and under whose responsibility should we carry it out?"

Geoethics is a field of thought that questions the ethical dimensions of the relationship that humans have with the Earth system in the processes of producing, sharing, and applying geological knowledge, and aims for the responsible use of scientific knowledge. This approach also requires considering the human and social consequences of scientific decisions.

In recent years, scientists have increasingly faced ethical responsibilities in practicing their profession and in building public trust in science. Geoethics aims to create a forum for discussion on the fundamental principles of addressing concerns regarding sensitive issues related to the interaction between Earth, Earth Sciences, and Society.

We invite you to participate in a session aimed at addressing the ethical dimensions of the relationship between humanity and the planet from an interdisciplinary perspective, to share your views and suggestions for a more just future, and to discuss and evaluate questions and issues together.