

NOVEMBER 2020

Dear Members of Societas Ethica

We hope that you are doing well in these challenging times and that you and your families and loved ones have been able to cope with the situation in the best possible way. The Corona pandemic confronted the world with a lot of terrible losses as well as unexperienced challenges forcing us to take severe decisions and invent new ways of organizing our everyday life. This situation illustrated the importance and the value of ethical reflection, especially in times when responsible decisions have to be made under conditions of uncertainty and complexity.

2021 Annual Meeting in Sarajevo

As the 2020 Annual Meeting of Societas Ethica, which was planned for the end of September in Sarajevo, had to be cancelled due to the Corona pandemic, the Board of Societas Ethica made the decision to postpone the conference rather than transform it to an online format. Our annual meetings include theoretical as well as personal exchanges between participants and, as we appreciate these forms of intellectual and personal encounters, we wanted to enable them physically and not only virtually.

Therefore, we are more than happy to announce that the annual meeting has been rescheduled to take place in Sarajevo in 2021. Together with our partner, the Catholic Theological Faculty University of Sarajevo, we will host our annual conference on the topic of "Intercultural Ethics" in late summer 2021. The call for papers has been postponed as well and all the paper proposals already submitted will be regarded as submitted for the conference in 2021, if not otherwise stated by the authors. We will publish any relevant information regarding the program, the keynote speakers, the conference venue, accommodation and travel information on the website of Societas Ethica and will include any updates in upcoming newsletters. We are looking forward to the exciting opportunity to co-host the conference in vibrant Sarajevo, a place where the benefits as well as the challenges of interculturality can be experienced not only theoretically, but also practically.



Arne Manzeschke, Preses
Galia Assadi, Scriba
Carina Weber, Quaestor
Kincsö Nemes, Administrative Support

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General Assembly 2020

We held our first virtual General Assembly meeting on Thursday, 09/24, at 7 p.m. (Western European Time.

1. Welcome
2. Agenda
3. Approval of 2019 general assembly minutes
4. The President's report
5. The Scriba's report
6. The Quaestor's financial report
7. Election of election accountants
8. Nomination of Preses Elect
9. Election of the board members
10. De Ethica
11. Topics and locations for the upcoming annual meetings
12. Varia

New Board Members

Ross W Bellaby



As a member of Societas Ethica for several years it is a pleasure to write to introduce myself to the membership. I have enjoyed being a member of Societas Ethica for the diverse intellectual engagement and support I have received over the years. As I have developed myself professionally and in terms of research interests Societas Ethica has provided an incredible opportunity and community to share my developing thoughts.

I am currently a Senior lecturer at the University of Sheffield's Politics and International Relations Department. My research focuses on designing ethical frameworks for the intelligence community and for cyber-activity. My ethical framework is set out my key monograph, *The Ethics of Intelligence: A New Framework (2014)*. This work is further developed in papers on counterterrorism and the CIA's extraordinary rendition program (2017), the justifiability of cyber-intelligence (2017), the ethical obligation of whistleblowing (2017), and the need for more dark web technology to protect against state surveillance (2018). My most recent research moves to look at the ethical role that hackers can play in protecting people from harm when the state fails to fulfil its own ethical role.

Maren Behrensen



Maren Behrensen, Ph.D., philosopher, assistant professor at the Department of Philosophy at the University of Twente, Netherlands. Prior to joining UT, they held post-doc positions at the Institute for Christian Social Ethics at the University of Münster and the Center for Applied Ethics at Linköping University, Sweden. During the Göran Collste's presidency, they were Quaestor of the Societas (2012-2015). Areas of Specialization: ethics with a focus on gender and sexuality, social ontology.

New President Elect

Elena Namli



I am a Professor of Theological Ethics at Uppsala University, Sweden. I teach ethics at the Faculty of Theology, lead a master program in human rights, and supervise several doctoral projects in ethics.

My research focuses mostly on social and political ethics, but I also work on issues within ethical theory (meta-ethics). My current focus is on human rights, especially how legal, political, and moral dimensions of rights should be interrelated.

Among my most important publications are *Kamp med förnuftet (Struggling with Reason, Artos 2009)*, *Human Rights as Ethics, Politics, and Law (Acta Universitatis Upsaliensis 2014)*, *Mänskliga rättigheter i det offentliga Sverige (Human Rights and the Swedish State, Studentlitteratur 2017)*, *Future(s) of the Revolution and the Reformation (Palgrave 2019)*, *Etik (Ethics, with professor Carl-Henric Grenholm, Studentlitteratur 2019)*.

My current major project is entitled Critical Normativity in Law, Ethics, and Politics. The main purpose of this project is to suggest a new approach to the relationship between law, politics, and social morality. Such an approach, I argue, should combine a soft legal positivism with a novel understanding of social constructivism in political ethics.

As a researcher as well as in my academic teaching, I combine the potential of critical philosophical instruments with resources from theology. I firmly believe that theological ethics offer valuable insights for scholarly work as well as for public deliberation. I work mainly with Christian traditions, but I have also published on Jewish and Islamic theological ethics. An important priority for ethicists at the Faculty has been and is to address different dimensions of the relationship between religious ethics and political theory, as well as to engage them in a dialogue with one another.

I have been a member of Societas Ethica since 2001, and I have always appreciated the possibilities for inclusive and challenging dialogue that this European society offers us. Societas Ethica's ambition to bring together European philosophers and theologians is unique and worthy of preservation and further development. Another (and in my view, most valuable) tradition of the society is that of holding annual conferences in different places all around Europe. Approaching theoretical as well as applied issues constructively demands a capacity and opportunity to estrange oneself from the comfort of familiar contexts and conventions. This, I believe, is one of the most precious insights of philosophical and theological humanism.

I am ready to invest my time and skills in a joint project of the further development of Societas Ethica.

Elena Namli
Uppsala

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Reminder: Membership fees

We would like to remind you to pay the annual membership fee. As you know, we rely on the payment of the membership dues to finance Societas Ethica - e.g. the annual meeting. Many members pay the annual membership fee as part of the registration fee for the annual meeting. But because no annual meeting was held this year, many persons have not paid this year's membership fee. We would like to encourage those members who have not yet paid the registration fee to do so and would like to thank the members who have already paid the annual fee or given us a SEPA-mandate.

You have following possibilities to pay the fee this year:

1. Payment per bank transfer

You can transfer the annual fee of 60 € to the bank account of the Societas Ethica. Details can be found also on the [homepage](#).

Bank account:

Societas Ethica
Evangelische Bank
IBAN: DE 05520604100105003288
BIC: GENODEF1EK1

2. SEPA-Mandate

You can give us a SEPA-Mandate (if you are in the SEPA area). The SEPA blank can be found on our [website](#). Please fill it in and send it either per email (feag@elkb.de) or to the following address:

Societas Ethica
c/o Prof. Dr. Arne Manzeschke
Bärenschanzstr. 4
90429 Nürnberg
Deutschland

3. Payment by check

Please find the details on our [website](#)

4. Donations

As a Society for Research in Ethics, we are engaged in promoting an open, constructive interdisciplinary and intercultural exchange not restricted by borders of any kind. Therefore we want to enable people with limited financial resources to participate in our conferences. As the financial resources of Societas Ethica are limited, we want to encourage our members to donate to a fund, which will be used for supporting applicants with financial limitations. The money will be stored in the bank account of Societas Ethica and will be used only to support potential participants and members, who apply for a funding in order to realize their participation in the conference.

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New Member Publications

Hille Haker, "Towards a Critical Political Ethics: Catholic Ethics and Social Challenges," Schwabe Verlagsgruppe AG Schwabe Verlag (May 13, 2020)

Bruno Gransche und Arne Manzeschke (Hrsg.): *Das geteilte Ganze. Horizonte Integrierter Forschung für künftige Mensch-Technik-Verhältnisse*, Wiesbaden (Springer VS) 2020.

Christine Hauskeller, Arne Manzeschke und Anja Pichl (Eds.): *The Matrix of Stem Cell Research. An Approach to Rethinking Science in Society*, London (Routledge) Series: Genetics and Society, 2019

Werner Wolbert, "Kantianismus, Utilitarismus und die Menschenwürde" in: Kröll, Wolfgang/Platzer, Johann/Ruckenbauer, Hans - Walter/Schaupp, Walter (Hg.), *Die Corona-Pandemie*. NomosVerlagsgesellschaft MbH & KG, 2020, 119-136

Interview with David Wellman

In the coming months, we hope to conduct some interviews with presenters of the Sarajevo conference, SE Board members or any other member. It is an effort to introduce members to each other in an easy format, stay connected, and perhaps be inspired to collaborate. Check out the first interview that Hille Haker conducted with David Wellman, Board member and Professor at De Paul University in Chicago.

<https://luc.zoom.us/rec/play/78F4I7yoqTo3TNLGtwSDA6IsW9S8KqisgCNLqaEKyUa1VSVSNVegN7dHM-M-vXL-5PfvawZRG5fxANzl>

Lectures of the Annual Conference 2019

The main lectures of the annual conference 2019 in Tutzing have been published in German in the booklet "Dokumentation" of the Evangelischer Pressedienst, Nr. 24-25. The booklet can be downloaded on our website [HERE](#).

De Ethica—Societas Ethica's Journal

Please take a look at the latest articles of De Ethica — <http://www.societasethica.info/deethica>

Please Visit Our Website

- English version — <http://www.societasethica.info/introduction>
- German version — <http://www.societasethica.info/willkommen>