

Twenty Years of European SPES

2004-2024



Leuven – Budapest

Twenty Years of European SPES

2004–2024

Copyright © Business Ethics Society 2024
First published 2024

Publisher: Business Ethics Society, Budapest
Editor: Laszlo Zsolnai

Twenty Years of European SPES 2004–2024

ISBN 978-615-82520-0-3 (print)

ISBN 978-615-82520-1-0 (pdf)

Contents

- 5 | What is European SPES?
- 9 | Main Propositions
- 11 | Conferences & Workshops
- 75 | Publications
- 131 | Collaborative Partners
- 133 | The Future of European SPES

What is European SPES?

The European SPES was founded by Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest) in 2004 in Leuven, Belgium. It is part of the SPES-Forum Vzw, an autonomous non-profit organization under Belgian law.

The European SPES is an international network of individuals and organizations promoting spirituality in economic and social life. It is the core belief of European SPES that spiritually motivated actors who define success in multidimensional and holistic terms may serve the common good of nature, future generations, and society. The mission of European SPES is expressed in the keyword of SPES, being on the one hand an acronym for ‘SPirituality in Economics and Society’ and, on the other hand the Latin word for Hope, the virtue that sustains our belief in a better future.

Spirituality is defined in broad and pluralistic terms so European SPES brings together people from different spiritual backgrounds and traditions. We understand spirituality as people’s multiform search for meaning interconnecting them with all living beings and to God or Ultimate Reality. This definition provides room for differing views, spiritualities with and without God, and promotes an ethics of dialogue. The European SPES stands for a spiritual-based humanism which has been defended, among others, by European ‘personalist’ philosophers on philosophical grounds.

From 2004 to 2014 the organization was named as “European SPES Forum”. The name was changed to “European SPES Institute” in 2014. In 2004–2014 Luk Bouckaert served as President of European SPES. Since 2014 Laszlo Zsolnai serves as President of European SPES.

The organization is governed by a Steering Committee and supported by an Advisory Board. In 2024 the European SPES has more than 50 Fellows. They represent 23 countries including Argentina, Austria, Belgium, China, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, UK, and the USA.

In 2004–2024 the European SPES organized or co-organized 44 international conferences and workshops in Europe, Asia, and the USA. Places include Leuven, Antwerp, Brussels, and Ypres (Belgium), Fontainebleau, Rennes, and ABC-Climont (France), Budapest, and Visegrad (Hungary), Bergen, and Bodo (Norway), Catania, Loppiano, Rome, and Urbino (Italy), Amsterdam, and Veldhoven (The Netherlands), Munster (Germany), Cluj-Kolozsvar (Romania), Cambridge, and Oxford (UK), Waterford (Ireland), Tel Aviv (Israel), Bangalore, New Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai, Shillong, and Varanasi (India), Paro (Bhutan), Shanghai, and Hong Kong (China), and Princeton, and New York (USA). (See Table 1)

Table 1 *Conferences and Workshops of the European SPES in 2004–2024*

	Europe	USA	Asia	Total
Conferences & Workshops	31	3	10	44

In 2004–2024 the European SPES published 30 books and 5 special issues in English, Dutch, and Spanish. Publishers include Garant (Antwerp), Peter Lang Academic Publishers (Oxford), Palgrave Macmillan (London), Emerald (UK), Springer (International), Routledge (New York and London), Russell Media (Idaho), and Yunus Publishing (Antwerp), and journals include “World Review of Entrepreneurship, Management and Sustainable Development”, “Revista Cultura Economica”, “Pax Christi Flanders”, “Society & Economy”, and “Journal of Management, Spirituality & Religion”. (See Table 2)

Table 2 *Publications of the European SPES in 2004–2024*

	English	Dutch	Spanish	Total
Books	29	1		30
Special Issues	3	1	1	5
Total	32	2	1	35

In 2004–2024 the European SPES collaborated with leading universities and other institutions including ABBS School of Management – Bangalore, Catholic University of Leuven, Columbia University – New York, Corvinus University of Budapest, Indian Institute of Management Shillong, Princeton University, SPES Forum – Leuven, Tel Aviv University, University of Antwerp, Nord University – Bodo, University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”, and University of Oxford.

Main Propositions

Based on twenty years of work by the European SPES the following propositions can be derived.

- Religion and spirituality are not the same. Religion is an institutionalized approach to relate humanity to the supernatural or transcendental, and to find fulfillment.
- Spirituality involves the multiform search for meaning that interconnects people with all living beings and God or Ultimate Reality outside of, or in addition to traditional institutions.
- Although spirituality is personal and subjective, it is not a private matter. Spirituality can be considered as a public good because the spiritual capital of society influences how economic and social affairs are organized and conducted.
- The opportunistic use of ethics is often counterproductive because it is perceived as lying and cheating by the stakeholders who will react accordingly.
- Spirituality can reduce the temptation to activate moral disengagement mechanisms for rationalizing personal and organizational wrongdoing.
- Only genuine ethics works. Ethics brings material benefits for people and organizations if and only if it is practiced for its own sake and not for producing material gains.
- Personalism should be redefined to embrace ecology and ecological values.

- The concept of the Common Good should be extended to include the good of nature and the good of future generations. Hence, we can arrive to the notion of the Commonwealth of Life.
- Sustainability requires acknowledging the intrinsic value of nature and introducing frugal production and consumption patterns.
- Spiritual-based, transformational leadership creates the greatest possible autonomy for groups and communities, and cultivates the intrinsic motivation of people to act.
- Actors who are intrinsically motivated to serve the greater good and define success in multidimensional, holistic terms can survive and prosper in competitive environment.
- Material value orientation destroys human and ecological wellbeing. Only spiritual value orientation can produce real wellbeing for people and for the rest of creation.
- Spiritual-based humanism provides a solid, non-negotiable foundation for human dignity, equality, and respect realizing that we are all Children of God or connected to the Ultimate Consciousness.

Conferences & Workshops

Spirituality as a Public Affair

The Founding Meeting of the European SPES was held in October 22–23, 2004 in Leuven, Belgium. The aim of the meeting was to reflect on the meaning of spirituality as a public affair and to establish a European network for spirituality in economic and social life.

The program of the meeting included the following presentations:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Spirituality as a Public Affair

Jesuitenhuis, the place of the European SPES Founding Meeting



- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Spirituality and Ethics
- Vincent Triest (Marseille Esperance) and Catherine Leroy (Bruxelles Esperance): Personalism in Europe: Political Initiatives for Interreligious Dialogue

A panel discussion was also organized on the topic “Spiritualities with and without God. Is there a common ground?”

As a result of the meeting the book *Spirituality as a Public Good* was published by Garant in 2007.

Spirituality in the Context of Globalization

The second meeting of the European SPES was held in October 21–22, 2005 in Leuven, Belgium. The theme of the meeting was *Spirituality in the Context of Globalization*.

Participants discussed the role of spirituality in the context of socio-economic globalization. Is spirituality a motivational factor of resistance to globalism, as seems to be the case in the anti- or alternative globalist movements? Or does spirituality, as a desire for universal brotherhood, sustain the drive towards cosmopolitanism, universal values, open communication, and market systems? Does the globalization of religion lead towards a clash of competitive religious claims and attitudes? Or are we growing towards a new type of world spirituality? What could be the form, practice and function of this world spirituality?

Presentations included the following:

- Thierry Verhelst (Brussels): Spirituality and Cultural Resistance to Globalism
- Josep F. Maria Serrano and Xavier Melloni (ESADE Business School, Barcelona): Globalization ... a Marvelous Excuse for Many Things

- Mike Thompson (GoodBrand, London) and Marcello Palazzi (Spirit in Business, Utrecht): Spirituality in Global Business
- Toon Vandevelde (Catholic University of Leuven) and Gonzales d'Alcantara (Antwerp): Religion and the Origin of Culture: The controversial Vision of Rene Girard
- Lorna Gold (Dublin), David Peat (The Pari Center, Italy), and Diana Schumacher (Schumacher Society, UK): The Search for a World Spirituality

Leuven, Belgium



Spirituality and the Economics of Frugality

With European SPES the University of Antwerp organized the international workshop *Spirituality and the Economics of Frugality* in April 20–21, 2006 in Antwerp, Belgium.

The workshop focused on the spiritual concept of frugality and its economic applicability in the present-day context. It aimed to create an overview of the different spiritual approaches to frugality in Buddhist, Christian, Jewish, Islamic, and Philosophical traditions. The general assumption was that, although frugality is contrary to consumerism and excessive economic growth, it is not contrary to economic rationality. Frugality challenges mainstream economics to introduce non-material and non-instrumental values in economic decision-making.

Issues of the workshop included:

- What kind of arguments do we have to reintroduce frugality in economic life today?
- Should we consider frugality as a privileged form of spiritual capital?
- How can we connect frugality to more accepted ideas as sustainability in business, ethical consumption, or distributive justice?
- How can we escape the pitfall of instrumentalization?
- What kind of practices can realize and promote frugality today?

The product of the workshop is the book *Frugality: Rebalancing Material and Spiritual Values in Economic Life* published by Peter Lang Academic Publishers in Oxford in 2008.



University of Antwerp, Belgium



Europe–Asia Dialogue on Business, Ethics, and Spirituality

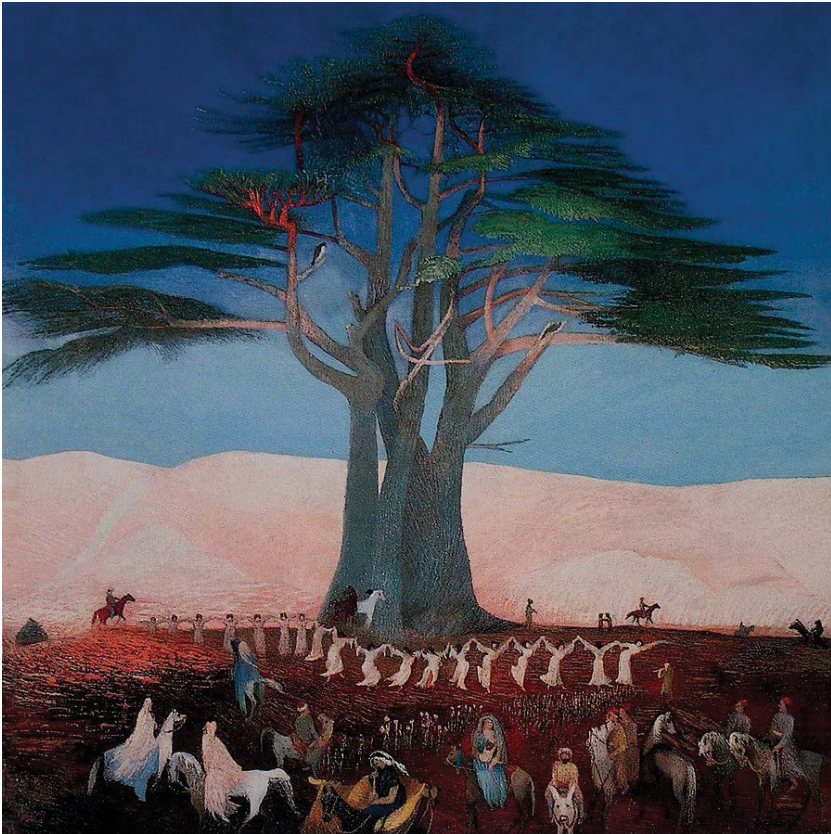
Jointly with European SPES, the Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest organized the *Europe–Asia Dialogue on Business, Ethics, and Spirituality* international conference from June 30–July 2, 2006 in Budapest. Nearly 50 scholars and practitioners participated in the conference representing Austria, Belgium, China, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, India, Indonesia, Norway, Sweden, the UK, and the USA.

The most important presentations were as follows:

- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Calcutta): Igniting Spirit in Business: Indian Insights
- Bengt Gustavsson (Stockholm University): Globalization and Values in the Indian Context

- Mike Thompson (GoodBrand, London): The Practice of Spiritual Dynamics in Business: Religious Perspectives from East–West Anthropologies
- Tibor Hejj (Proactive Management Consulting Ltd., Budapest): Holistic Stakeholder Value Matrix at Spiritual Companies
- Prakash Sethi (City University of New York) and Rev. David Lowry (Christ Church, Manhasset, NY): Coping with Cultural Conflicts in International Operations: Modern Corporations and Tribal Societies

Symbol of the conference, Tivadar Kosztka Csontvary: Pilgrimage to the Cedars in Lebanon (1907)



- Henri-Claude de Bettignies (INSEAD and China Europe International Business School, Shanghai): Leadership and Responsibility in China: Relevance of Chinese and Western Approaches
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): The Spiritual Identity of Europe
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) and Ove Jakobsen (Bodo Graduate School of Business): From Welfare to Well-Being
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Frugality-based Economics

As a result of the meeting the book *Europe–Asia Dialogue on Business Spirituality* was published by Garant in 2008.

Globalization and the Common Good

INSEAD organized an international workshop jointly with the European SPES on *Globalization and the Common Good* in September 17–18, 2006, in Fontainebleau, France. This workshop was hosted by Henri-Claude de Bettignies, the Aviva Chair Professor of Leadership and Responsibility at INSEAD.



*Henri-Claude de Bettignies,
Professor of INSEAD*



The Business School
for the World®

The workshop brought together scholars and practitioners from Europe and the USA.

Contributions ranged over the following topics:

- Conceptual foundations of the common good—an interdisciplinary perspective. The “common good” concept has been dealt with by a variety of disciplines: philosophy, spirituality, political science, economics, international relations... Equivalents of this concept can also be found in other traditions and cultures, such as the “kyosei” in Japan.
- Aspects of the common good issue. Nature preservation, access to water resources, peace and security among nations, an equitable sharing out of wealth, the search for a global ethics in the global marketplace, are some examples—among many others—of the ways through which the common good can be sought after.
- The emergence of global civil society and the common good. What is the role of NGOs, networks of civic constituencies and planetary meetings to promote the common good? How can partnerships between actors belonging to different spheres foster a progress towards that end?
- Leadership for the common good: what are the levers for change? Who should provide the impetus to move beyond self-interest at all levels of human activity? What is the role of spiritual leaders, of political leaders, and of business leaders? More specifically, how business leaders could internalize more a concern for the common good?
- Is a change in thinking under way in management science and business practice? To what extent does this growing interest for—and taking into account of—the common good issue represent a shift in our worldview? Is it related to the business ethics, corporate social responsibility, and sustainable development streams of academic research and trends of corporate action?
- Are business schools an effective vehicle to promote the common good? To what extent can the current debate about the role of business schools in society help them translate their education responsibility into action? What else can be done to increase their effectiveness in contributing to the common good?

The workshop resulted in a book *Business, Globalization and the Common Good* published by Peter Lang Academic Publishers in Oxford in 2009.

European Identity in Social and Business Ethics

On September 21–22, 2007, the European SPES organized its Annual Conference in Leuven which was preceded by the Annual Conference of the European Business Ethics Network (EBEN), both hosted by the Centre for Economics and Ethics of the Catholic University of Leuven. The subject of the conference was *European Identity in Social and Business Ethics*.

A selection of the papers presented at the conference has been published in the book *Imagine Europe. The Search for European Identity and Spirituality* by Garant in 2009.



European Literature and the Ethics of Leadership

The NHH Norwegian School of Economics and the European SPES organized an international workshop on *European Literature and the Ethics of Leadership* in May 2–4, 2008 in Bergen, Norway.

The aim of the workshop was to explore European literature for leadership ethics. Papers were invited to focus on the myths and stories of European literature: Odysseus, Orpheus, Antigone, The Holy Grail, Hamlet, Don Quixote, Robinson Crusoe, Faust, Peer Gynt, etc. and to link them to contemporary issues of leadership. More than socio-economic or ethical models, European literature confronts us with the existential, tragic, and heroic dimensions of leadership.

Papers presented in the workshop were as follows:

- Luk Bouckaert and Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): The Faustian Idea of Entrepreneurship
- Ingrid Molderez (HUB–European University College) and Eric Lefebvre (Hasselt University): The Horizon’s Embrace (Faust)
- Carlos Hoevel (Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina): Thomas Mann’s Buddenbrooks, Adorno’s Odysseus and the Tragedy of Business Leadership
- Daniel Deak (Corvinus University of Budapest): Don Carlos versus Marquis of Posa
- Gerrit De Vylder (Catholic University of Leuven): Jonathan Swift’s Gulliver’s Travels
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Orpheus. The Determining Role of Technology in Business and Leadership
- Ove Jakobsen (Bodo Graduate School of Business): Well-being in the Perspective of Plato’s Dialogue “Timaeus”
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Peer Gynt and Self-realization

- Tom Eide (Diakonhjemmet University College, Oslo): Ibsen, Leadership, and Morality
- Imre Lazar (Semmelweis Medical University of Budapest): “La Divina Commedia” and “The Tragedy of Man”
- Odile Heynders (Tilburg University): A Roman Emperor, Prefect and a Medieval Ruler. Leadership in European Literature: a Gender Perspective
- Lars Jacob Tynes Pedersen (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Learning from Ambiguity: Three Alternate Readings of Camus’ The Stranger
- Sunniva Whittaker (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Bergson’s Laughter
- Yvon Pequeux (CNAM Paris): Cyrano de Bergerac
- Johan Bouwer (Alba University, The Netherlands): The Little Prince and Leadership
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Calcutta): New Light from Planets Afar: Leadership Journey with “The Little Prince”

The conference resulted in the book *Heroes and Anti-heroes: European Literature and the Ethics of Leadership* published by Garant in 2010.

NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen, Norway



Leadership, Spirituality and the Common Good: East and West Approaches

The China Europe International Business School (CEIBS) together with the European SPES organized an international workshop on *Leadership, Spirituality and the Common Good: East and West Approaches* in October 15–16, 2008 in Shanghai, China.

Designed for academics and practitioners, the workshop explored the relationship between spiritual sources and the common good as defined by Eastern and Western societies, and how this relationship translates into praxis for leadership in organizations.

The conference resulted in the book *Leadership, Spirituality and the Common Good: East and West Approaches* published by Garant in 2008.



China Europe International Business School (CEIBS)



Respect and Economic Democracy

The Annual Conference of the European SPES entitled *Respect and Economic Democracy* was organized by the University of Catania in April 17–18, 2009 in Catania, Italy.

The conference had the purpose to explore a common sense of respect, which can improve the dialogue between people and to act as a guarantor of an ethically balanced resources allocation. At the same time, the conference directed the attention of academics and practitioners to the gap between stakeholders and individuals and the lack or inefficiency of democratic mechanism in business governance.

Issues addressed were as follows:

What is the meaning of respect? The different aspects and contexts of respect. The balance between self-respect and respect for the others. Respect for nature and future generations. Respect as a basic value driven by spirituality in the context of globalization. The bottom line of respect as the minimum standard needed in transnational relations. Taking into account the stakeholder model, is it sufficient that the decision-making process fulfills the needs of individuals? Or do private and public governance need to look for new frontiers to utilize the resources effectively and ethically? What is economic democracy? Could we find a connection among motivation, participation, inner equilibrium, and democratic business? How can we achieve a broad consensus among diverse stakeholders in business? How can the ethics of respect and economic democracy support new pathways in business, politics, and society?



UNIVERSITÀ
degli STUDI
di CATANIA

University of Catania, Italy



Presentations of the conference included the following:

- Pasquale Arena (University of Catania): The Four Leaf-clover of Respect and the Collectivity Theory
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Respect for Future Generations
- Antonio Tencati and Stefano Pogutz (Bocconi University, Milan): Respect for Nature. The Need for Innovative Business Patterns
- David Peat (The Pari Center, Italy): Gentle Action. Bringing Creative Change to a Turbulent World
- Giorgio Muscarello (Palermo): The Cooperative Movement in Sicily

The conference resulted in the book *Respect and Economic Democracy* published by Garant in 2010.

Social Responsibility, Entrepreneurship, and the Common Good

An international symposium on *Social Responsibility, Entrepreneurship, and the Common Good* was held at Rennes School of Business on January 7–8, 2010 in cooperation with the European SPES and the European Business Ethics Network, and with the support of CANON Research Centre France. The aim of the conference was to explore how corporate social responsibility and entrepreneurship can contribute to the common good and provide answers to the challenges posed by the current economic crisis.

The conference resulted in a book entitled *Social Responsibility, Entrepreneurship, and the Common Good* published by Palgrave in 2012.



Leading with Wisdom

The Annual Conference of the European SPES entitled *Leading with Wisdom* was hosted by the Alba University in April 21–23, 2010 in Veldhoven, The Netherlands. The conference explored the meaning and practice of wisdom as the basis of trustful and effective leadership. In a period of ‘creative destruction’ and transformation, the role of wisdom is vital and indispensable to meet the complexities, uncertainties, and turbulences in business.

The theme of the conference was inspired by the book of Peter Pruzan and Kirsten Pruzan Mikkelsen, *Leading with Wisdom. Spiritual-based Leadership in Business* (Greenleaf Publishing, Sheffield, 2007). The authors were keynote speakers in the conference.



*Kirsten Pruzan Mikkelsen
and Peter Pruzan*

Issues addressed in the conference included the following:

What is wisdom in leadership? How can we define this concept and which experience can help us exercise it? What makes wisdom different from mainstream rational and managerial knowledge? To what extent is it related to virtues and spirituality? What are the sources of wisdom? How to cope with different traditions and models of wisdom? Is there a trans-cultural model of wisdom that can be used in management theory and practice? What is the (non)role of wisdom in current theories of leadership? Does a focus on wisdom add something valuable to the existing theory and practice of leadership? How can wisdom be integrated in the decision-making process? What are the criteria of wise decisions? Is wisdom more than an individual competence? Can it become a characteristic of a collective process of discernment? What can we learn from case studies? How do entrepreneurs and business leaders experience wisdom and spirituality in their practice? What are the economic effects and costs of a lack of wisdom? What can we learn from the banking crisis or other disasters? How can wisdom be implemented in specific forms of managerial practice (hiring and firing people, risk management, marketing, etc.)? How to give wisdom its proper place in business education and business schools?

The conference resulted in a book entitled *Leading with Wisdom* published by Garant in 2011.



Alba-academie
De verrassende kijk op leiderschap en coaching.

Responsibility in Economics —The Legacy of E.F. Schumacher

The Centre for Ethics of the University of Antwerp and the Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest co-organized the Annual Conference of the European SPES entitled *Responsibility in Economics—The Legacy of E.F. Schumacher* in September 22–23, 2011 in Antwerp, Belgium. A Charter of Human Responsibilities was launched by the international Charles Leopold Mayer Foundation as a tool for dialogue.

The 100th anniversary of E.F. Schumacher's birth was an ideal opportunity for launching this particular discussion on responsibility in economics. It invited the participants to rediscover the author of *Small is Beautiful* (1973) and his philosophy of responsibility as elaborated in his *Guide for the Perplexed* (1977). In his last publication, *Good Work* (1979), Schumacher was one of the first economists to integrate the principles of Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability (CSRS). Over 100 scholars and practitioners participated in the conference from Europe, North America, and Asia.

The book which resulted from the conference *Responsibility in Economics—The Legacy of E.F. Schumacher* was published by Peter Lang Academic Publishers in Oxford in 2013.



E.F. Schumacher (1911–1977)

Spirituality and Sustainability: New Path for Entrepreneurship

The Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest and the ERENET–Entrepreneurship Research and Education Network of Central European Universities organized the Annual Conference of the European SPES in September 21–23, 2012 in Visegrad, Hungary. The title of the conference was *pirituality and Sustainability: New Path for Entrepreneurship*. The aim of the conference was disclosing the spiritual dimension in business ethics and sustainability management.

Issues addressed in the conference included:

- What are the spiritual orientations to nature in different cultural traditions (Christianity, Buddhism, Judaism, Hinduism, etc.)?
- How can spirituality and ecology contribute to transforming contemporary management theory and praxis?
- How can art influence the commitment of people and organizations to sustainability and nature?
- Which are the promising sustainability business models in Europe and other parts of the world?
- Which new leadership roles emerge for sustainability in business?
- How entrepreneurship can be inspired by nature and spirituality in a meaningful way?

The conference resulted in two main publications. One is the book *The Spiritual Dimension of Business Ethics and Sustainability Management* published by Springer while the other is the “Spirituality and Sustainability Management” Special Issue of *World Review of Entrepreneurship, Management and Sustainable Development*.

Buddhist Values in Business and its Potential for Europe

The Buddhist Economics Research Platform, the Loden Foundation, Bhutan, and the Hungarian Bhutan Friendship Society in partnership with the European SPES and the European Buddhist Union organized an international workshop on *Buddhist Values in Business and its Potential for Europe* in November 24–25, 2012 in Brussels, Belgium.

Partly inspired by Bhutan's Gross National Happiness, the workshop was designed for people from the business or academic sectors interested or involved in Buddhist Business/Economics as well as for entrepreneurs, university students, and leaders of Buddhist organizations.

The Buddha



The Economic and Financial Crisis, and the Human Person

The European SPES organized a joint international workshop with the Von Hugel Institute, St. Edmund's College, University of Cambridge in June 8–9, 2013 in Cambridge, UK. The workshop examined the relations between economy, ethics, and religion in the light of the financial crisis which began in 2007.



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

The Von Hugel Institute, St. Edmund's College, University of Cambridge



Speakers of the workshop were as follows:

- John Loughlin (St. Edmund's College, University of Cambridge)
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven)
- Peter Rona (Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford)
- Peter Heslam (Transforming Business, University of Cambridge)
- Jeffrey Odell Korgen (Diocese of Metuchen, USA)
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest)
- Mick Blowfield (Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford)
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen)
- Richard Higginson (Faith in Business, Ridley Hall, Cambridge)
- Antonio Tencati (University of Brescia and Bocconi University, Milan)
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp)
- Johan Verstraeten (Catholic University of Leuven)

Ethical Leadership: The Indian Way

The European SPES co-organized an international conference entitled *Ethical Leadership: The Indian Way* at IFIM Business School in Bangalore, India on January 9–10, 2014. The conference got together academics and professionals from different areas to address issues of human values, ethics, and spirituality in doing business in the Indian context. This conference aimed to identify new directions for spirituality and ethics together to build better leadership in the industry. Over 60 Indian, European, and American scholars and practitioners presented papers on the ethical challenges of leadership in Western and Eastern context.

The product of the conference is the book on *Ethical Leadership. Indian and European Spiritual Approaches* published by Palgrave acmillan in 2016 in London.



*Madhumita Chatterji
and Luk Bouckaert
at the Bangalore conference*

Business for Peace—Strategies for Hope

The 10th Anniversary Conference of the European SPES was held in April 10–12, 2014 in Ypres, Flanders Fields, Belgium. The conference entitled *Business for Peace—Strategies for Hope* was dedicated to the memory of the centennial anniversary of the first World War (1914–1918).

The opening lecture was given by Herman van Rompuy, President of the European Council under the title “Europe as a Peace Project”. Participants launched The Ypres Manifesto on Business for Peace.

Ypres, Flanders Fields



Teleology and Reason in Economic and Social Affairs

The European SPES co-organized an international workshop on *Teleology and Reason in Economic and Social Affairs* with the Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford in June 30–July 1, 2014 in Oxford.

The workshop explored Catholic Social Thinking for analyzing pressing economic and financial problems of today. Inspired by the spiritual humanism of the European personalist movement and applying the analytical rigor of the Aristotelian-Thomistic tradition the workshop aimed to develop new models for business functioning and economic policy serving the spiritual and material flourishing of the human person.

Key issues of the workshop were the following:

- The role of “telos” in the formation of economic choices and actions
- Critique of the current assumptions of economic rationality
- Reason and reasoning in economic and social life
- Common good oriented business and policy making
- Civil society participation in the economy

Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford



Presentations of the Oxford workshop included:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Do We Need a Teleological Model of Economics?
- John Loughlin (University of Cambridge): The Christian Understanding of the Human Person Faced with the New Globalization
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Human Reason in the Age of Economic Unreason
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Reconsidering Personalism
- Peter Rona (Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford): Economics, Ethics and the Corporation
- Kevin Jackson (Free University of Brussels): Economy of Mutuality
- David Miller (Princeton University): The Faith & Work Initiative in Princeton
- Mike Thompson (China Europe International Business School, Shanghai): How Managers Understand Wisdom and Wise Leadership?
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Flourishing in the Aristotelian-Thomistic Tradition
- Luigino Bruni (LUMSA University, Rome): Reclaiming Virtue Ethics for Economics
- Toon Vandavelde (Catholic University of Leuven): Value and Violence: The Ambivalence of Money
- Johan Verstraeten (Catholic University of Leuven): Sen's Idea of Justice and Catholic Social Thought



Virtues and Vices in Economics and Business

The *Virtues and Vices in Economics and Business* international workshop was organized by the Institute of Philosophy of the Catholic University of Leuven in cooperation with the European SPES in June 19–20, 2015 in Leuven, Belgium. Inspired by the spiritual humanism of the European personalist movement and applying the virtue ethics tradition, the participants of the workshop aimed to develop new models for encouraging virtuous actions in business and in economic policy.

Presentations included the following:

- Helen Alford (Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas – Angelicum, Rome): Hollowing-out of Meaning: Virtue ethics in the “Blueprint for Better Business”
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Ancient Virtues and Positive Psychology

The conference room of the Institute of Philosophy in Leuven



- Johan Verstraeten (Catholic University of Leuven): Beyond Morality: Spirituality as Precondition for Virtuous Leadership
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Virtues of Good Leadership in the Light of Hannah Arendt’s Theory of Judgment
- Peter Rona (Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford): Intentionality and the Objects of Economics
- Toon Vandavelde (Catholic University of Leuven): Thomas Piketty on Inequality
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Prudence in Management and Economic Wisdom
- Thomas Dienberg (Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule, Munster): Vices and Virtues in economics: About Community and Contemplation
- Kevin Jackson (Free University of Brussels & Fordham University, New York): Mindfulness and the Inner Motivation to Be Ethical
- Luigino Bruni (LUMSA University, Rome): Vulnerability and Immunity in Economic Life
- Carlos Hoevel (Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina): Opportunities and Obstacles to Civil Economy: An Overview and the Latin American Case

Management in the VUCA World: The Role of Spirituality

The European SPES organized its Annual Conference with the Free University of Amsterdam in July 3–4, 2015 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The title of the conference was *Management in the VUCA World: The Role of Spirituality*. The conference aimed to discuss how spiritual values help managers to navigate the VUCA World of Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity.

Participants were invited to reflect on the various themes of management in the VUCA world.

Questions to be addressed were as follow:

- What could be the contribution of practical ancient wisdom to the understand and practice of spiritual values in management in the VUCA World?
- To what extent might the spirit of entrepreneurial leaders and firms provide tangible examples of simplicity and frugality in practice?
- What could be the role of spirituality in management education in addressing the challenges of the VUCA world?
- What are the good practices of spiritually inspired management in business operations, resource productivity, brand management strategy, diversity management, and corporate behavior?
- How might company and brand reputation be developed with a spiritual perspective?

Free University of Amsterdam



- How might the philosophical and spiritual roots of simplicity and frugality be developed to provide support for all who face the demands of living and working in a VUCA world?
- What changes can realistically be implemented in the prevailing investment paradigm which allow business to better reflect the principles of simplicity, frugality, empathy, and interconnectedness in management?

Gandhi, Spirituality, and Corporate Social Responsibility

In cooperation with the Gandhi Peace Foundation, the European SPES and Binghamton University – The State University of New York organized an international seminar on *Gandhi, Spirituality, and Corporate Social Responsibility* in October 31, 2015 in New Delhi, India.

*Luk Bouckaert and
Hendrik Opdebeeck
at the Gandhi Peace
Foundation conference*



The program of the workshop included the following presentations:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Spirituality and Social Responsibility in Business
- Manas Chatterji (Binghamton University – The State University of New York): Culture, Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility
- Prakash Sethi (City University of New York): Imperfect Markets: Business Ethics as an Easy Virtue
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): The impact of Gandhi and Buddhism on E.F. Schumacher
- Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): Literature as the Mirror of Leadership

The Gross National Happiness Conference in Bhutan

The European SPES was active in contributing to the scientific program of the *International Conference on Gross National Happiness* organized by the Centre for Bhutan Studies in November 4–6, 2015 in Paro, Bhutan.



དབལ་འབྲས་ལྷོ་ལྷོ་བའ་

Centre For Bhutan Studies & GNH Research



The following presentations were included in the conference forming a track in Buddhist economics:

- Knut Ims (Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Deep Ecology and Its Relevance for GNH and Bhutan
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Public Happiness and Cultural Values
- Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): Resilience and Cultural Literacy

Paro, Bhutan



- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Buddhism as a Source of Revitalization of Sustainability Management in the West: The Case of E.F. Schumacher
- Manas Chatterji (Binghamton University – The State University of New York): Culture, Ethics and CSR
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): In Quest of Happiness: Glimpses from Indian Wisdom
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest) produced a video presentation on Buddhist Economics for the conference. The video is available at: <https://laszlo-zsolnai.com/buddhist-economics-video/>

Vulnerability and Gift in Economics and Business

The European SPES together with the Sophia University Institute—the higher education body of the Focolare movement—organized an international conference in April 22–23, 2016 in Loppiano (Florence). The theme of the conference was *Vulnerability and Gift in Economics and Business*.

Issues discussed in the conference included:

- Empirical/lab evidence about the role of vulnerability in economic, organizational, and social interactions
- Historical and philosophical reasons behind the expulsion of vulnerability and/or gift from economics and social sciences
- Gift and trust in business organizations, and subsidiarity and vulnerability in the governance of organizations
- Theories and models of vulnerability in interactions and theological explanations for the absence of gift in economic and social theories



*Sophia University
Institute, Loppiano*

Integral Ecology, Earth Spirituality, and Economics

The Centre for Ecological Economics and Ethics of the Bodo Graduate School of Business, Nord University organized the Annual European SPES conference on *Integral Ecology, Earth Spirituality, and Economics* from May 27–29, 2016 in Bodo, Norway.

The main inspiring source of the conference was Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato si'*. Integral ecology as proposed in the encyclical integrates concerns for people and the planet. An integral transdisciplinary understanding of the world ties science to human values. It sees the world as a systemically linked system of ecology, economy, equity, and justice, accessible through the natural and social sciences, arts, and humanities.

Nord University, Bodo



The program of the conference included the following presentations:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Authenticity and Sustainability—The Search for a Reliable Earth Spirituality
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) and Ove Jakobsen (Nord University, Bodo): Happiness and the Meaning of Life
- Peter Timmerman (York University, Toronto): Learning to Live in a Finite World
- Daniel Deak (Corvinus University of Budapest): Social Intervention in Nature
- Hendrik Opdebeek (University of Antwerp): Integral Ecology: An Elegy?
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Integral Ecology, Frugality, and the Intrinsic Value of Nature
- Thomas Dienberg, Bernd Beermann, and Markus Warode (Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule, Munster): Franciscan Approach towards Ecology
- Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): Re-reading Robinson Crusoe (Defoe) and Friday (Tournier) with the Help of Ecocriticism
- Jose Luis Fernandez-Fernandez, Anna Bajo Sanjuan (Comillas Pontifical University, Madrid), and Jose Luis Retolaza Avalos (Deusto Business School, Bilbao): Epistemological Approach to Sustainability: Enrichment from a Transcendent Jesuit Perspective
- Manas Chatterji (Binghamton University – The State University of New York): Corporate Social Responsibility and Ethics
- Doirean Wilson (Middlesex University, London): What Price Consumerism?
- Nel Hofstra (Erasmus University, Rotterdam): Regenerative Firms: Acknowledging the Intrinsic Value of Nature
- Adinarayanan Venkatachalam and Smrithi Rekha (Anaadi Foundation, India): Shakti Leadership: An Embracing and Inclusive Leadership Model

The product of the conference was the book on *Integral Ecology and Sustainable Business* published by Emerald in 2017.

The Antwerp Workshop on Ethical Leadership

The Centre for Ethics of the University of Antwerp and the European SPES organized a workshop at the Antwerp Management School on December 17, 2016 in Antwerp, Belgium.

Program of the workshop included the presentation of the book *Ethical Leadership: Indian and European Spiritual Approaches* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016). The workshop ended by a presentation of Kim Yong-Bock, Chancellor of the Asia Pacific Center for Integral Study of Life about their activities and projects in South Korea.

*Antwerp
Management School*

AMŠ



Contemplative Science & Management

The Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest and the European SPES organized an international conference on *Contemplative Science & Management* in May 19–21, 2017 in Budapest, Hungary. Collaborative partners included the Mind & Life Europe and the Hungary-Bhutan Friendship Society.

The conference invited scholars and practitioners devoted to exploring and presenting new developments in contemplative inquiry related to Buddhist economics, wellbeing, social transformation, mindful organizations, and ecological worldview in the management context.

The aim of the *Contemplative Science & Management* conference was threefold: (1) to develop working models inspired by contemplative inquiry for the transformation of management practices in a variety of organizational settings, (2) to build a collaborative platform for scholars and practitioners devoted to contemplative inquiry in management and business, and (3) to foster the development and expansion of Buddhism-related approaches in economics and other social sciences.

Participants of the Contemplative Science and Management conference



Speakers of the conference included:

- Clair Brown (University of California, Berkeley)
- Sander Tideman (Mind & Life Europe)
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen)
- Vincenzo Giorgino (University of Turin)
- Ora Setter (Tel Aviv University)
- Xabier Renteria-Uriarte (University of the Basque Country, Bilbao)
- Joel Magnusson (independent economist, Portland)
- Ernest NG (The University of Hong Kong)
- Zoltan Valcsicsak (Hungary-Bhutan Friendship Society)

The result of the conference was a special issue published in the *Society and Economy*, the academic journal of the Corvinus University of Budapest.

New Economy, Old Traditions —Caring Entrepreneurship

The Coller School of Management of Tel Aviv University hosted the 2017 Annual European SPES Conference on September 4–6, 2017 in Tel Aviv, Israel.

The central theme of the conference was how to develop a new ethos of entrepreneurship in which caring for fellow human beings, future generations, and nature play a primordial role. Practical wisdom from the Jewish and other faith traditions suggests that enterprises with a spiritual value orientation can flourish, and serve the interests of business and the wider community better than conventional enterprises that operate according to a narrow financial bottom line.



The program of the conference included the following presentations:

- Yehuda Kahane (Tel Aviv University): The Metrics in a New Economy: The B2T by 2020 Project
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Business Responsibility and Future Generations
- Dana Zelicha (Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya and Organizational Well Being Agency): Mindful Entrepreneurship
- Keren Tsuk (Tsukconsult): Mindfulness as the Main Quality of Leadership
- Jose Luis Fernandez-Fernandez and Cristina Diaz de la Cruz (Comillas Pontifical University, Madrid): Social Catholic Thought and the Economy of Communion as a Business Model
- Anke Turner (Hochschule Fresenius, Hamburg) and Subhasis Chakrabarti (Vedanta Institute Kolkata): Vedantic Perspective on Caring Entrepreneurship
- Gabor Kovacs (Corvinus University of Budapest): The Caring Attitude of Christian and Buddhist Entrepreneurs
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): Unleashing the Creative Spirit in Management Education: Insights from Rabindranath Tagore

- Yael Almog Zackai (Conscious Capitalism, Israel): What Is Conscious Capitalism?
- Kevin Jackson (Free University of Brussels): Getting to the Heart of Compassion in Philosophy and Economic Life
- Mark Kriger (BI Norwegian Business School, Oslo): Wise Leadership for Turbulent Times: Lessons from the World’s Great Spiritual Traditions
- Henri-Claude de Bettignies (INSEAD and China Europe International Business School, Shanghai): Spirituality and Management Practice, Care Management and Corporate Effectiveness: Fashionable Bedfellows or Paths toward the Future?
- Pavel Chalupnicsek (Catholic University of Leuven): Making the Right Difference: Social Entrepreneurship, Conscience, and Common Good
- Katalin Illes (University of Westminster, London) and Jennifer Wascak (London): Caring for the Other
- Mali Nevo (Tel Aviv University): The Eco Appreciation Perspective: Moving Towards a Sustainable Future
- Andras Ocsai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Value Orientation of Ecologically Conscious Businesses
- Imre Ungvari-Zrinyi (Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj–Kolozsvár): Spirituality in Authentic Human and Social Relations: Martin Buber and Jeremy Rifkin
- Galia Cukierman (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Israel and Hebrew University of Jerusalem): Growing a Better Future for Our World
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Nature, Economics, and Caring Leadership
- Janos Vargha (Danube Circle, Budapest): Human–River Relationship in the 21st Century
- Garry Jacobs (World Academy of Art and Science): A Consciousness Approach to Management, Economics and Life
- Tal Ronen (YKCenter, Tel Aviv): The Global Gamechangers Impact Lab

*Conference organizers
Ora Setter,
Yehuda Kahane, and
Laszlo Zsolnai*



Martin Luther's Heritage in Modern Economics and Social Sciences

LUMSA University and the European SPES organized the two days workshop on *Martin Luther's Heritage in Modern Economics and Social Sciences*, in November 15–16, 2017 in Rome, Italy.

2017 was the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's 95 theses in the Wittenberg Cathedral, which has been considered the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. Sombart, Weber, Bataille and many others have underlined the crucial role of Luther and the reformers in the birth of capitalism and its spirit. It is just partially acknowledged, that there are important connections between the methodology of modern economics

and social sciences and some tenets of Protestantism. The individualistic approach of modern political economy, the sharp separation between contract and gift, the role of gratuity in the market, the great trust in the incentives for motivating and controlling workers, the big theme of meritocracy (the merit was the main theological criticism of Luther), the absence of virtue ethics in economics and social sciences, and other issues are at the time central in both social sciences and Luther's theology.



The Will to Serve—Inspiring Models of Servant Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship

The European SPES, the Institute of Leadership and Social Ethics (ILSE), and the Damien Center organized the Annual European SPES Conference entitled *The Will to Serve: Inspiring Models of Servant Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship* in May 24–26, 2018 in Leuven, Belgium.

Inspiring social and economic leaders such as Father Damien (1840–1889), the spiritual patron for leprosy and outcasts, are able to transform a conflictual human settlement into a collaborative and caring human community. Can we induce from their “way of doing things” a model of civic entrepreneurship and leadership that can inspire people in profit, non-profit, and public organizations? To what extent is the “will to serve”

compatible with the will to maximize profit or the will to gain economic, political, or religious power? Do different spiritual traditions create different models and examples of servant leadership?

The conference program included the following presentations:

- Patrick Nullens (Institute of Leadership and Social Ethics, Leuven): The Will to Serve as a Spiritual and Anthropological Foundation for Leadership
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Serving Future Generations
- Inge Nuyten (Rotterdam School of Management & Redpoint Company): Servant Leadership: Current Theory and Practice



*Father Damien
(1840–1889)*

- Bart Weetjens (Apopo & Ashoka Movement): Why and How to Become a Social Entrepreneur?
- Sharda Nandram (Nyenrode Business University): An Integrative Paradigm for Social Entrepreneurship
- Richard J. Major (The IGS Group, Paris): Business, Servant Leadership, and Virtue Ethics: The Practice of Managerial Exemplarity
- Johan Verstraeten (Catholic University of Leuven): Father Damien as an Icon of Servant Leadership and Social Entrepreneurship
- Chris Doude van Troostwijk (Luxembourg School of Religion & Society and Free University of Amsterdam): The Philosophy of the Will to Serve: The Case of Albert Schweitzer

The product of the conference is the book on *Servant Leadership, Social Entrepreneurship and the Will to Serve: Spiritual Foundations and Business Applications* published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2019.

Franciscan Legacy for the World of Today

The European SPES and the Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Munster organized an international workshop on *Franciscan Legacy for the World of Today* on March 24, 2019 in Munster, Germany.

The presentations included the following:

- Thomas Dienberg (Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule, Munster): Brotherhood – Community/Individualism
- Katalin Illes (University of Westminster, London): Leadership



- Markus Warode (Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule, Munster): Management and Franciscan Spirituality
- Cosmas Hoffmann (Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule, Munster): Francis' Encounter with the Sultan as an Impulse for an Interreligious Dialogue Today
- Stefan Schlatt (University of Munster): Animal Ethics
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Earth Spirituality
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Deep Ecology

Buddhist Values and Economics: Investing in a Sustainable Future

The Centre of Buddhist Studies of The University of Hong Kong and the European SPES organized an international conference entitled *Buddhist Values and Economics: Investing in a Sustainable Future* in April 13–14, 2019 in Hong Kong.

The concept of wealth, its proper generation and application in the context of Buddhist values have been taught by the Buddha 2500 years ago. Yet the research on Buddhist values and economics has been an evolving interdisciplinary subject and gained significance over the last few decades. In view of the challenges and opportunities of market economy in the 21st century, this international conference invited leading scholars in Buddhist studies and economics as well as professionals from various fields including policy makers, corporates, social enterprises, and the non-profit sector to share their experience and expertise on this timely subject.

The keynote presentations in the conference included the following:

- Clair Brown (University of California, Berkeley): Buddhist Economics: Individual and Government Actions to Create an Equitable, Sustainable Future

- Peter D. Hershock (East-West Center, Honolulu): Valuing Intelligence: Buddhist Reflection on the Attention Economy and Artificial Intelligence
- Laszlo Zsolnai and Gabor Kovacs (Corvinus University of Budapest): Buddhist Economic Thought and Action
- John Paraskevopoulos (Buddhist Mission of Australia, Canberra): The Dharma of Economics: Challenges and Limitations
- Richard Payne (Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley): Capitalism and Exchange: Economic Contexts of Buddhism
- Dasho Karma Ura (Centre for Bhutan Studies & GNH Research, Thimphu): Buddhism and Economics—Pursuing Twin Goals of Prosperity and Happiness



Hong Kong



The New Ethos of Entrepreneurship Based on Spirituality

The Babes-Bolyai University Faculty of History and Philosophy together with the European SPES and the Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest organized a workshop entitled *A New Ethos of Entrepreneurship Based on Spirituality. The Philosophy of Caring Management in the New Economy* on October 26, 2019 in Cluj-Kolozsvar, Romania. The topic of the conference was drawing from the book on *Caring Management in the New Economy. Socially Responsible Behavior Through Spirituality* (edited by Ora Setter and Laszlo Zsolnai, Palgrave Macmillan, London, 2019).

Ora Setter with Andras Ocsai, Imre Ungvari-Zrinyi, and Gabor Kovacs



The program of the workshop included:

- Ora Setter (Israeli Organizational Development Association and Lahav Executive Education Center of Tel Aviv University): Spirituality and Caring in Organizations—The Covenant Metaphor
- Laszlo Zsolnai, Gabor Kovacs, and Andras Ocsai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Caring for Future Generations
- Imre Ungvari-Zrinyi (Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj–Kolozsvar): Authentic Human Relations and the Economy



UNIVERSITATEA
BABEȘ-BOLYAI

Spirituality in Society and the Professions

The Waterford Institute of Technology, Department of Applied Arts hosted the 2019 Annual European SPES Conference in May 16–18, 2019 in Waterford, Ireland. Collaborative partner was the Spirituality Institute for Research and Education in Dublin. The topic of the conference was *Spirituality in Society and the Professions* which was related to the *Routledge International Handbook of Spirituality in Society and the Professions* edited by Laszlo Zsolnai and Bernadette Flanagan.

Plenary presentations in the conference included the following:

- Ralph W. Hood, Jr. (University of Tennessee at Chattanooga): Mysticism and the Relationship between Religion and Spirituality
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): From Professional Ethics to a Professional Search for Meaning
- David Coghlan (Trinity College Dublin): Developing a Spirituality of Scholarship: A First Person Methodological Approach

- Stuart Walker (Lancaster University): Spirituality and Design
- Kevin Jackson (Fordham University, New York): Music as a Profession of Contemplative Journey: Castles, Bridges, and Butterflies
- Celeste Snowber (Simon Fraser University, Vancouver): Body, Spirituality and Passion: Embodied Ways of Inquiry in Vocation
- Michael O’Sullivan (Spirituality Institute for Research and Education, Dublin): Spiritual Capital: Spirituality for Social and Planetary Well-being
- Jose Luis Fernandez-Fernandez and Diana Loyola (Comillas Pontifical University, Madrid): Spirituality as the Foundation of the Ethics of Professions
- Erik C. Carter (Loma Linda University, USA): Pilgrimage as a Curricular Organizing Concept for Teaching Spirituality to Occupational Therapists-in-Training

Waterford, Ireland



Spirituality, Sustainability, and Leadership

Organized by the Anaadi Foundation (Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India) and the European SPES, Adinarayanan Venkatachalam, Smrithi Rekha Adinarayanan, and Laszlo Zsolnai were conducting an online workshop on *Spirituality, Sustainability, and Leadership* in June 22–26, 2020.

The workshop was designed to introduce the participants to models of leadership, ecology, and lifestyle based on spiritual and sustainable principles. It aimed at interpreting spirituality and sustainability during volatile and uncertain situations, understanding the dynamic interaction and interdependence of individual, society, and environment, and charting a roadmap for sustainable and spiritual leadership for organizational and societal development.

Topics of the workshop included Indian Spiritual Thought and Approach to Spirituality, Integral Ecology, Responsible Leadership, Yoga for Sustainability and Business, and Handling Crisis Situations and Creating Sustainable Futures.

Over 100 persons participated in the workshop from India and Europe.



Flourishing in a New Era: Ethics, Sustainability, and Spirituality

From January 15 to February 5, 2021 the Mumbai-based S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research organized a series of webinars for its MBA students and alumni under the title *Flourishing in a New Era: Conversations around Ethics, Sustainability, and Spirituality*.

The webinar series included the following presentations:

- Paul Shrivastava (Pennsylvania State University): Sustainable Futures and Wellbeing in the Anthropocene
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Responsible Business
- Eleanor O’Higgins (University College Dublin): Progressive Business Models and Business Social Innovation
- Peter Pruzan (Copenhagen Business School): Spiritual-based Leadership



S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research



Nurturing the Place and its Communities

The University of Urbino “Carlo Bo” and the European SPES organized an online workshop on *Nurturing the Place and its Communities* on May 20, 2021.

The program of the workshop was as follows:

- Elisabetta Righini (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”): Social Business and Environmental Engagement
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Place-based Economics
- Mara Del Baldo (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”), Maria-Gabriella Baldarelli (University of Bologna), and Ninel Nesheva-Kiosseva (New Bulgarian University, Sofia): Integrated Sustainable Performance Management Systems
- Luigino Bruni (LUMSA University, Rome and Sophia University Institute, Loppiano): The Economy of Francis
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen), Gherardo Girardi (University of Saint Mary, London), Tamas Veress (Corvinus University of Budapest), Hayden Hubbard (The University of Utah), and Mara Del Baldo (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”): The Common Good University Project

The workshop ended with a Music Journey performed by Felicia Bongiovanni (Composer Stefano Bartolucci).



1506
UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI URBINO
CARLO BO

Humanities for Business

The Princeton University Faith & Work Initiative, the European SPES, and the Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest organized an international webinar series entitled *Humanities for Business* from October 11–16, 2021.

The course presented the grand traditions of the humanities as an untapped resource for business problems. At a time when the humanities are viewed as in decline or under threat of collapse altogether, the course enacted and extended the best of the Humanities as regards to prevailing challenges within the complex realities of our current cultural moment. Topics of the webinars included values, trust, responsibility, ethics, leadership, self-realization, spirituality, narrative, literature, music, and the arts in relation and applied to current business challenges.

Thirty-one participants attended the webinars from France, Hungary, India, Israel, The Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, the UK, and the USA. The webinar series helped the participants to understand how the humanities can contribute to the renewal of business and other human professions through deep existential-spiritual questioning, to developing a broader view of the purpose of human life alongside today's social and ecological challenges, and to improving human creativity and sensitivity in the face of big ethical dilemmas in personal and professional life.



Faculty included:

- David Miller (Princeton University Faith & Work Initiative)
- Michael Thate (Princeton University Faith & Work Initiative)
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest)
- Madhumita Chatterji (ABBS School of Management, Bangalore)
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen)
- Eleanor O’Higgins (University College Dublin, and London School of Economics)
- Kevin Jackson (Fordham University, New York)
- Titiporn Siriphant Puntasen (Rangsit University, Pathum Thani)
- Devin Singh (Dartmouth College)
- Predrag Cicovacki (College of the Holy Cross, Worcester)
- Anderson Blanton (Cone Health, Greensboro)
- Margot Esther Borden (Integral Perspectives, Mumbai)
- Oona Shambhavi D’mello (Conscious Development, and mySustainOnline, India)

Place Based Sustainability, Ethics, and Spirituality

The University of Urbino “Carlo Bo” organized the Annual European SPES Conference entitled *Place Based Sustainability, Ethics, and Spirituality* in May 19–21, 2022 in Urbino, Italy. The conference aimed at exploring theoretical and practical models that integrate the sense of the place, ethics, and spirituality in new ways of organizing of economic and social life.

Nearly 50 scholars and practitioners participated in the conference representing Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Thailand, The Netherlands, the UK, and USA.



Keynote lectures of the conference included the following:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Back from Non-Place-Based Economics to Oiko-Nomics
- Luigino Bruni (LUMSA University, Rome and Sophia University Institute, Loppiano): Vegetal Economics
- Helen Alford and Michal Paluch (Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas – Angelicum): Our Organizational Model Is Eucharist

SUSCON International Conference on Sustainability

The European SPES served as collaborative partner of the Indian Institute of Management Shillong in organizing the 9th SUSCON International Conference on Sustainability in November 3–5, 2022 in Shillong, India. The theme of the conference was *Collaboration, Compassion and Co-Creation*.

Challenging the dominantly prevailing competitive model of mainstream management a more collaborative approach and strategy is urgently needed to address the concerns around the sustainability issues of today’s business worldwide. Such organizations will seek to build long-term, mutually beneficial relationships with all stakeholders for creating sustainable values

for their global business ecosystem inspired by a holistic and shared vision.

Building collaborative enterprises cannot be possible merely by addressing the critical issues at an academic level. Touching and transforming the lives of others, especially the underprivileged at the bottom of the pyramid, will need momentum, inspiration, and commitment from the deepest level of our noble emotions. Thus, intellectual concerns need to be enlivened with care and compassion for others to produce any desirable outcome and tangible impact on the lives of humankind.

Finally, for bringing about real and meaningful transformation in modern business organizations, mainstream academic institutions and all other stakeholder communities, the need is to design and implement creative interventions in a collaborative spirit with compassion as the inspirational power from the core of our heart. Intense engagement in such co-creative interventions driven by technological innovations and guided by the spirit of social entrepreneurship will not only help transform our society, organizations and the planet at large but also question and change the way we think and live, the way we see ourselves and look at the world from the depth of our inner space and vision.

Indian Institute of Management Shillong



On behalf of European SPES, Ove Jakobsen and Laszlo Zsolnai were lecturing in the conference. Jakobsen’s lecture was entitled “Ecological Economics —A Realistic Utopia?” while Zsolnai’s lecture was entitled “The Ethos of Sustainable Value Creation”.



The 1st Awakened Campus Global Conference

On November 29–30, 2022 the Teachers College of Columbia University, the European SPES and the Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest organized the first-ever *Awakened Campus Global Conference* in New York.

Keynote speakers and panelists of the conference included the following:

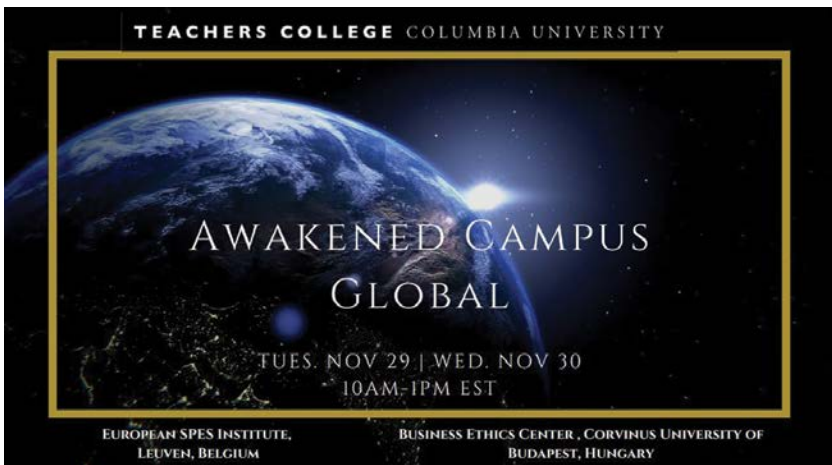
- Psychology: Marjorie Woollacott (University of Oregon), David Lorimer (Galileo Commission, London), Julia Mossbridge (Northwestern University), Miguel Farias (Coventry University & University of Oxford), and Lisa Miller (Columbia University)
- Education: Steven Rockefeller (Middlebury College and The Earth Charter), Robert Thurman (Columbia University), Bernadette Flanagan (Spirituality Institute for Research and Education, Dublin), Charlotte Rotterdam (Naropa University, Boulder), Ofra Maysese (University of Haifa)
- Health Sciences: Dean Radin (Institute of Noetic Sciences & California Institute of Integral Studies), Marilyn Schlitz (California Pacific Medical Center), and Tyler Norris (National Alliance on Mental Illness, Arlington)
- Business Administration: Chris Laszlo (Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland), Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management

Shillong), Surya Tahora (S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai), Hitendra Wadhwa (Columbia Business School), and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest & University of Oxford)

More than 200 faculty members, scholars, and students participated in the conference representing 25 countries from America, Europe, and Asia.

The *Awakened Campus Global Conference* was based on and extended the Awakened Brain research project of Professor Lisa Miller, founder of the Spirituality Mind Body Institute at Columbia University.

The *Awakened Campus Global Conference* aimed to create a collaborative global network of higher education institutions that integrate spirituality into their activities. The overall goal was to raise the spiritual awareness of students, faculty, and university leaders through the support of spiritual principles and practices in the student-faculty and student-advisor relationship, campus culture, mission, shared relational values, residential programs, and range of pedagogy.



Spirituality in Management and Society

The Indian Institute of Technology Varanasi organized an international workshop entitled *Building an Academic Discipline of Spirituality in Management and Society* in February 7–8, 2023. Co-organizing partners were the Free University of Amsterdam, the Nyenrode Business University, and the European SPES.

The objective of the workshop was to move further in the line of thinking of creating an academic discipline of spirituality for the management domain. The existential concerns from the fourth industrial revolution in the VUCA context can be best addressed through spirituality infused in an integrative way. The workshop deliberated on the discipline's fundamental aspects: ontology, epistemology, axiology, and praxeology. The discussions were oriented to eventually build education, research, and practice elements to develop spirituality as an academic discipline.

Indian Institute of Technology Varanasi



Presentations in the workshop included the following:

- Sharda Nandram (Nyenrode Business University): Vision of Spirituality as an Academic Discipline: Outgrowth from the Intersection of Management, Spirituality & Religion
- Adinarayanan Venkatachalam and Smrithi Rekha Adinarayanan: (Anaadi Foundation): Spirituality Oriented Ethics in the Mahabharatam
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Materialist versus Spiritual Value Orientation and its Consequences for Wellbeing and Sustainability
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): Evolution of Human Values, Ethics and Indian Spiritual Ethos in Management Education

The Schweitzer Workshop

Initiated by Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven) and Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) the European SPES organized an international workshop entitled *Albert Schweitzer: A Guide for the Perplexed* in cooperation with ABC-Climont in September 15–18, 2023 in Climont, France.

The aim of the workshop was to recontextualize Albert Schweitzer’s eco-oriented ethics for our time—the Anthropocene. Albert Schweitzer formulated an experience-based foundation for ethics based on the principle of Reverence for Life (“Ehrfurcht vor dem Leben”), and that he hereby contributed to a pioneering eco-ethics that should be brought up to date for our time.

Schweitzer’s philosophy implies a new sense of authenticity no longer based on the modern ego-centric notion of autonomy but on the alter-centric notion of reverence for life. This foundational principle is conceived as an unconditional and inclusive respect for life in all its manifestations.



Albert Schweitzer (1875–1965)

Presentations of the workshop were the following:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): The Ecological Person. Disclosing Nature as Thou
- Chris Doude Van Troostwijk (Free University of Amsterdam): Albert Schweitzer: Taoism and Inventive Theology
- Laszlo Zsolnai and Andras Ocsai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Schweitzer and Life-affirming Economics
- Michael Thate (Princeton University): Ecological Attunement: Albert Schweitzer and the Scale Problem of Life
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Deep Ecology and Reverence for Life
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): The Deep Cultural, Intellectual and Spiritual Connection between Schweitzer and Rabindranath Tagore



The 2nd Awakened Campus Global Conference

On March 28, 2024 the Teachers College of Columbia University, the European SPES and the Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest organized the 2nd *Awakened Campus Global Conference* in New York.

The main thematic blocks of the conference were as follows:

- Integrating Spirituality into Higher Education
- Business & Management Education
- Spirituality Realized in Higher Education
- Medicine and Spirituality
- Spiritual Development in Students

Teachers College of Columbia University in New York



Keynote speakers and lecurers included:

- Lisa Miller (Columbia University)
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest)
- David Lorimer (Galileo Commission, London)
- Cheryl Hunt (University of Exeter)
- Hitendra Wadhwa (Columbia University)
- Madhumita Chatterji (ABBS Business School, Bangalore)
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen)
- Steven Rockefeller (Middlebury College & The Earth Charter)
- Robert Thurman (Columbia University)
- Julio Bermudez (The Catholic University of America)
- Varun Soni (University of Southern California, Los Angeles)
- Cassandra Vieten (University of California, San Diego)
- Alexander Moreira-Almeida (Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Brazil)



Teachers College
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Spirituality & Business in the Anthropocene

The 20th Anniversary International Conference of European SPES was organized by the Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest on June 20–22, 2024 in Budapest, Hungary.

Co-organizing partners of the conference were the Free University of Amsterdam–Faculty of Religion and Theology; Nyenrode Business University; the UNESCO Chair for a Culture of Economic Peace, Grenoble School of Management; ABBS School of Management, Bangalore; S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai; and the Macau Ricci Institute, University of St. Joseph, Macau.

The 20th anniversary of European SPES was a good time to reflect on the prospects of spirituality in business and society as the new reality of the Anthropocene emerged in the form of multiple crises.

As consumption and human numbers have risen, humankind has ushered in a new era called the “Anthropocene” in which we are altering the biogeochemistry of the planet itself, destabilizing climate and influencing co-evolution at the planetary level. The Anthropocene is a regrettable exit from the placid past ten thousand years—the Holocene—a period of climate stability in which human civilization arose.

Corvinus University of Budapest



The dramatic symptoms of the Anthropocene—climate change, biodiversity loss, the collapse of the ecosystems, wellbeing deficiencies, raising global inequality, and migration—indicate that humanity may approach a point of no-return where the survival of our civilization is at stake.

While the Anthropocene is reshaping human consciousness and human-nature bonds, there is another big force that is racing to alter the human spirit and consciousness: Artificial Intelligence. Artificial neural networks are configured to identify correlated temporal patterns and attribute causality and agency, which can recognize themselves and other agents in a dynamic environment, in a way similar to biological consciousness in humans and animals.

What is the role of spirituality in such an unprecedented situation and what business and other social institutions can do to avoid further catastrophes? What should responsible professionals do? What is meaningful action today? How should we change our way of life? These and similar questions constituted the grand themes of the conference.

Publications

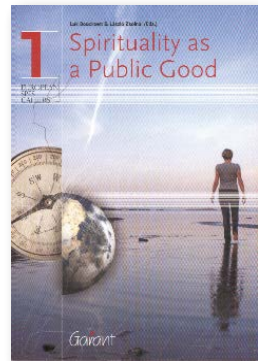
Spirituality as a Public Good

In 2007 the book *Spirituality as a Public Good* edited by Luk Bouckaert and Laszlo Zsolnai was published by Garant in Antwerp–Apeldoorn.

The book contains papers such as:

I. The Emergence of Spirituality within Economics and Business

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Spirituality in Economics
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Ethics Needs Spirituality
- Mike Thompson (GoodBrand, London): ‘Homo Spiritualis’ in Business
- Lorna Gold (Trocaire, Dublin): The Economy of Communion



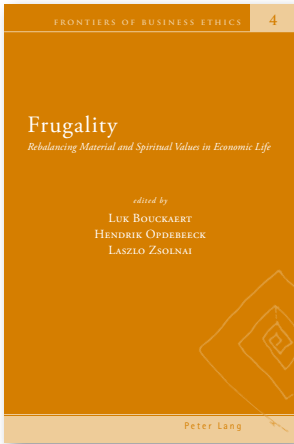
II. Spirituality in the Context of Globalisation

- Josep F. Maria (ESADE Business School, Barcelona): The Many Faces of Globalization
- Thierry Verhelst (Brussels): A New Paradigm for a New Globalization
- David Peat (The Pari Center, Italy): World Religion and World Politics
- Diana Schumacher (Schumacher Society, UK): The Search for a World Spirituality

<https://www.maklugarant.eu/nl/products/details/spirituality-as-a-public-goodeuropean-spes-cahier-1-241018>

Frugality: Rebalancing Material and Spiritual Values in Economic Life

In 2008 the book *Frugality: Rebalancing Material and Spiritual Values in Economic Life* edited by Luk Bouckaert, Hendrik Opdebeeck, and Laszlo Zsolnai was published by Peter Lang Academic Publishers in Oxford.



The main messages of the book are the following: (1) The present unsustainable lifestyle of humankind requires drastic changes. Western style consumer capitalism has resulted in global climate change, ecosystem degradation, and biodiversity loss. Also, it has caused massive unhappiness and emptiness in rich countries and social disintegration worldwide. (2) The interests of nature, society, and future generations require a considerable reduction of material throughput of the economy and a reorientation of our economic activities. This could become possible by employing a more spiritual approach to life and the economy. (3) By rational choice we can develop a more frugal and sufficient way of life, but material temptations can always overwrite ecological, social, and ethical considerations. However, the spiritual case for frugality is strong enough. Spiritually based frugal practices may lead to rational outcomes such as reducing ecological destruction, social disintegration, and the exploitation of future generations.

The book contains the following papers:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven), Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Why Frugality?
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Rational versus Spiritual Concepts of Frugality

- Rafael Esteban (Cambridge): Frugality and the Body
- Francis Kadaplackal (Catholic University of Leuven): How the Idea ‘Created Co-Creator’ Can Contribute to the Nurturing of Frugality in Economic Life?
- Laurie Michaelis (Oxford): Quaker Simplicity
- Dirk Geldof (The Green Party, Antwerp): Overconsumption
- Ronald Commers and Wim Vandekerckhove (Ghent University): Frugality and the Moral Economy of Late Modern Capitalism
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) and Ove Jakobsen (Bodo Graduate School of Business): Consumerism and Frugality—Contradictory Principles in Economics?

*Symbol of frugality:
Geertgen tot Sint Jans,
St. John the Baptist
in the Wilderness
(1490–95)*

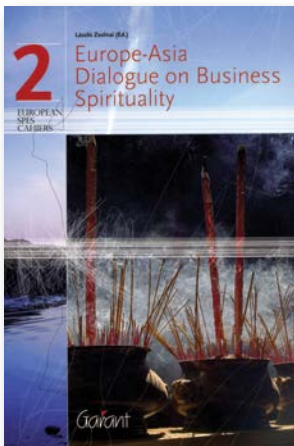


- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): The Urgency of a Frugality-based economics
- Herman E. Daly (University of Maryland): Frugality First
- Ronald Jeurissen (Nyenrode Business University) and Bert van de Ven (Tilburg University): Frugal Marketing: Can Selling Less Make Business Sense?
- Robert H. Frank (Cornell University): The Progressive Consumption Tax
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Buddhist Economic Strategy

<https://www.peterlang.com/abstract/title/10217?rskey=AP3jcb&result=1>

Europe-Asia Dialogue on Business Spirituality

The book *Europe–Asia Dialogue on Business Spirituality* edited by Laszlo Zsolnai was published in 2008 by Garant in Antwerp–Apeldoorn.



Values, purposes, and functions of European and Asian businesses are topics of vital importance today. The book contains selected papers of the *Europe–Asia Dialogue on Business, Ethics & Spirituality* Annual Conference of the European SPES held in 2006 in Budapest. Scholars and practitioners from the UK, Norway, Sweden, and Hungary as well as from India, Indonesia, Japan, and the USA shared their views on European and Asian ways of doing business.

The contents of the book are as follows:

- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): The Europe–Asia Dialogue
- Mike Thompson (GoodBrand, London): The Practice of Spiritual Dynamics in Business
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Calcutta): Igniting Spirit in Business: Indian Insights
- Bengt Gustavsson (University of Stockholm): Globalization and Values in the Indian Context
- Katalin Botos (Pazmany Peter Catholic University, Budapest): Business Ethics Teaching of Religions and Economic Development
- Prakash Sethi (City University of New York) and Rev. David B. Lowry (International Center for Corporate Accountability, New York): Coping with Cultural Conflicts in International Operations: Modern Corporations and Tribal Societies
- Peter Verhezen (CIMAD, Singapore–Indonesia): Guanxi: Networks or Nepotism?
- Judit Hidasi (Budapest Business School): Culture Change and its Impact on Business Ethics in Japan
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) and Ove Jakobsen (Bodo Graduate School of Business): Quality of Life —The Golden Mean between Materialistic Consumerism and Spiritual Asceticism

<https://www.maklugarant.eu/nl/products/details/europe-asia-dialogue-on-businessspirituality-european-spes-cahiers-nr-2-241097>

Imagine Europe. The Search for European Identity and Spirituality

In 2009 the book *Imagine Europe. The Search for European Identity and Spirituality* edited by Luk Bouckaert and Jochanan Eynikel was published by Garant in Antwerp.



Authors of the book share the idea of Europe as a space of unity-in-diversity based on relations of reciprocity and fraternity. They see it as Europe’s mission to enlarge its post-war idea of peace and integration into a global action. Even though the European Union started in the sphere of economics, it was from the beginning more than economics. Therefore this book calls for a stronger sense of spiritual commitment and moral imagination in Europe. It refers to a new generation of business leaders inspired by the paradigm of spirit-centered entrepreneurship.

The contents of the book are as follows:

- Stefano Zamagni (University of Bologna): The Search for European Identity—Europe and the Idea of a Civil Economy
- Carlos Hoevel (Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina): Rosmini’s Socio-economic Personalism and the Soul of Europe
- Edy Korthals Altes (The Hague): A New Spirit of Europe
- Rafal Riedel (Europe Center): Contemporary Europeans’ Sense of Belonging
- Jochanan Eynikel (SPES Forum): An Imaginable Europe
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Spirituality in European Business—Doing Business Ethics in Europe

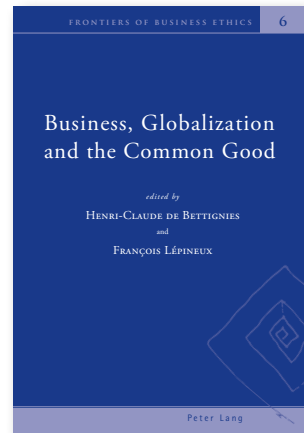
- Gerrit Broekstra (Nyenrode Business University): The Spirit-driven Organization
- Yuliya Shcherbinina and Helen Alford (Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas – Angelicum): Beyond the Spiritual: the Common Good Model of CSR
- Gerrit De Vylder (Catholic University of Leuven): Light from India. Europe’s Search for Indian Economic Wisdom
- Sesto Giovanni Castagnoli (World Spirit Forum): Spirituality as Connectivity: A New Business Experience

<https://www.maklugarant.eu/nl/products/details/imagine-europe-the-search-for-european-identity-and-spirituality-spes-cahiers-nr-3-241209>

Business, Globalization and the Common Good

In 2009 the book *Business, Globalization and the Common Good* edited by Henri-Claude de Bettignies and Francois Lepineux was published by Peter Lang Academic Publishers in Oxford.

Globalization and information technology are driving the world into a new era. Is it the responsibility of business to pursue the common good—and more precisely, to participate in the construction of the global common good? This book brings together contributions from various disciplines, written by scholars who are at the forefront of this debate. It provides multiple insights into a tripartite relationship: business, globalization, and the common good. It helps explain why the business sphere will probably not be in a position to ignore the common good much longer, and why this latter concept, widely ignored in today’s management realm, is likely to become part of tomorrow’s corporate

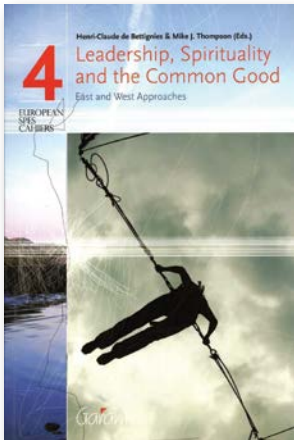


policies and practices in the global context. Finally, this work opens up a plethora of avenues for future research, calling for the development of transdisciplinary approaches and for the elaboration of a research program embracing theoretical, empirical, and spiritual perspectives to tackle this complex issue.

<https://www.peterlang.com/document/1105983>

Leadership, Spirituality and the Common Good

In 2009 the book *Leadership, Spirituality and the Common Good* edited by Henri-Claude de Bettignies and Mike Thompson was published by Garant in Antwerp.



The authors of the book believe that the European and Asian traditions of spirituality provide rich resources for a world seeking to rediscover the common good. The particular focus of this Cahier is on the need for responsible leaders who understand and accept their responsibility to steward the resources in their care for the good of their organization and for the common good. Such leaders will have developed the capacity to integrate the economic, the social, and the environmental realms and inspire trust in their organizational communities through the quality of their character and spirit.

The book presents the thinking of eight authors who explored this topic at a gathering of academics and business people at a conference held at the China Europe International Business School (CEIBS) in Shanghai in October 2008.

The contents of the book are as follows:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Business Spirituality and the Common Good
- Francois Lepineux (Rennes School of Business) and Jean-Jacques Rose (EHESS–CNRS, Marseille): Spiritual Leadership in Business: Perspectives from Christianity and Hinduism
- Mike Thompson (China Europe International Business School, Shanghai): Operationalising the Common Good in Business through Leadership and Spirituality
- Yang Hengda (Renmin University of China): The Significance of the Classical Chinese Philosophy to the Common Good of Our Time
- Benoit Vermander (Fudan University): Spiritual Empowerment and the Ignatian Tradition
- Stephan Rothlin (Macau Ricci Institute, University of St. Joseph): Serving the Common Good
- Gerrit De Vylder (Catholic University of Leuven): Identical Pitfalls for East and West
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Compassionate Leadership as an Expression of the Common Good

<https://www.maklugarant.eu/nl/products/details/leadership-spirituality-and-the-common-good-east-and-west-approaches-european-spes-cahierdeg4-241210>

Heroes and Anti-Heroes. European Literature and the Ethics of Leadership

In 2010 the book *Heroes and Anti-Heroes. European Literature and the Ethics of Leadership* edited by Rita Ghesquiere and Knut Ims was published by Garant in Antwerp.



The authors share the idea that narratives offer their readers an alternative fictional world. In doing this they hold up a mirror that confronts the reader with otherness that questions their self-evident norms and values but also their daily practices. Both heroes and antiheroes contribute to this process of reflection. The confrontation with literary texts stimulates the intellectual, the emotional, and the social consciousness. The firm belief that divergent (cultural) systems i.e., business ethics and literature can enrich each other is at the core of this project.

The book contains the following papers:

- Luk Bouckaert and Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): Faust and the Magic of Entrepreneurship
- Ingrid Molderez and Eric Lefebvre (HUB–European University College): The Horizon’s Embrace: A Faustian Perspective on Limits
- Daniel Deak (Corvinus University of Budapest): Don Carlos versus Marquis of Posa: Beyond the Mere Instrument of Rationality
- Gerrit De Vylder (Catholic University of Leuven): Economic Leadership in the 18th Century Britain: Swift’s Orientalism versus Defoe’s Pragmatism
- Per Ariansen (University of Oslo): “It Is an Island!”: Prospects for Life in Pristine Beginnings
- Yvon Pesqueux (CNAM Paris): Cyrano de Bergerac: An ‘Organizational’ Reading
- Tom Eide (Diakonhjemmet University College, Oslo): Ibsen, Leadership and Morality. On Henrik Ibsen’s *The Pretenders*
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest) and Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Self-realization in Business: Ibsen’s Peer Gynt
- Carlos Hoevel (Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina): Mann’s ‘Buddenbrooks’, Adorno’s and Horkheimer’s Odysseus and the Tragedy of Business Leadership

- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): New Light from Planets Afar: Leadership Journey with The Little Prince
- Johan Bouwer (Alba University, The Netherlands): The Little Prince: Integrating Friendship and Existential Wisdom in Leadership Theory
- Lars Jacob Tynes Pedersen (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): The Stranger: Moral Blindness Incarnate?
- Sunniva Whittaker (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Knowledge, Literature and Organization Management Science
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Orpheus: The Determining Role of Technology in Leadership

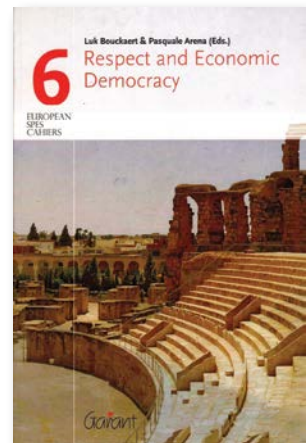
<https://www.maklugarant.eu/nl/products/details/heroes-and-anti-heroes-spes-cahiers-nr-5-241344>

Respect and Economic Democracy

In 2010 the book *Respect and Economic Democracy* edited by Luk Bouckaert and Pasquale Arena was published by Garant in Antwerp.

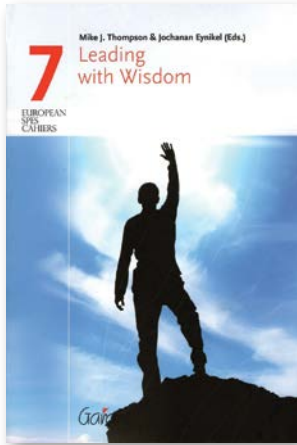
The book is based on the hypothesis that democracy will become a growing ingredient of good business and leadership. Contributions of this volume disclosing new practices of democratic entrepreneurship confirm this hypothesis. The authors assume that economic democracy implies a commitment rooted in respect and explore the spiritual, ethical and economic meaning of respect.

<https://www.maklugarant.eu/nl/products/details/respect-and-economic-democracy-spes-cahiers-nr-6-241386>



Leading with Wisdom

In 2011 the book *Leading with Wisdom* edited by Mike Thompson and Jochanan Eynikel was published by Garant in Antwerp.



The European SPES continued its mission to bring informed debate on issues related to spirituality and society in this seventh cahier with a focus on the nature of wisdom and its practice by leaders. Eight authors bring a breadth of style and thinking to the way in which leaders lead and how wisdom (connected to spirituality) can result in a more integrated and peaceful practice of leadership. The book contains both narrative, reflective, and academic perspectives on leading with wisdom and the authors find wisdom to be connected to virtue, character, integrity, morality, spirituality, meaning, and the knowledge of how to live well.

<https://www.maklugarant.eu/nl/products/details/leading-with-wisdom-spes-cahiers-nr-7-241448>

Spiritual Humanism and Economic Wisdom

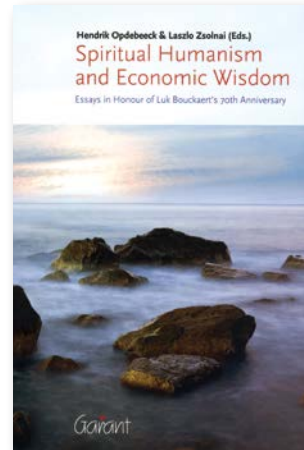
In 2011 the book *Spiritual Humanism and Economic Wisdom* edited by Hendrik Opdebeek and Laszlo Zsolnai was published by Garant in Antwerp.

The book contains essays in honor of the 70th anniversary of Luk Bouckaert, co-founder of European SPES, which aims to make spirituality accessible as a public good to as many people as possible. In the spirit of European SPES, this volume covers issues of contemporary economics using a humanist perspective and discusses interrelated problems of business, ethics, and

society from spiritually based viewpoints. The authors argue for practicing economic wisdom in economic and social life.

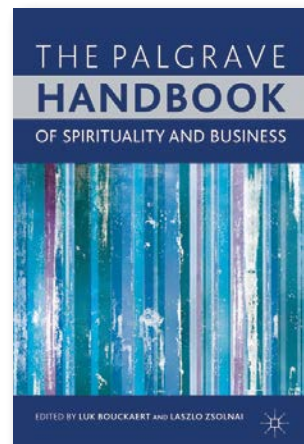
Contributions of the book include papers by Stefano Zamagni (Bologna), Carlos Hoewel (Buenos Aires), Erik Schokkaert (Leuven), Madhumita Chatterji (Bangalore), Josep M. Lozano (Barcelona), Hendrik Opdebeeck (Antwerp), Knut Ims (Bergen), Sharda Nandram (Breukelen), and Laszlo Zsolnai (Budapest).

<https://www.maklugarant.eu/nl/products/details/spiritual-humanism-and-economic-wisdom-241435>



The Palgrave Handbook of Spirituality and Business

Forty scholars and practitioners from Europe, North America, and Asia contributed to *The Palgrave Handbook of Spirituality and Business* edited by Luk Bouckaert and Laszlo Zsolnai. The book was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2011. It summarizes the most important issues, approaches, and models in the field of spirituality in business, economics, and society. It presents a comprehensive, pluralistic view covering all the major religious and spiritual traditions.



The contents of the handbook are as follows:

Introduction

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Spirituality and Business

Part I. The Nature of Spirituality

- Paul De Blot (Nyenrode Business University): Religion and Spirituality
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Spirituality and Rationality
- Andrew B. Newberg and Daniel A. Monti (Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia): Neuroscience of Spirituality
- John Drew (European Business School and Regent’s College London): Transpersonal Psychology
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Moral Agency and Spiritual Intelligence
- Veerle Draulans (Tilburg University and Catholic University of Leuven): Gender and Spirituality
- Suzan Langenberg (Diversity bvba, Antwerp): Critique as a Notion of Spirituality

Part II. Spiritually Inspired Economics

- Robert Allinson (Soka University of America): Aristotle and Economics
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): Indian Management Philosophy
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Buddhist Economics
- Robert Allinson (Soka University of America): Confucianism and Taoism
- Henk Oosterling (Erasmus University Rotterdam): Budo Philosophy
- Moses L. Pava (Yeshiva University, New York): Jewish Ethical Perspective on Income and Wealth Distribution
- Domenec Mele (IESE Business School, Barcelona): Catholic Social Teaching

- Jurjen Wiersma (Brussels Faculty for Protestant Theology): Protestant Economic Principles and Practices
- Feisal Khan (Hobart and William Smith Colleges): Islamic Economics
- Laurie Michaelis (Oxford): Quakers Spirituality and the Economy
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Personalism
- Eelco van den Dool (Ede Christian University of Applied Sciences): Liberation Theology
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Schumacher's People-Centered Economics
- Marjolein Lips-Wiersma (University of Canterbury): Baha'i Perspective on Business and Organization
- Michael Bell (Inukshuk Management): Teaching of the Elders

Part III. Socioeconomic Problems in Spiritual Perspective

- Carlos Hoevel (Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina): Spiritual Meaning of the Economic Crisis
- Tim Kasser (Knox College): Materialistic Value Orientation
- Stefano Zamagni (University of Bologna): Avarice
- Jean-Jacques Rose (EHESS–CNRS, Marseille) and Francois Lepineux (Rennes School of Business): Globalization
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Deep Ecology
- Laurie Michaelis (Oxford): Climate Change and Spirituality
- John Adams (Saybrook University, San Francisco): Ecological Sustainability and Organizational Functioning
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Responsibility for Future Generations
- David Boyle (New Economics Foundation, London): Authenticity
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven), Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp), and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Frugality
- Stefano Zamagni (University of Bologna): Civil Economy

Part IV. Business Spirituality

- Peter Pruzan (Copenhagen Business School): Spiritual-Based Leadership
- Gerrit Broekstra and Paul De Blot (Nyenrode Business University): Deep Leadership and Spirit-Driven Business Organizations
- Ronnie Lessem and Alexander Schieffer (Four World Laboratory for Social and Economic Transformation, Geneva): Transformation Management
- Sharda Nandram (Nyenrode Business University) and Margot Esther Borden (Mumbai, India): Mindfulness in Business
- Marjolein Lips-Wiersma (University of Canterbury) and Lani Morris (Holistic Development Group): Voicing Meaningfulness at Work
- Francois Lepineux (Rennes School of Business) and Jean-Jacques Rose (EHESS–CNRS, Marseille): Multinational Companies and the Common Good
- Kenneth E. Goodpaster (University of St. Thomas, St. Paul): Corporate Conscience

Part V. Good Practices and Working Models

- Oliver F. Williams (University of Notre Dame): The New Role of Business in Society
- T. Dean Maines (University of St. Thomas, St. Paul): Self-Assessment and Improvement Process for Organizations
- Judi Neal (University of Arkansas): Edgewalker Organizations
- Luigino Bruni (University of Milan–Bicocca) and Tibor Hejj (Proactive Management Consulting Ltd., Budapest): The Economy of Communion
- Mike Thompson (China Europe International Business School, Shanghai): Ethical Branding
- Zsolt Boda (Corvinus University of Budapest): Fair Trade Movement
- Frans de Clerck (Triodos Bank, Belgium): Ethical Banking

<https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9780230238312>

Editors of the book Luk Bouckaert and Laszlo Zsolnai in Leuven, Belgium



Business, Spirituality, and the Common Good

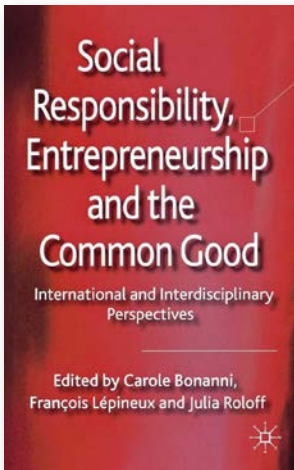
In 2011 the book *Business, Spirituality, and the Common Good* edited by Mike Thompson was published by Russell Media in Boise, Idaho.

The book provides a robust and thorough look at the nature of business and spirituality and how they can reinforce each other for human flourishing and the common good of all. The book does not offer a one size fits all answer to complex questions, rather it provokes the reader to think deeply on these important issues. Contributors include Luk Bouckaert, Helen Alford, Mike Thompson, Sanjoy Mukherjee, Francois Lepineux, and Judi Neal.



Social Responsibility, Entrepreneurship and the Common Good

The book *Social Responsibility, Entrepreneurship and the Common Good* edited by Carole Bonanni, François Lépineux, and Julia Roloff was published by Palgrave Macmillan in London.



What motivated the editors to put together this collection of essays on social responsibility, entrepreneurship and the common good? Why is it important to confront these three themes? The time for reinventing business has come; and this implies thinking differently, jumping across the comfortable barriers of management sub-disciplines, seeking the intersections between areas that usually do not communicate. The ongoing evolution of international events seems to confirm this feeling. Besides, although economic growth continues at a rapid pace in other parts of the world—such as China, India, or Brazil—it is likely that the effects

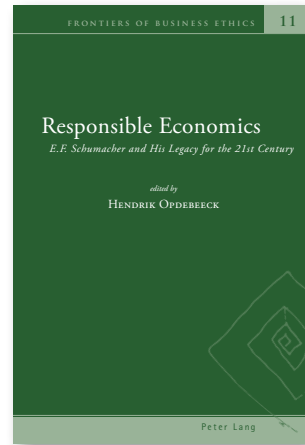
of the financial crisis, which emerged in 2007 and percolated through the global economy, are not completely purged; the specter of a systemic crisis is still hovering over us.

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1057/9780230354890>

Responsible Economics. E.F. Schumacher and His Legacy for the 21st Century

In 2013 the book *Responsible Economics—E.F. Schumacher and His Legacy for the 21st Century* edited by Hendrik Opdebeeck was published by Peter Lang Academic Publishers in Oxford.

The centenary of E.F. Schumacher's birth (1911–1977) offered an urgent opportunity to revisit his work and life. Against the background of the crisis at the beginning of this century, reconsidering Schumacher's *Small is Beautiful* or frugality paradigm makes clear that advances in responsible economics continue to be a priority. This book contains the proceedings of the Annual Conference of the European SPES on *Responsibility in Economics—The Legacy of E.F. Schumacher*, which was organized in September 2011.



The aims of this conference were to celebrate the 100th anniversary of E.F. Schumacher's birth and to engage with Schumacher's vision to help address the present need for responsibility in economics and business. The answers to our current economic crisis presented in this book prove that the legacy of an economist and philosopher like Schumacher is not confined to a utopian economic paradigm. Utopian economic paradigms are concerned with a better economic situation in the future. Schumacher reconsidered today, however, makes it clear that society needs responsible economics invested in the sustainability of the globe, right now.

<https://www.peterlang.com/document/1053287>

World Review of Entrepreneurship Special Issue

Laszlo Zsolnai edited the “Spirituality and Sustainability Management” Special Issue of *World Review of Entrepreneurship, Management and Sustainable Development* Vol. 10(1) (2014).



This special issue is a product of the *Spirituality and Sustainability: A New Path for Entrepreneurship* conference held on September 21–23, 2012 in Visegrad, Hungary. It was the hope of the editor that the papers of this special issue contribute to an extended understanding of the role that spirituality can play in transforming management and business into a more sustainable and more human activity.

The special issue contains the following papers:

- Imre Ungvari-Zrinyi (Babes-Bolyai University): Spirituality as Motivation and Perspective for a Socially Responsible Entrepreneurship
- Antal Szabo (ERENET, Hungary): Doing Business in Christian Way
- Roland Ferenc Szilas (Corvinus University of Budapest): The Serving Organization and Leadership for Sustainable Human Development
- Jozef Richard Raco and Rafael Tanod (Catholic University of De La Salle Manado): Understanding Spirituality as Experienced by Catholic Entrepreneurs
- Zsuzsanna Gyori and Andras Ocsai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Ecologically-Oriented Enterprises in Hungary
- Gyorgy Erneyei and Laszlo Podmaniczky (Szent Istvan University): Public-Goods Oriented Agricultural Business Models with Higher Awareness
- Vincent Gouwy (Osteopathie.be): Self-Reflection and Personal Evolution as Keystone of Sustainability

- Maria Csutora and Agnes Zsoka (Corvinus University of Budapest): May Spirituality Lead to Reduced Ecological Footprint? Conceptual Framework and Empirical Analysis

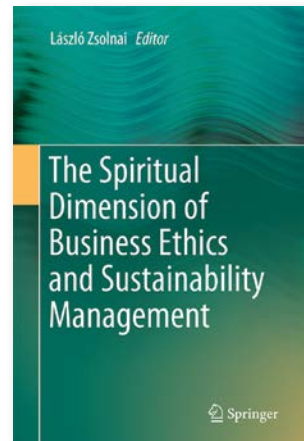


<https://www.inderscience.com/info/inarticletoc.php?jcode=wremsd&year=2014&vol=10&issue=1>

The Spiritual Dimension of Business Ethics and Sustainability Management

The book *The Spiritual Dimension of Business Ethics and Sustainability Management* edited by Laszlo Zsolnai was published in 2015 by Springer.

The book discloses the spiritual dimension in business ethics and sustainability management. Spirituality is understood as a multiform search for meaning which connects people with all living beings and God or Ultimate Reality. In this sense, spirituality is a vital source in social and economic life. The volume examines the spiritual orientations to nature and business in different faith traditions: Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Sufism, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Taoism. It studies how spirituality and ecology can contribute to transforming contemporary management theory and praxis. It discusses new leadership roles and business models that emerge for sustainability in business, and shows how entrepreneurship can be inspired by nature and spirituality in a meaningful way.



The contents of the book are as follows:

Part I. Introduction

- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Spirituality, Ethics and Sustainability

Part II. New Perspectives in Business Ethics and Sustainability

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Spirituality: The Missing Link in Business Ethics
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Spiritual Sustainability Management
- Andras Laszlo (Global Visioning, Brussels): The Inner Perspective—The Sufi Approach
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Deep Ecology and Personal Responsibility
- Gabor Kovacs (Corvinus University of Budapest): Buddhist Spiritual Orientation to Nature and Sustainability
- Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): Sustainability and Wisdom: The Power of the Fable

Part III. Innovative Practices and Policy Reforms for Sustainability

- Jean-Paul Close (STIR Academy, Eindhoven): Sustainocracy—Spirituality and Sustainable Progress
- Laurie Michaelis (Oxford): Quakers and Climate Change
- Aloy Soppe (Erasmus University Rotterdam): Sustainability and Long-Term Growth in the Financial Market System
- Arundhati Virmani and Francois Lepineux (Rennes School of Business): Spiritual-Based Entrepreneurship for an Alternative Food Culture: The Transformational Power of Navdanya
- Janos Vargha (Danube Circle, Budapest): The Enforcement of the Self-Interests of Nature Transformers

- Nel Hofstra (Erasmus University Rotterdam): Entrepreneurship Inspired by Nature

Part IV. Spiritual-based Leadership in Business

- Peter Pruzan (Copenhagen Business School): Spiritual-Based Leadership: A Paradox of Pragmatism
- Joanne B. Ciulla (University of Richmond): Educating Moral Business Leaders without the Fluff and Fuzz
- Stephen B. Young (The Caux Round Table): In Admiration of Peter Pruzan's Proposal for Spiritual-Based Leadership
- Paul de Blot (Nyenrode Business University): The Paradox of Pragmatism
- Katalin Illes (University of Westminster, London): Reflections on Peter Pruzan's 'Spiritual-Based Leadership'
- Peter Pruzan (Copenhagen Business School): Further Reflections on Spirituality and Spiritual-Based Leadership

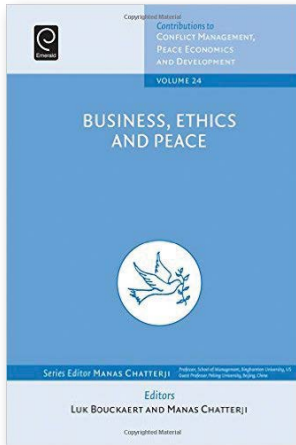
Part V. Conclusions

- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Spirituality for Business Ethics and Sustainability Management

<http://www.springer.com/environment/sustainable+development/book/978-3-319-11676-1>

Business, Ethics and Peace

In 2015 the book *Business, Ethics, and Peace* edited by Luk Bouckaert and Manas Chatterji was published by Emerald in the UK.



Good business needs a peaceful and just world in which to operate and prosper. Likewise, peace thrives in a healthy economic environment. However, many companies—either directly or indirectly—are involved in the arms race and in a battle to exploit and control scarce resources. As a result of the



ambiguous power of business, a timely reflection on its impact on war and peace is needed as well as a conscious pro-peace commitment. The book on *Business, Ethics and Peace* gathers a selection of papers presented at the International SPES Conference *Business for Peace, Strategies for Hope* at Ypres, April 10–12, 2014. Among the many initiatives commemorating the centennial of World War I, this project focuses on the ethical need to prevent the next conflict. It interprets and presents peace as a holistic and evolving concept, defining the need for an ethical charter of human rights and responsibilities. The papers illustrate the impact of religion in peace management and present solutions and practices for corporate peace-building.

<https://books.emeraldinsight.com/page/detail/business-ethics-and-peace/?k=9781784418786>

Cultura Economica Special Issue

The Special Issue “La espiritualidad en la empresa” (Spirituality in Business) was published in *Revista Cultura Economica* Vol. 32(88) (2014) in Spanish. The special issue was edited by Carlos Hoevel and Laszlo Zsolnai.



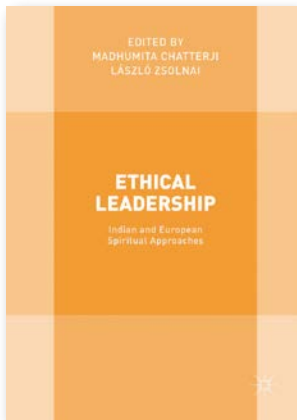
The contents of the special issue include the following papers:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Spiritual Discernment in Decision-Making
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Rediscovering the Personalist Philosophy of Jacques Maritain
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Spiritually Driven Entrepreneurship
- Henri-Claude de Bettignies (INSEAD Fontainebleau, and China Europe International Business School, Shanghai): Can We Develop the Responsible Leaders We Need?
- Mike Thompson (China Europe International Business School, Shanghai, and University of Victoria, British Columbia): Managers’ Self-understanding of Wisdom

<https://erevistas.uca.edu.ar/index.php/CECON/issue/view/132>

Ethical Leadership: Indian and European Spiritual Approaches

Twenty-five scholars and practitioners from Europe and India have contributed to the book *Ethical Leadership: Indian and European Spiritual Approaches* edited by Madhumita Chatterji and Laszlo Zsolnai. The book was published in 2016 by Palgrave Macmillan in London.



The book addresses issues of human values, ethics, spirituality, and leadership in business. In doing so, the authors of this volume create dialogue and interchange between Indian and European cultural



traditions. Exploring what India and Europe can offer one another in the development of ethical business leadership, the book aims to demonstrate ways of achieving sustainability, peace, and wellbeing.

The contents of the book are as follows:

Part I. Introduction

- Madhumita Chatterji (IFIM Business School, Bangalore) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Questions and Themes in Ethics and Leadership

Part II. Spirituality as an Inspiration for Leadership

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Why Do We Need a Spiritual-Based Theory of Leadership?

- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Responsible Leadership and Reasonable Action
- Sharda Nandram (Nyenrode Business University) and Ankur Joshi (Management Development Institute, New Delhi): An Ethics of Care Induced from Kautilya's Wisdom
- Adinarayanan Venkatachalam, Smrithi Rekha, and D.G. Sooryanarayan (Amrita University, Coimbatore): A Multidimensional View of Leadership from an Indian Perspective
- Gerrit De Vylder (Catholic University of Leuven) and Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Indian Spiritual Traditions as Inspiration for Ethical Leadership and Management in Europe
- Asi Vasudeva Reddy and A.V.S. Kamesh (KL University, Guntur): Integrating Servant Leadership and Ethical Leadership
- C. Suriyaprakash (Jansons School of Business, Coimbatore): Spiritual-Based Leadership from the Perspective of the Bhagavad Gita
- Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): Literature as a Mirror for Leadership

Part III. Ethical Leadership in Practice

- Gabor Kovacs and Andras Ocsai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Mindfulness and Non-Violence in Business
- Katalin Illes (University of Westminster, London): Spiritual-based Entrepreneurship: Hindu and Christian Examples
- Madhumita Chatterji (IFIM Business School, Bangalore) and Nitha Palakshappa (Massey University): Going Beyond Profit—A Case Study of the CSR Initiative of Titan, Tata Group
- A. Lakshminarasimha (IBS Bangalore): Spirituality and Effectiveness in Today's Workplace
- Arun Raste (IDFC Limited, Mumbai): Spirituality at the Bottom of the Pyramid
- Nel Hofstra (Erasmus University Rotterdam): Eco-Spirituality and Regenerative Entrepreneurship

- Manesh Shrikant and Jagdish Rattanani (S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai): Time for Business Schools to Teach Spirituality
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): Alternative Learning: A Voyage for Future Leadership

Part IV. Conclusions

- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest) and Madhumita Chatterji (IFIM Business School, Bangalore): Lessons for the Future for India and Europe

<https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9781137601933>

Economics as a Moral Science

The book *Economics as a Moral Science* edited by Peter Rona and Laszlo Zsolnai was published in 2017 by Springer. This volume is the first product of the economics research project of the Las Casas Institute for Social Justice of Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford.



The book is an attempt to reclaim economics as a moral science. It argues that ethics is a relevant component at all levels of economic activity, from the individual and organizational to societal and global. Taking ethical considerations into account is needed to explain and predict the behavior of economic agents, as well as for evaluating and designing economic policies and mechanisms. The book employs a personalist approach that sees human persons with free will and conscience as the basic agents of economic life, and defines human flourishing as the ultimate goal of economic activities. The book

intends to demonstrate that economics can gain a lot in meaning and also in analytical power by reuniting itself with ethics. Economic “facts” are interwoven with ethical content. Utility calculations and moral considerations co-determine economic behavior and outcomes.

The contents of the book are as follows:

Part I. Introduction

- Peter Rona (University of Oxford): Why Economics is a Moral Science
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Issues and Themes in Moral Economics

Part II. The Moral Foundations of Economics

- Stefano Zamagni (University of Bologna): Economics as if Ethics Mattered
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Teleological Reasoning in Economics
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Economic Rationality versus Human Reason
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Rediscovering a Personalist Economy
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Happiness and Human Flourishing
- Toon Vandeveldel (Catholic University of Leuven): Understanding Financial Crises: The Contribution of the Philosophy of Money
- Luigino Bruni (LUMSA University, Rome): Economics and Vulnerability: Relationships, Incentives, Meritocracy

Part III. Companies and Their Management

- Peter Rona (University of Oxford): Ethics, Economics and the Corporation
- David Miller and Michael Thate (Princeton University): Are Business Ethics Relevant?

- Kevin Jackson (Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management): Economy of Mutuality
- Mike Thompson (China Europe International Business School, Shanghai, and University of Victoria, British Columbia): Economic Wisdom for Managerial Decision-Making

Part IV. Economic Policy and Economic Development

- Johan Verstraeten (Catholic University of Leuven): Catholic Social Thought and Amartya Sen on Justice
- Helen Alford (Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas–Angelicum): The Theological Virtue of Charity in the Economy: Reflections on ‘Caritas in veritate’
- Zsolt Boda (Corvinus University of Budapest): Ethics of Development in the Age of Globalization
- Francois Lepineux (Rennes School of Business) and Jean-Jacques Rose (EHESS–CNRS, Marseille): Transdisciplinarity, Governance and the Common Good

Part V. Conclusions

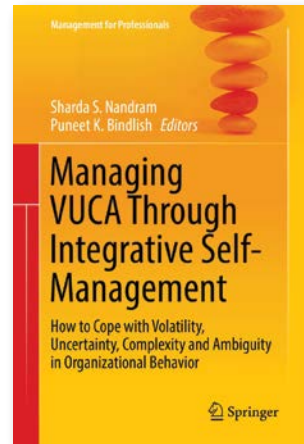
- Peter Rona (University of Oxford) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Agenda for Future Research and Action

<http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319532905>

Managing VUCA Through Integrative Self-Management

In 2017 the book *Managing VUCA Through Integrative Self-Management* edited by Sharda Nandram and Puneet Bindlish was published by Springer.

In this book, experts discuss whether volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA) represent a challenge or a business opportunity. More intense debates on global climate change, increased turbulence in financial quarters, increased job insecurity, and high levels of stress at the workplace are attracting attention in the context of organizational behavior and entrepreneurship. Fear and confusion have become part of business, often undermining trust, cooperation, and inspiration. As a response, a new way of organizing self-management has emerged. The book combines practical wisdom from East and West, to develop integrative self-management theory and practice; provides direction to support an integrative mind-set, integrative organization, and integrative leadership; and presents VUCA as an opportunity and necessity for development and growth, rather than a threat.



<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-52231-9>

Choosing Hope. How to Spiritualize the Economy?

In 2017 Luk Bouckaert's book *Kies voor Hoop. Hoe spiritualiteit de economie kan veranderen* (Choosing Hope. How to Spiritualize the Economy?) was published in Dutch by Garant in Antwerp.



In his book Luk Bouckaert argues that the current search for spirituality is an effort within secularized societies to reconnect with a metaphysics of hope. In periods of crisis and deep change, when there is no longer consensus about the goals and values of life, we need a deeper spiritual ground for hope. Rational theories of happiness—of which economics is part—do not suffice to overcome the disorder and lack of convergence in periods of deep change. This does not mean that we do not have wishes or goals nor that we do not have any interest in their realization. But the spiritual

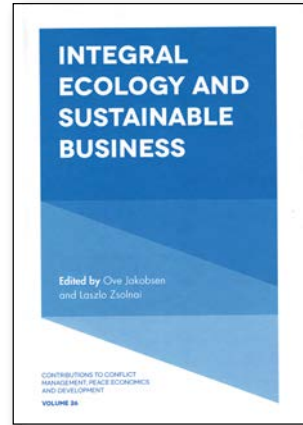
source of hope starts from something that is prior to our desires and goals and makes sense independently from their fulfilment. We may call this awareness of meaning prior to our wishes and desires the disclosure of Life as a meaningful Presence. Life as it is intuitively experienced as a given, sense making Presence that always creates new opportunities and hope despite the many failures and disappointments.

<https://www.bol.com/nl/nl/p/kies-voor-hoop/9200000085144942/>

Integral Ecology and Sustainable Business

In 2017 the book *Integral Ecology and Sustainable Business* edited by Ove Jakobsen and Laszlo Zsolnai was published by Emerald in the UK.

This volume addresses the relationship between business, the natural environment, ethics, and spirituality. Papers by economists, business scholars, philosophers, lawyers, theologians, and practitioners working in Europe, North America, and Asia highlight the relationship between integral ecology and sustainable business practices, and explore the meaning of sustainability in relation to both human and non-human life, offering new and invigorating approaches to sustainable business practices and sustainability leadership.



The contents of the book are as follows:

Part I. Introduction

- Ove Jakobsen (Nord University) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Why Integral Ecology Is Needed for Reforming Business

Part II. Sustainability and the Meaning of Life

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Authenticity and Sustainability—The Search for a Reliable Earth Spirituality
- Daniel Deak (Corvinus University of Budapest): Social Interventions in Nature
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) and Ove Jakobsen (Nord University): Quality of Life
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Frugality and the Intrinsic Value of Nature

Part III. Toward Integral Ecology

- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): Integral Ecology and the Anthropocene
- Thomas Dienberg, Bernd Beermann (Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule, Munster), and Markus Warode (Competence Center for Christian Spirituality, Munster): Integral Ecology from a Franciscan Perspective
- Jose Luis Fernandez-Fernandez and Anna Bajo Sanjuan (Comillas Pontifical University, Madrid) and Jose Luis Retolaza Avalos (University of Deusto, Bilbao): Epistemological Approach to Sustainability
- Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): Rereading Robinson Crusoe (Defoe) and Friday (Tournier)—An Ecocritical Approach
- Manuel Fernandez-Lopez (Nord University) and Octavi Piulats Riu (University of Barcelona): Developing Ecological Awareness and Responsible Business
- Adinarayanan Venkatachalam (Anaadi Foundation) and Smrithi Rekha (Amrita University, Coimbatore): Shakthi Worldview—An Inclusive and Expansive Worldview for a Sustainable Future

Part IV. Practicing Sustainability

- Doirean Wilson (Middlesex University, London): For Richer or Poorer in Sickness for Wealth—What Price Consumerism?
- Jean-Paul Close (STIR Academy, Eindhoven): Participation Society
- Mara Del Baldo (University of Urbino): Moral and Virtues-based Leadership for Enhancing Integral Ecology
- Manas Chatterji (Binghamton University–The State University of New York): A Note on Corporate Social Responsibility
- Nel Hofstra (Erasmus University Rotterdam): Regenerative Firms
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): The Challenge of Transhumanism in Business

<http://books.emeraldinsight.com/page/detail/Integral-Ecology-and-Sustainable-Business/?k=9781787144644>

Pax Christi Special Issue

In 2017 Luk Bouckaert published a booklet in Dutch with *Pax Christi* on Ondernemen voor vrede (“Business for Peace”) in which he introduces the Ypres Manifesto of European SPES.

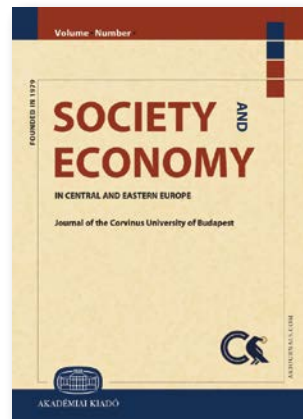


Society and Economy Special Issue

In 2018 the Special Issue “Contemplative Science and Management” was published in *Society and Economy* Vol. 40(4) (2018).

The special issue contains the following papers:

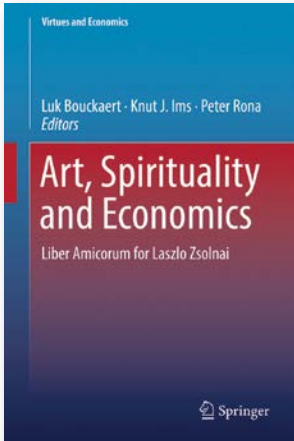
- Laszlo Zsolnai, Gabor Kovacs, and Andras Ocsai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Why Do We Need Contemplative Approaches in Economics and Management?
- Clair Brown (University of California, Berkeley) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Buddhist Economics: An Overview
- Ernest NG (The University of Hong Kong): Mindfulness and Buddhist Economics in the Financial Market-Generating Delta or Alpha?
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Quality of Life in a Deep Ecological Perspective. The Need for a Transformation of the Western Mindset?
- Wanna Prayukvong (Mahidol University, Nakhon Sawan) and James Hoopes (Babson College, Boston): A Buddhist Economics Approach to Innovation and Capacity Building: The Case of Siam Hands.



<https://akjournals.com/view/journals/204/40/4/204.40.issue-4.xml>

Art, Spirituality and Economics

In 2018 *Art, Spirituality and Economics* edited by Luk Bouckaert, Knut Ims, and Peter Rona was published by Springer.



This volume celebrates the work of Laszlo Zsolnai, a researcher and scholar in the field of the ethical and spiritual aspects of economic life, who has made contributions to the connection between ethics, spirituality, aesthetics, and economic theory. The book offers a selection of essays concerned with the ethical, spiritual, and aesthetic context within which economics as a social studies discipline should be situated in order to avoid the sort of dehumanizing consequences that theories based on utility maximization and rational choice necessarily entail.

It presents the economic activities of human beings not as some sort of preordained obedience to universal laws that operate independently of other human concerns, but, rather, as a part of the human desire for the Aristotelian good life. It looks at the various considerations—moral, spiritual, and aesthetic—that take part in the formation of economic decisions in sharp contrast with theories that purport to explain economic phenomena solely on the basis of utility maximization.

The contents of the book are as follows:

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven), Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) and Peter Rona (University of Oxford): Laszlo Zsolnai, Friend and Moral Scientist
- Carlos Hoevel (Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina): The Essential, the Beautiful and the Economic—The Brotzeit by Eduard Grutzner and Zsolnai’s Philosophy

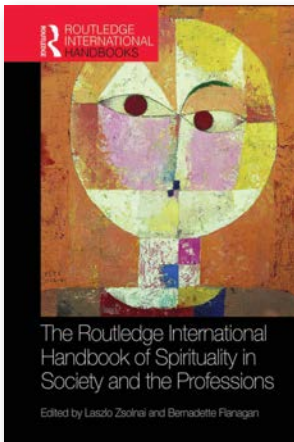
- Antonio Tencati (University of Brescia and Bocconi University, Milan): The Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci and the Links to Food, Conviviality, Sharing, and Spirituality
- Josep Lozano (ESADE Business School, Barcelona): A Dog. Just a Dog
- Katalin Illes (University of Westminster, London): The Light of the World
- Ove Jakobsen and Vivi Storsletten (Nord University, Bodo): Friedensreich Hundertwasser—The Five Skins of the Ecological Man
- Eleanor O’Higgins (University College Dublin and London School of Economics): Antarctica—Nature’s Awesome Artwork
- Mike Tompson (China Europe International Business School, Shanghai and University of Victoria, Vancouver): The Old Fisherman—An Essay for Zsolnai Laszlo
- Zsolt Boda (Hungarian Academy of Sciences and Corvinus University of Budapest): From Ethics to Spirituality—Laszlo Zsolnai on Human Motivations
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven) and Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): Angels from the Future. The Voice of Coming Generations
- Paul Shrivastava (Pennsylvania State University and ICN Business School, Nancy): The Aesthetics of Energy Resilience
- Peter Pruzan (Copenhagen Business School and Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning): On the Experience of Beauty in Nature, in Mathematics and Science, and in Spirituality
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): Management and Liberal Arts—A Transformational Odyssey with Rabindranath Tagore
- Luigino Bruni (LUMSA University, Rome): The Capitalistic Religion—Old Questions, New Insights
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Nature, Economics, and Scream

- Stefano Zamagni (University of Bologna and the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences): The Idea of Corporate Social Responsibility and the Responses of Economic Theory
- Hendrik Opdebeeck (University of Antwerp): What Can Sense Making Economies Learn from the GNH of Bhutan?
- Daniel Deak (Corvinus University of Budapest): Innovation in the Intervention into Nature by Legal Means

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-75064-4>

The Routledge International Handbook of Spirituality in Society and the Professions

In 2019 *The Routledge International Handbook of Spirituality in Society and the Professions* edited by Laszlo Zsolnai and Bernadette Flanagan was published by Routledge in New York.



The book explores how spirituality is a part of human existence and presents approaches and models for professionals working in diverse areas. The book provides a full overview of current research and practice. Part “Facets of Spirituality” explores topics including philosophy, psychology, theology, and culture. Part “Nature” looks at ecology, agriculture, cities, and tourism. Part “Home and Community” presents chapters on various life stages, disability, gender, and culture. Part “Healing” examines medicine, mental and physical health, and ill-health.

Part “Economy, Politics, and Law” discusses business, leadership, the workplace, peace, and policing. Part “Knowledge and Education” includes chapters on science, design, fashion, literature, and the arts. Part “Way

Forward” looks into the future and discusses inter-spirituality and the renewal of social practices. Driven by contemporary research and new developments, this handbook is an innovative and interdisciplinary collection that provides an essential overview of contemporary spirituality and society from an international selection of contributors.

The Routledge International Handbook of Spirituality in Society and the Professions offers accessible, diverse, and engaging international research, and its scope appeals to academics and students of a wide range of subjects, including aging and addiction, psychology, theology, religious studies, sociology, business studies, and philosophy. It is also an important work for professionals in medical and social services, the clergy, education, business, the arts, religious communities, and members of organizations looking at the links between spirituality, religion, and society.

The contents of the book are as follows:

Part I. Introduction

- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest) and Bernadette Flanagan (Spirituality Institute for Research and Education, Dublin): Spirituality in Society and the Professions

Part II. Facets of Spirituality

- Ralph Hood, Jr. (University of Tennessee at Chattanooga): The Psychology of Religion and Spirituality
- David Rousseau (Centre for Systems Philosophy): Spirituality and Philosophy
- Thomas Dienberg (Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule, Munster): Spirituality and Theology
- Imre Lazar (Karoli Gaspar University of the Reformed Church, Budapest): Spirituality and Culture
- Les Lancaster (Liverpool John Moores University) and Ellis Linders (Alef Trust): Spirituality and Transpersonalism

- Rosemarie Anderson (Sofia University, Palo Alto) and Jacqueline Linder (Spiral Phoenix Trauma Institute, Edmonton): Spirituality and Emergent Research Methods

Part III. Nature

- Elizabeth Allison (California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco): Spirituality and Ecology
- John Ikerd (University of Missouri): Spirituality and Agriculture
- Gary Chamberlain (Seattle University): Spirituality and Water
- Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch (University of British Columbia): Spirituality and Landscape Planning
- Brian Sinclair (University of Calgary): Spirituality and the City
- Gregory Willson (Edith Cowan University, Perth) and Alison McIntosh (Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand): Spirituality and Tourism

Part IV. Home and Community

- Susan Crowther (University of Aberdeen): Birth and Spirituality
- Adrian-Mario Gellel (University of Malta): Children and Spirituality
- Peter Jankowski (Texas Tech University): Spirituality, Couple and Parent-Child Relating
- Anna Fedele (University Institute of Lisbon): Spirituality and Gender
- Alexandria Ebert and Susan McFadden (University of Wisconsin Oshkosh): Spirituality and Aging
- Simon Robinson (Leeds Beckett University): Spirituality and Sport
- Gyorgy Konczei and Aniko Sandor (Eotvos Lorand University, Budapest): Spirituality and Disability
- Rev. Jill Snodgrass (Loyola University Maryland): Spirituality and Homelessness
- Beth Crisp (Deakin University, Geelong): Spirituality and Social Work

- Daniel Hauge, David Paine, Elizabeth Ruffing, and Steven Sandage (Boston University): Spirituality and Intercultural Development

Part V. Healing

- Athar Yawar (University College London): Spirituality in Medicine
- Sandhya Chandramohan (Greys Nursing Campus) and Raisuyah Bhagwan (Durban University of Technology): Spirituality and Nursing
- Rachel Cullinan (Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust) and Christopher Cook (Durham University): Spirituality and Mental Health
- Peter Kevern (Staffordshire University): Spirituality and Dementia
- Paramabandhu Groves (Camden and Islington Foundation Trust): Spirituality and Addiction

Part VI. Economy, Politics, and Law

- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): Spirituality in Economics and Business
- Carlos Hoevel (Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina): Spirituality and International Development
- Carole Jurkiewicz (University of Massachusetts, Boston) and Robert Giacalone (Texas State University): Spirituality and the Workplace
- Katalin Illes (University of Westminster, London): Spirituality in Management Development
- Margaret Benefiel (Shalem Institute, Washington, D.C.) and Michelle Abbott (Executive Soul Ltd., Washington, D.C.): Spirituality and Leadership
- Daniel Deak (Corvinus University of Budapest): Spirituality and Law
- Wolfgang Palaver (University of Innsbruck): Spirituality and Politics
- Jonathan Smith (Salmon Personal Development Ltd., Devon) and Ginger Charles (retired USA police sergeant): Spirituality and Policing

- Alastair McIntosh (University of Edinburgh & University of Glasgow) and Matt Carmichael (climate activist in Scotland): Spirituality and Social Activism
- Tilman Bauer (Aalto University, Helsinki): Spirituality and Peace

Part VII. Knowledge and Education

- Peter Pruzan (Copenhagen Business School): Science and Spirituality
- Stuart Walker (Lancaster University): Spirituality and Design
- Thomas Barrie (North Carolina State University) and Julio Bermudez (The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.): Spirituality and Architecture
- Doirean Wilson (Middlesex University, London): Spirituality and Fashion
- Rita Ghesquiere (Catholic University of Leuven): Spirituality and Literature
- James McCullough (Archdiocese of St Louis): Spirituality and the Visual Arts
- Marcel Cobussen (Leiden University): Spirituality and Music
- Edmund Lingan (University of Toledo, Ohio): Spirituality and Theatre
- Kenneth Morefield (Campbell University): Spirituality in Movies
- Celeste Snowber (Simon Fraser University): Spirituality and Dance
- Henk Oosterling (Erasmus University Rotterdam): Spirituality and Martial Arts
- Mark Pearson (Griffith University, Queensland): Spirituality in Journalism
- Paola Di Maio (Buddhist scholar in informatics): Spirituality in Cyberspace
- Bernadette Flanagan and Michael O’Sullivan (Spirituality Institute for Research and Education, Dublin): Spirituality and Education

Part VIII. Way Forward

- Bernadette Flanagan (Spirituality Institute for Research and Education, Dublin) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): *Inter-Spirituality and the Renewal of Social Practices*

<https://www.routledge.com/The-Routledge-International-Handbook-of-Spirituality-in-Society-and-the/Zsolnai-Flanagan/p/book/9781138214675>

Caring Management in the New Economy

In 2019 the book *Caring Management in the New Economy: Socially Responsible Behavior Through Spirituality* edited by Ora Setter and Laszlo Zsolnai was published by Palgrave Macmillan in London.

This book frames a new ethos of management that cares for society, future generations, and nature whilst also serving the interests of business and the wider community. Employing the practical wisdom of faith traditions, the chapters develop the use of spirituality as a resource for creating business models that take pressing social problems—such as quality of life at work, over-consumption, environmental degradation, and climate change—into account. Spanning entrepreneurship, leadership, management education, and business models, the chapters aim to develop a spiritually based caring model of management to face the challenges and reality of the 21st century.



The contents of the book are as follows:

- Ora Setter (Tel Aviv University) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): *Care, and Its Relevance to Today's Economy*
- Imre Ungvari-Zrinyi (Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Kolozsvar): *Authentic Human Relations and the Economy*

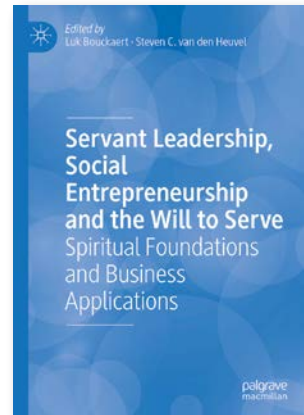
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Caring for Being and Caring for the Other
- Kevin Jackson (Fordham University, New York): Getting to the Heart of Compassion in Philosophy and Economic Life
- Garry Jacobs (World Academy of Art and Science): Consciousness Approach to Management and Economics
- Yehuda Kahane (Tel Aviv University): New Metrics for a New Economy: The B2T by 2020 Project
- Jose Luis Fernandez-Fernandez and Cristina Diaz de la Cruz (Comillas Pontifical University, Madrid): Catholic Social Thought and the Economy of Communion as a Business Model
- Tibor Hejj (Proactive Management Consulting Ltd., Budapest): Dignity, Love and Servant-Leadership
- Pavel Chalupnicek (Catholic University of Leuven): Social Entrepreneurship, Conscience, and the Common Good
- Gabor Kovacs (Corvinus University of Budapest): The Caring Attitude of Christian and Buddhist Entrepreneurs
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen): Caring Entrepreneurship and Ecological Conscience—The Case of Patagonia Inc.
- Ora Setter (Tel Aviv University): Spirituality and Caring in Organizations: The Covenant Metaphor
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): Creative Spirit in Management Education: Insights from Rabindranath Tagore
- Henri-Claude de Bettignies (INSEAD, China Europe International Business School, Shanghai, and Stanford University): Spirituality, Caring Organizations and Corporate Effectiveness: Are Business Schools Developing Such a Path Toward a Better Future?
- Ora Setter (Tel Aviv University) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest): The Significance of Care in Dark Times

<https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9783030141981>

Servant Leadership, Social Entrepreneurship and the Will to Serve

In 2019 the book *Servant Leadership, Social Entrepreneurship and the Will to Serve* edited by Luk Bouckaert and Steven C. Van den Heuvel was published by Palgrave Macmillan in London.

This book presents the central discussions of the conference on *Servant Leadership* organized by the European SPES, the Institute of Leadership and Social Ethics and the Damien Center in Leuven. It brings together a number of important essays on the intersection of servant leadership and social entrepreneurship, examining them through a shared focus on ‘the will to serve’. This combination bears out the insight that inspiring social and economic leaders are able to transform a conflictual human settlement into a collaborative and caring human community.



The book seeks to answer the question of whether we can induce from their ‘way of doing things’ a model of civic entrepreneurship and leadership that can inspire people in profit, non-profit, and public organizations. It also examines the extent to which the will to serve is compatible with the will to maximize profit or the will to gain economic, political, or religious power. Furthermore, it asks how far different spiritual traditions create different models and examples of servant leadership and social entrepreneurship. This book will be of interest to researchers working in the fields of business ethics, business spirituality, and corporate social responsibility.

<https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9783030299354>

JMSR Special Issue

In 2022 the Special Issue “Ethics and Spirituality” was published in the *Journal of Management, Spirituality & Religion* Vol. 19(3) (2022).

The special issue contains the following papers:

- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest), Bernadette Flanagan (Spirituality Institute for Research and Education, Dublin), and Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): Spirituality and Ethics
- Sharda Nandram (Free University of Amsterdam), Puneet K. Bindlish (Free University of Amsterdam), Sukhada Sukhada (Indian Institute of Technology Varanasi), and Arjun Kumar (Kathmandu University School of Management): Spirituality Led Ethical Decision Making with Yogic Yamas and Niyamas
- Ernest NG (The University of Hong Kong): Embodying Morality in Management Theory and Practice: A Buddhist Perspective
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong), and Sumona Ghosh (St. Xavier’s College, Kolkata): Enhancing Effectiveness of Values and Ethics Education through Spirituality

<https://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/jmsr/rmsr20/2022/00000019/00000003>

Global Perspectives on Indian Spirituality and Management

In 2022 the book *Global Perspectives on Indian Spirituality and Management: The Legacy of S.K. Chakraborty* edited by Sanjoy Mukherjee and Laszlo Zsolnai was published by Springer.

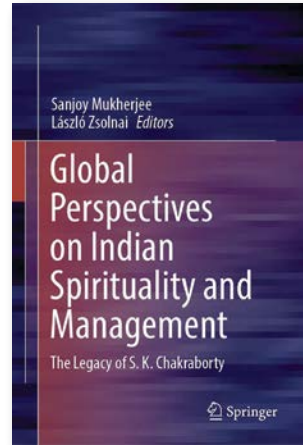
The book is a tribute to the revered Indian management scholar and philosopher S.K. Chakraborty of the Indian Institute of Management

Calcutta, the pioneer of Human Values and Indian Ethos in management. The volume brings together a collection of articles from eminent scholars and practitioners from India, Europe, the USA, and Australia, and investigates the applicability of spiritually inspired business models in Indian and Western contexts.

The book shows that Chakraborty was right in arguing that the mainstream materialistic value orientation of today's business can hardly be reconciled with any genuine spirituality. The book shows that the dominant understanding of economic rationality—namely, individualistic self-interest maximization—should be replaced with a much broader notion of rationality.

Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen suggested that rationality requires subjecting one's choice of action, including objectives, values, and priorities, to reasoned scrutiny. In this way, spiritually inspired choices and actions may not be incompatible with the demands of rationality. Business actors can rationally pursue objectives based on their spiritual values and priorities.

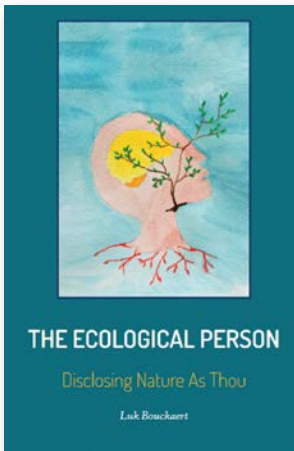
<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-19-1158-3>



S.K. Chakraborty
(1940–2018)

The Ecological Person: Disclosing Nature as Thou

In 2023 Luk Bouckaert's book *The Ecological Person: Disclosing Nature as Thou* was published by Yunus Publishing in Antwerp.



In his book Luk Bouckaert makes a compelling case for renewing Personalist philosophy in the context of the current ecological, social, and ethical crisis. He suggests that the classical form of personalism represented by Jacques Maritain, Emmanuel Mounier and others does not work in the era of the Anthropocene characterized by climate change, biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse, welfare malaises, and global inequalities. The ecological extension and reinterpretation of the concept of the person requires new answers to the question “What it means to be human?” The central problem of Luk

Bouckaert's book is how to reconcile ecological thinking and personalism.

Bouckaert argues that we must change our relationship with our planet and this requires the restoration of the spiritual bond with nature. The book develops a philosophical position that takes the personal responsibility towards the other seriously and does justice to nature as a source for creation of meaning. Bouckaert suggests that we must experience our relationship with nature in face-to-face, personalized forms, something as the “I-Thou” relationship described by Martin Buber. In this way our encounter with plants, animals, and other things of nature can be deeply personal and meaningful interactions.

As a basis for his eco-personalism Bouckaert uses Albert Schweitzer's eco-philosophical principle of reverence for life (“Ehrfurcht vor dem Leben”). Although Schweitzer was a Christian theologian, his principle of reverence for life is compatible with Hindu philosophy. The famous formulation of

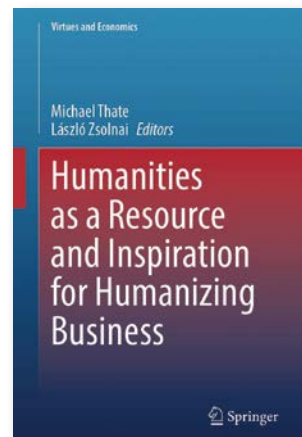
his principle “I am life that wants to live, in the midst of life that wants to live” can be a quote from a Vedantic text too. Modern biological research also supports Schweitzer eco-philosophy. The so-called Santiago theory developed by Humberto Maturana and Francisco Varela discovered that living organisms are self-making (“autopoietic”) systems which follow their own “telos” in creating and maintaining themselves in interaction with their environment. So the concept of wellbeing or flourishing is applicable not only for human beings but also for non-human beings.

Eco-personalism presents a new hope for integrating humanism and ecology on the ground of spirituality. Luk Bouckaert’s book is a welcome contribution to philosophy which can induce progressive changes in social practices in many fields of life.

Humanities as a Resource and Inspiration for Humanizing Business

In 2023 the book *Humanities as a Resource and Inspiration for Humanizing Business* edited by Michael Thate and Laszlo Zsolnai was published by Springer.

The book is based on a collaborative project of Princeton University Faith & Work Initiative and the Business Ethics Center of the Corvinus University of Budapest. It offers novel insights into the applicability of humanities and humanistic values in today’s business and management. It presents new ideas for ethical and humanistic management and leadership, and facilitates the dialogue between humanities and business disciplines on renewing business and management theories, models, and practices.



The book highlights the relevance of the grand traditions of the humanities as an untapped resource for business-world problems. In a time where the humanities are viewed as in decline or in threat of collapse altogether, this book enacts and extends the best of the humanities toward prevailing challenges within the complex realities of our current cultural moment. The book presents how the humanities can contribute to humanizing business and management. It explores and discusses various ways to integrate the views and approaches of the humanities in business and management research, practice, and education responding to the unprecedented challenges of the Anthropocene. The relation between humanities and social sciences is also discussed, as models and theories of business and management are based on insights of social sciences.

The contents of the book are as follow:

Part I. Introduction

- Michael Thate (Princeton University): The Humanities, Business, and the Question of Relevance

Part II. The Culture of Business

- Predrag Cicovacki (College of the Holy Cross, Worcester): Two Scales and Two Orders of Values
- Pietro Lanzini (Ca' Foscari University of Venice): The Ethics of Sustainability: Lessons from the Classics
- Stephan Rothlin (Macau Ricci Institute, University of St. Joseph): Discovering Elements of Confucian Ethics Through a Narrative Approach to Asian Films
- Anderson Blanton (Strategic Design and Innovation, Cone Health): Incite Artifacts: Human-Centered Design in Health Care

Part III. Leaders of Business

- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) and Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest and University of Oxford): Self-Realization in Business

- Devin Singh (Dartmouth College, Hanover): Leadership Obligation: Labor, Reciprocity, and Care
- Madhumita Chatterji and Kshitiz Sharma (ABBS School of Management, Bangalore): Spiritual Leadership
- Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen) and Eleanor O'Higgins (University College Dublin): Progressive Business Leaders' Inner World

Part IV. Art for Business

- Kevin Jackson (Fordham University, New York): Music as Sapiential Capital: Harmonizing Faith-Based Business and Musical Transcendence
- Janalyn Kidd (ClearEdge Marketing, Philadelphia): Imagination as Essential Work
- Jonathan Cook (Independent Expert, USA): Ritual Commerce
- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest and University of Oxford): Poetic Dwelling Models for Business
- Margot Esther Borden (Integral Perspectives, Mumbai) and Oona Shambhavi D'mello (Conscious Development, Mumbai): Transcending the Black Swan: From Self to System
- Sanjoy Mukherjee (Indian Institute of Management Shillong): Towards Human Excellence and Creativity in Management Education: A Personal Voyage

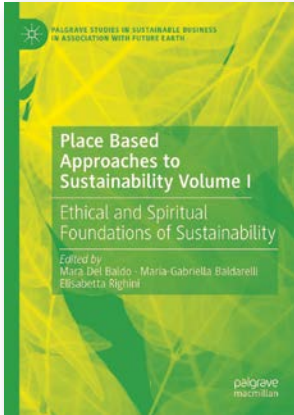
Part V. Conclusion

- Laszlo Zsolnai (Corvinus University of Budapest and University of Oxford): Ways Forward in Humanizing Business and Management

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-33525-9>

Place Based Approaches to Sustainability

The two-volume book *Place Based Approaches to Sustainability* edited by Mara Del Baldo, Maria-Gabriella Baldarelli, and Elisabetta Righini was published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2024.



The book explores “space” as an integral aspect of sustainability strategy, advocates a radical rethinking and reforming of our economies, and analyses the connection between ecology and social justice as a framework for the economy.

It is argued that without respecting and nurturing “place” we cannot achieve a state of ecological sustainability. Place-based organizations are not run on a purely materialistic basis. The non-materialistic features of a place, its aesthetics, cultural heritage, community feelings, transcendence, should be integrated into sustainability management. This far-reaching two-volume work breaks with the economic logic of efficiency and profit maximization, and suggests that organizations should inform their sustainability by encompassing feelings of identity with and attachment to place. According to this vision, the book collects scholarly contributions aimed to support the ecological transformation of humankind by exploring both theoretical and practical models that integrate the sense of the place, ethics, and spirituality in new ways of organizing of economic and social life.

The book contains the following papers:

Volume I: Ethical and Spiritual Foundations of Sustainability

- Mara Del Baldo (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”), Maria-Gabriella Baldarelli (University of Bologna, Rimini Campus), and Elisabetta Righini (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”): Introduction
- Luk Bouckaert (Catholic University of Leuven): From Economics of Place to Place-Based Economics
- Robert Allinson (Soka University of America): The Place of Right Livelihood in Overcoming World Inequity
- Jean-Paul Close (STIR Academy, Eindhoven): Identity and Authenticity: Breaking with Our Heritage for Sustainable Regional Human Development
- Doirean Wilson (Middlesex University, London): “A Place for Learning That Feels Like Home”: Meeting Diverse Students Learning Needs to Promote Business Sustainability in HE
- Leslie Herrmann (University of Aberdeen): That Which Guilds the Lily: Moving from Aesthetic Value to an Ethical Aesthetic
- Alessandro Montrone (University of Perugia) and Cecilia Chirieleison (University of Perugia): Benedictine Spirituality, Place-Based Sustainability, and Accounting—Lessons from a Medieval Abbey
- Alberto Fabbri (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”): Some Considerations on the Contribution Provided by the Religious Cultural Heritage to a Faith Identity
- Giorgia Nigri (Sophia University Institute, Loppiano), Luis Fernando Ramirez (Sophia University Institute, Loppiano), and Roberta Sferrazzo (Audencia Business School, Nantes): The Civil Company: Place-Based Corporate Social Responsibility in Dialogue with Business Ethics and Workplace Spirituality
- Ernest NG (The University of Hong Kong): Building a Global Community of Sustainability, Ethics, and Spirituality One Village at a Time: Plum Village as a Case Study

- Mali Nevo (The Academic College of Tel Aviv–Yaffo): “Giving Nature a Place”: Implementing EAP (Eco-appreciation Perspective) while Focusing on Children-Nature Relations (CNR)—The Need for a New Kind of Organizations
- Gerrit De Vylder (Catholic University of Leuven): Friendship, Social Resistance and Team Work. Indian Versus European Philosophical Perspectives
- Madhumita Chatterji (ABBS School of Management, Bangalore): Importance of Ecological Consciousness in Corporate Social Responsibility
- Mara Del Baldo (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”), Gherardo Girardi (St Mary’s University, London), Hayden Hubbard (The University of Utah), Knut Ims (NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen), and Tamas Veress (Corvinus University of Budapest): The Common Good University: The Search for an Alternative Path for Business School Education

Volume II: Business, Economic, and Social Models

- Mara Del Baldo (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”), Maria-Gabriella Baldarelli (University of Bologna, Rimini Campus), and Elisabetta Righini (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”): Introduction
- Federica Palazzi (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”), Annalisa Sentuti (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”), Francesca Sgro (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”), Massimo Ciambotti (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”): Italian Benefit Corporations: An Investigation on the Purposes
- Harshita Sharma (Barkatullah University, Bhopal): Frugality in Consumption: The Way Out of the New Age Problems of the Contemporary World with Special Reference to India
- Huseyn Mammadov (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”): The Trend and Sustainability of SMEs: The Case of Azerbaijan
- Giulia Napolitano (University of Naples Federico II): The Integration of Sustainability in the Banking Sector
- Elisabetta Righini (University of Urbino “Carlo Bo”): Social Business and Environmental Engagement for a New Economy

- Maria-Gabriella Baldarelli (University of Bologna, Rimini Campus) and Simona Ceraulo (Sophia University Institute, Loppiano): A Synergy of Spirituality and Technologies Toward a Society 5.0
- Patrizia Ghisellini (University of Naples Parthenope), Ivana Quinto (University of Naples Parthenope), Renato Passaro (University of Naples Parthenope), and Sergio Ulgiati (University of Naples Parthenope): Evaluating Good Practices of Ecological Accounting and Auditing in a Sample of Circular Start-ups
- Luciano Pilotti (University of Milan): The Emergent Smart Organisation with Emotional Potentials as Source of Creativity and Collaborative Intelligence in Responsible Companies: Well-being, Participation, Resilience and Spirituality over Competences for Possible Happiness

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-41606-4>

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-41610-1>

Collaborative Partners

ABC-Climont, France

ABBS School of Management, Bangalore, India

Alba University Veldhoven, The Netherlands

Catholic University of Leuven, Centre for Economics and Ethics, Leuven, Belgium

Catholic University of Leuven, Institute of Philosophy, Leuven, Belgium

Centre for Bhutan Studies and GHN Research, Thimphu, Bhutan

China Europe International Business School, Shanghai, China

Columbia University, Spirituality, Mind, Body Institute, New York, USA

Corvinus University of Budapest, Business Ethics Center, Hungary

Corvinus University of Budapest, Corvinus Institute for Advanced Studies, Hungary

Damien Center, Leuven, Belgium

Rennes School of Business, The Canon Chair, Rennes, France

Free University of Amsterdam, Faculty of Religion and Theology, The Netherlands

Gandhi Center for Peace Economics and Conflict Resolution, New Delhi, India

Grenoble School of Management, UNESCO Chair for a Culture of Economic Peace, France

IFIM Business School, Bangalore, India

Indian Institute of Management Shillong, India

Indian Institute of Technology Varanasi, India

Macau Ricci Institute, University of St. Joseph, Macau, China

NHH Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen, Norway
Nord University, Bodo Graduate School of Business, Bodo, Norway
Nyenrode Business University, The Netherlands
Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule, Munster, Germany
Princeton University, Faith & Work Initiative, Princeton, USA
Protestant Theology Faculty, Institute of Leadership and Social Ethics,
Leuven, Belgium
SPES Forum, Leuven, Belgium
Spirituality Institute for Research and Education, Dublin, Ireland
S.P. Jain Institute of Management & Research, Mumbai, India
Tel Aviv University, Coller School of Management, Tel Aviv, Israel
The University of Hong Kong, Centre for Buddhist Studies, Hong Kong,
China
UCSIA (University Centre Saint-Ignatius Antwerp), Antwerp, Belgium
University of Antwerp, Center for Ethics, Antwerp, Belgium
University of Cambridge, Von Hugel Institute, St. Edmund's College,
Cambridge, UK
University of Catania, Catania, Italy
University of Oxford, Las Casas Institute, Blackfriars Hall, Oxford, UK
University of Urbino "Carlo Bo", Urbino, Italy
Waterford Institute of Technology, Waterford, Ireland

The Future of European SPES

In the next decade European SPES intends to follow its mission to realize spiritual-based humanism in the economy and society. This involves initiating and executing research and action projects that serve human wellbeing and the ecological regeneration of nature.

The most important future directions of European SPES include the following:

1. Life-Affirmative Ethics

European SPES is committed to develop ideas and models of life-affirmative ethics that acknowledge the intrinsic value of flourishing life on Earth (human and non-human, present and future). In doing so we build on the inspirations of various traditions of ethics, most notably Henry David Thoreau's ethics of nature, Albert Schweitzer's philosophy of life, Henri Bergson's theory of creative evolution, Gandhi's conception of the unity of humanity and nature, Aldo Leopold's land ethics, Arne Naess' deep ecology, Hans Jonas' principle of responsibility, and the panpsychism of indigenous worldviews.

2. Ethics Needs Spirituality

Spirituality is the inner and inspirational factor of ethics. European SPES defines spirituality as "people's multiform search for a transcendent meaning in life that (re)connects all living beings". Three aspects are crucial for SPES: (i) spirituality is experience-based; (ii) it has a common good character (should not be reduced to private practices); (iii) and it is embedded in a plurality of religious and moral traditions. In line of this, it

is the mission of SPES to function as an interreligious platform (or to cooperate with existing interreligious networks) in order to find a common ground for a new socio-economic agenda.

3. Spiritual-based Business and Leadership

European SPES is interested in studying, developing, and promoting radically new, spiritually inspired business and leadership models. These models break with the currently dominating materialistic and reductionist management paradigm which presupposes that people have only materialistic desires and motivations, and are interested only in their own material welfare. Spiritual-based business and leadership models give priority to intrinsic motivation over extrinsic one, are orientated toward the common good, and measure success in multidimensional, holistic terms.

4. From Personalism to Eco-Personalism

European SPES started its project within the personalist stream of Jewish and Christian social philosophy and ethics (Henri Bergson, Jacques Maritain, Emmanuel Mounier, Paul Ricoeur, Emmanuel Levinas, Dorothee Solle, Simone Weil and others). However, the focus on the uniqueness and relational character of each person, underestimates the role of nature. It is a challenge for European SPES to introduce an experience of nature and person that is not anthropocentric but “discloses Nature itself as a Thou”. Pope Francis’ integral ecology and The Economy of Francesco can be considered as steppingstones towards an ecopersonalist philosophy and ethics.

5. Buddhist Economics and Bhutan

European SPES is committed to study and to develop further Buddhist economics for today’s world. The main principles of Buddhist ethics, namely non-self, compassion, non-violence, and generosity can be applied in various economic and social settings. Bhutan’s Gross National Happiness policy framework has a special importance because Bhutan successfully increases the wellbeing of its people while preserving the natural wealth of the country.

6. Hindu Spirituality in Management

European SPES has a strong interest in exploring the rich traditions of Hindu spirituality, especially the Advaita Vedanta position, for renewing contemporary management practice in India and beyond. The non-duality approach can enable managers to develop a unitary consciousness to serve others and nature in a selfless way. The modern interpretation of Hindu spirituality by Swami Vivekananda, Sri Aurobindo, Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, and S.K. Chakraborty provides a point of departure in this line of inquire.

7. Critiquing Transhumanism

European SPES is interested in critiquing transhumanism on the basis of spiritual-based humanism. Transhumanist technologies want to transform human beings into cyborgs that are devoid from free will and consciousness. Transhumanist business represents a new form of corporate transgression where humans are considered as servants of corporate interest, who should maximize not their own wellbeing but the profit of the corporation. In contrast to transhumanism, we need humanizing technologies that are consistent with our spiritual nature and liberate us for valuable functioning and being.

8. Spirituality in Higher Education

European SPES has a strong interest in integrating spirituality in higher education, especially in business and management education. Today's higher education is based on and promotes the Western materialist mindset which gives no room for spirituality. Integrating spirituality in higher education involves helping the formation of spiritual awareness of students, faculty, and university leaders through support of spirituality in the campus culture, mission, shared relational values, residential programs, and a range of pedagogy. Also, it requires changing the curricula, teaching methods, and extracurricular programs of the professional schools to help transformational learning of both students and faculty.

9. Arts and Aesthetics for Human Flourishing

European SPES is interested in promoting the arts and aesthetics for human flourishing. Enjoying the arts and appreciating the beauty of the human and non-human world is a major vehicle of whole person development. The arts represent the antidote of market metaphysics and calculative thinking of today's economics and business. Poetic dwelling models inspired by the arts can inspire organizations and people to transform themselves into responsive and caring agents. The arts and aesthetics reveal the great paradox of values, namely that if utility considerations precede beauty, then utility itself will be destroyed.

10. Peace Economics

European SPES is committed to peace economics. Today's mainstream business—with its exclusive focus on profit-making and competitiveness—violates the integrity and diversity of natural ecosystems, the autonomy and culture of local communities, and the chance that future generations will lead a decent life. Despite recurrent war scenarios, peace is a realistic aim that can be realized through enlightened and sustained human commitment. Peace economics requires the courage to face and unveil the hidden motivations of war embedded in our present way of life. Building peace economics demands an ethics of responsibility for the whole of humanity and all of creation, and taking an overlapping and intrinsic common good perspective.

By following the above directions in research and action European SPES cultivates a hope in a better future and aims to contribute to the flourishing of humans and nature on Earth.

Laszlo Zsolnai

Professor, Corvinus University of Budapest & President of European SPES

Luk Bouckaert

Professor Emeritus, Catholic University of Leuven & Former President of European SPES

