

Research Library Monthly Reading List May 2026

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Sustainability Ethics

French and Spanish translations produced with the assistance of
Microsoft Copilot, May 2026.

Books

Driessen, Michael D., Fadi Daou, eds. 2026. *Changing the Narrative : Preparing for Peace : A White Paper on Multifaith and Multistakeholder Engagement in Times of War and Polarisation*. Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026.
<https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4321293>.

Abstract: This White Paper synthesizes insights from four international meetings held in 2025 on multifaith and multistakeholder engagement amid war and polarization, highlighting the constructive roles of religious and multifaith coalitions in advancing human rights, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and peace and social reconciliation. It also examines emerging challenges to peacebuilding and offers six recommendations to strengthen multistakeholder efforts, affirming the growing alliance of actors mobilizing resources to address global crises. The White Paper is the result of a partnership between Globethics, Wilton Park, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the UN Faith for Rights Initiative, with contributions from numerous additional organizations.

Ekué, Amélé Adamavi-Aho, Divya Singh, Jane Usher. 2023. *Leading Ethical Leaders : Higher Education Institutions, Business Schools and the Sustainable Development Goals*. Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026.
<https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4278450>.

Abstract: This volume provides unique and profound insights from within educational institutions in diverse regions of the world on how 'learning outside' and 'learning inside' can be holistically integrated, so that the sustainable development agenda does not remain static and programmatic, but a creative and permeable framework. The shared hope across the thirteen chapters, which constitute complete original essays on the theme, is to develop meaningful, interdisciplinary curricula and research projects which serve the human community as a whole. The aim of the editors is directed towards a similar United Nations' valuable ideal: to advance knowledge in respect of the earth and the future generations who will inherit it.

Girardin, Benoît. 2019. *Ethique de l'eau : principes et lignes directrices*. Globethics.net. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/3863474>.

Résumé: Ce texte soutient que les perspectives éthiques sont essentielles à une gestion juste, efficace et durable de l'eau, contrairement à l'idée qu'elles n'apporteraient aucune valeur ajoutée. Il montre comment les valeurs et principes éthiques éclairent des enjeux clés tels que l'accès équitable et la valeur économique de l'eau, l'éthique de l'innovation technologique, la prévention et la gestion des conflits, la gouvernance politique, ainsi que le respect des traditions religieuses et croyances. Élaboré par un groupe international d'experts et approuvé par le conseil de fondation de Globethics.net, le texte démontre que l'éthique peut améliorer la gestion et la résolution des conflits liés à l'eau de manière inclusive et durable, contribuant ainsi à la mise en œuvre de l'Objectif de développement durable 6 des Nations unies sur l'accès universel à l'eau et à l'assainissement. Translation in Spanish also available: [Ética del agua : principios y directrices](#) (Globethics.net 2020).

Kansiime, Elly K. 2020. *Theology of Work and Development : The Theological and Ecological Responsibility of the Church in Sustainable Development*. Globethics.net. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/3978208>.

Abstract: This work focuses on the role of the church in sustainable development. The author looks at development from a divine perspective, and expects all developers, to integrate the biblical teaching so that it can make meaning theologically and ecologically to sustain holistic development.

Ogara, William Otiende and Globethics, eds. 2024. *Ethical Leadership and Investment for a Sustainable Future : A Reference Manual*. Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4318992>. Also available in French: [Leadership et Investissement Ethique vers un Avenir Durable : un Manuel de Référence](#) (Globethics Publications, 2024).

Abstract : This Reference Manual has been prepared as a result of the African Church Assets Programme (ACAP) journey, initiated by the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) General Assembly in Kampala, Uganda in 2013, and provides case studies, actionable steps, and self-assessment tools to guide leaders of churches and church-related organizations in promoting ethical, transparent, accountable, and integrity-driven leadership that fosters transformative change and strengthens trust within their communities.

Sinner, Rudolf von. 2024. *Ethics in Higher Education for Better Lives and Societies : Governance, Cyber Ethics and Sustainability = Ética Na Educação Superior Para Melhores Vidas e Sociedades : Governança, Ética Cibernética e Sustentabilidade*. Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4315213>.

Abstract: This collaborative project between Globethics and the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná brings together twenty-one ethicists and specialists from eight countries to examine key ethical challenges in higher education. Through a critical analysis of both internal academic practices and their broader societal impacts, the contributors explore foundational values, diverse perspectives, and ethical decision-making. The work highlights three central themes—ethical governance, cyberethics with a focus on generative artificial intelligence, and sustainability—positioning them as shared frameworks for advancing responsible higher education practices and fostering global exchange of best practices.

Werner, Dietrich, Christoph Stückelberger, Obiora Ike. 2016. *Global Ethics for Leadership : Values and Virtues for Life*. Globethics.net. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/154302>.

Abstract: The need for global values in a globalised world is combined with the need for contextual identity. New nationalisms, protectionisms and fundamentalisms are mixed with a globalised pluralistic relativism. Are global values threatened by particular values? Find answers within the 32 articles of this book. In each of the articles the authors, who are all in one way or another linked to Globethics.net, writing from one of four continents, focus and develop on a particular value or virtue in a specific geographic, cultural or religious context. Many of them also give an input to the understanding of the value-basis of the UN-Sustainable Development Goals SDGs and give orientation for "values-driven leadership", a key vision and mission of Globethics.net.

Book Chapters

Baker, Mandi. 2023. [*Actioning 'Be Good': How Torrens University Australia's Research Contributes to Sustainable Development Goals and Impacts Communities and Practices*](#). Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4278462>.

Abstract: Sustainability is central to Torrens University Australia's research strategy, with a strong focus on addressing Sustainable Development Goals through research that delivers real-world, sustainable change. This chapter presents four case studies in education, health, and business that demonstrate how researchers respond to context-specific challenges and implement lasting improvements. Guided by TUA's core values of "Be Good" and "Be Well," the university prioritises research and education that enhance health, wellbeing, access, and equity. These values underpin TUA's interdisciplinary approach, particularly in advancing quality education (SDG 4), while enabling multiple SDGs to be addressed.

Delport, Hermie, Jolanda Morkel, Michele Gorman. 2023. [*Architecture Studios for Sustainable Cities and Communities: A Radically Inclusive Perspective: A Response to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities*](#). Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4278458>.

Abstract: Sustainability in architecture extends beyond energy efficiency to encompass a complex, multidisciplinary, and ethically grounded practice that shapes cities as socio-technical entities embedded in cultural, economic, and climatic contexts, directly affecting quality of life. This chapter explores how the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can be meaningfully embedded in architectural education, with a particular focus on the architectural studio, an area where global research remains limited despite growing curricular initiatives. Drawing on the concept of the Radically Inclusive Studio, viewed as part of a broader learning ecosystem, the chapter presents the 6S Conceptual Framework of Inclusive Contexts as a theoretical lens for reorganising the SDGs and guiding sustainable development in architecture and beyond.

Ekulé, Amélé Adamavi-Aho. 2023. [*Ethical Leadership for Sustainable Development in Higher Education Revisited: Epilogue*](#). Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4278461>.

Abstract: This volume argues that ethics and values are central to higher education and to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals, presenting interdisciplinary insights into how universities and business schools embed sustainability through internally driven, values-based education rather than external mandates. It frames the SDGs as a reflective and practical framework for ethical leadership, emphasizing the creation of learning and research cultures that integrate teaching, management, and real-world impact. It demonstrates how higher education can equip future leaders with holistic, globally aware, and locally responsive competencies for sustainable development.

Fong, Ben Y. F., Vincent T.S. Law, Tiffany C. H. Leung, Man Fung Lo, Tommy K. C. Ng, Hilary H. L. Yee. 2021. [*Global Impacts of the Sustainable Development Goals*](#). Taylor & Francis Group. Accessed April 29, 2026.

Abstract: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by all UN Member States in 2015, provide a shared framework for addressing global challenges such as poverty, inequality, and wellbeing while promoting peace and prosperity for people and the planet. This chapter examines how the SDGs shape national policies across different countries and assesses their effectiveness and global impacts in both developing and developed contexts.

Msafiri, Aidan G. 2023. [*Reassessing African Higher Education and the 13th Sustainable Goal \(Climate Action\) : Unpacking Salient Contributions*](#). Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4278457>.

Abstract: This chapter argues that the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals provide a transformative global framework for sustainable living, with a particular focus on SDG 13 (Climate Action). It critically assesses the role of African higher education in advancing climate action through teaching, research, and practical engagement, while highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of the SDGs as drivers of climate justice, long-term sustainability, and peaceful coexistence. The chapter also identifies gaps, limitations, and challenges within the SDG framework and current practices, calling for a more innovative, results-oriented, and context-specific African higher education model. Emphasizing the need to move beyond Northern-centric solutions and “business as usual” approaches, it advocates for a new African academic avant-garde that delivers concrete, qualitative, and quantitative contributions to climate justice and the realization of SDG 13.

Onsrud, Harlan J. 2019. [*Legal and Policy Paths for Effective Sustainable Development*](#). Taylor & Francis Group. Accessed April 29, 2026.

Abstract: This chapter reviews key economic and legal principles that governments have traditionally used to support markets involving land, labor, and capital, and considers how similar principles can enable effective achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. It argues that well-designed legal and policy frameworks are essential for addressing emerging challenges, noting that governments often respond through legislation only after technological change and social impacts become visible through litigation. The chapter highlights particular policy difficulties arising when government agencies compete with private businesses and suggests that foundational legal principles may need to be reinterpreted or adapted to reflect the profoundly altered global landscape shaped by information technologies.

Onyia, Chidiebere. 2023. *Ethical Leaders : Lessons Learned from a Sustainable Infrastructure Delivery Process*. Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4278451>.

Abstract: This chapter examines the ethical principles that should guide the planning and delivery of sustainable higher education infrastructure in developing countries, emphasizing the need for clear policies, climate-responsive decision-making, and transparent leadership. It highlights the importance of strong collaboration among stakeholders to promote ethical cultures through accountable procurement, project monitoring, and shared purpose. Focusing on ethical leadership and relationships, the chapter argues that leaders play a key role in establishing “social rules of practice” that support sustainable infrastructure and strengthen learning environments. Drawing on examples from Nigerian higher education institutions, it demonstrates how resilient ethical champions can model integrity and show that ethical behavior is both achievable and beneficial in contexts where unethical practices are prevalent.

Oosthuizen, Jacobus H. 2023. *South African Business Schools SDG Integration : MBA Curricula, Research, and Partnerships*. Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4278460>.

Abstract: Business schools play a critical role in shaping future business leaders and fostering socially responsible and ethical behavior, yet they face significant criticism for failing to adequately prepare leaders or embed ethical values in management education. In response to these concerns, the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) were established in 2007 to promote sustainability, ethics, and alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in business education. Focusing on South Africa, this study examines the extent to which business schools integrate the SDGs into MBA curricula, research, and partnerships by analyzing publicly available institutional documents using the “Linked SDG” application. The chapter aims to identify gaps in SDG coverage and proposes recommendations to strengthen the integration of sustainability and responsible leadership within South African business schools.

Robinson, Simon, Adalberto Arrigoni. 2023. *Finding a Voice : SDGs, Ethical Identity and the Curriculum*. Globethics Publications. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.58863/20.500.12424/4278464>.

Abstract: This chapter argues that despite numerous initiatives in responsible management and SDG-related education, higher education still insufficiently integrates responsibility, sustainability, and ethics, as evidenced by graduates’ weak identification with professional ethical values. It proposes an integrated approach to ethics education centered on the practice of responsibility, supported by pedagogies that foster critical reflection, holistic decision-making, moral imagination, accountability, and engagement with diversity. A fourfold curricular strategy to develop ethical identity is proposed.

Skaland, Anne Marte, Guro Almås, eds. 2020. [*The Sustainability Book : A Christian Faith Perspective on the Sustainable Development Goals*](#). 2020. Accessed April 29, 2026.

Abstract: The Sustainability Book is an openly accessible resource that approaches the UN Sustainable Development Goals from a Christian faith and theological perspective. It offers reflections, prayers, study texts, and discussion questions designed for use in congregations, faith gatherings, and personal study, with dedicated sections addressing each of the 17 SDGs. The handbook aims to connect global sustainability challenges—such as poverty, climate action, justice, and care for creation—with biblical values, ethical reflection, and faith-based action, supporting churches and faith communities in engaging thoughtfully and practically with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Journal Articles

Jeffrey D., Sachs. 2015. "[Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals](#)". *Journal of International Business Ethics* Vol. 8 No. 2, 2015. Accessed April 29, 2026.

Abstract: The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015 marked a pivotal moment in global efforts to achieve peace, prosperity, and environmental sustainability, reinforced shortly afterward by the Paris Climate Agreement at COP21, which committed governments to limiting global warming well below 2°C. Although some view such UN agreements as symbolic, the author argues that globally agreed goals are essential for driving meaningful change, pointing to the measurable progress achieved under the Millennium Development Goals since 2000. While acknowledging that the MDGs did not fully meet all expectations, the author emphasizes that they made a tangible difference, demonstrating that shared international commitments can guide action and offering valuable lessons for achieving even greater impact through the SDGs.

Zanten, Jan Anton van. 2021. [*Towards Nexus-Based Governance : Defining Interactions between Economic Activities and Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)*](#). Taylor and Francis. Accessed April 29, 2026. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504509.2020.1768452>.

Abstract: This paper argues that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals depends on addressing the "SDG nexus" by maximizing positive interactions between goals while reducing negative trade-offs, particularly through how economic activities are organized. To address a key knowledge gap, it systematically reviews 876 studies published between 2005 and 2019 examining the links between individual economic activities and sustainable development outcomes. The review finds that agricultural, industrial, and manufacturing activities are often associated with negative environmental impacts, while service-sector activities tend to contribute positively to economic and social development. The paper synthesizes these interactions and discusses implications for integrated SDG governance, private-sector responsibility, and improved monitoring of economic activities' sustainability impacts.

Conference Presentations

Barracrough, Solon L. 2002. [*In Quest of Sustainable Development*](#). World Summit on Sustainable Development. Accessed April 29, 2026.

Abstract: The 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg was convened to review progress since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and to renew global commitments to sustainable development, as mandated by the UN General Assembly. The summit faced significant challenges because sustainable development had to remain broadly defined to accommodate diverse political, economic, cultural, and environmental contexts, resulting in conflicting interests and values among participants. Despite these tensions, the Johannesburg Summit highlighted key political economy conflicts underlying unsustainable development processes. This paper contributes to ongoing debates by drawing on research into the social dynamics of environmental change to explore policy approaches that could help address these challenges.

Nandhikkara, Jose. 2022. [*Global Compact on Education : Ethical Leadership for Sustainable Future*](#). Globethics.net. Accessed April 29, 2026.

Abstract: Workshop presentation delivered at the Globethics.net International Conference "Building New Bridges Together: Ethics and Values at the Heart of Quality Education" held 17-19 October 2022, Geneva, Switzerland.

Werner, Dietrich. 2023. [*Ecumenical Diaconia and Christian Social Practice : Towards Attaining the Sustainable Development Goals : 8 Suggestions for Strengthening the Specific Profile of Churches as Actors for Eco-Social Transformation*](#). Accessed April 29, 2026.

Abstract: A lecture presented at the CCA Assembly Pre-Consultation on 26 September 2023, Kottayam, India, introducing basic dimensions of the international debate on ecumenical diakonia for the Asian churches.