

SM 121126

What does the
WORLD ETHOS IDEA
mean for KSG?



Karl Schlecht
Stiftung

... Seeking and Fostering **GOODNESS** itself

Q:\SM\SM-121126 Was ist die WE-Idee\leng\SM 121126 What is WE-Idea-150902stk.docx
150209stk>150210 Irk>stk>wrj>150902stk

WHAT DOES THE WORLD ETHOS IDEA MEAN TO US?¹

For members and friends of KSG – the term **World Ethos** is a peace creating **vision and general human consciousness** about **joint ethical norms that should peacefully unify the world's people**, who so often fight and kill for religious differences.



The concept of “World Ethos” signifies a **common ethical disposition** that people all over the world share or should share – when they honestly remember, learn and realize the origin and biophile core of their specific religion or cultural features.

The respective body of thought was researched and proved by **Hans Küng**. He revealed a unifying human “Worldethos”, founded on such existing good values in most religions and beliefs – often distorted by men.

The fundamental principle of the World Ethics body of thought is reciprocity, also known as the **“Golden Rule”**:

“Do unto others as you would have others do unto you!”

This 2.500 years old rule, already expressed by Confucius, serves as the ethical foundation for the commandments of all religions and legitimate laws. In everyday life the Golden Rule is part of the basic rules of courtesy. One could also say that the Golden Rule is the secular form of the Jewish-Christian commandment of love “Love thy neighbour as thyself” (because he is like you...)

A further general basic principle of the World Ethics body of thought is **“humanity”**:

“Every human should be treated humanely.”

Derived from these two principles are **four values** or **maxims** which are also part of religious commandments:

¹ We are promoting the World Ethos idea this since 1998 and support its dissemination and practical application currently with approx. € 2 million annually.

You shall not murder, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not steal, you shall not abuse sexuality.

Following these commandments in one's daily life, humans can avoid the basic sins mentioned in Christianity but also globally recognised: **Lust, gluttony, greed, sloth, wrath, envy and pride.**

The World Ethos Foundation in Tübingen (Küng's Stiftung Weltethos, SWT) – supported by us since 1998 – **continues to undertake the task** of further realizing consciousness and promoting this unifying idea. The foundation also has the goal of making people everywhere aware of the World Ethos Idea and its underlying values. It does this in the hope that this supports mutual confidence-building and facilitates peace-making ideas among people.

The common moral denominator of all cultures and religions is that "Humans should be treated humanely." What does that signify for people's **professional life**? From KSG's perspective, when searching and promoting good things per se, we must obey traditional virtues and promote **faith, hope and LOVE – and** as St. Paul wrote in his letter to the Corinthians (1.13): "But the greatest of these is **love**.". Same is documented from earlier Chinese Philosophes.

To vitalize this emotional LOVE power source requires lifelong practice. "Loving", as Erich Fromm developed in his book "The Art of Loving", is an "**Art** that embodies 'giving'". And, so Fromm, "Beyond the element of giving, the active character of love becomes evident in the fact that it always implies certain basic elements, common to all forms of love. These are **Care, Responsibility, Respect and Knowledge.**"

Yearning for winning in life, professional success and mastery, **love** is the emotional catalyst for successful and enrich life – and it comes at no charge, but needs lifelong daily efforts and discipline!

The ideal is to love your work **not** because you **need** it – but **you need your work because you love it.**

