

# Message from the Editor

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## Individual Ethical Leadership, Responsible Global Citizenship

In this shared world where pandemic pressures persist, historic challenges remain, and new battles begin, there is a tension between returning to life at another time and adapting to current realities. We pull each other in opposing directions because despite our differences and distances, we are still connected, locally and globally.

The past two years have made our interconnectedness particularly, and sometimes painfully, clear. At our best, human connection and collective action create not only positive change, but unfathomable progress, solutions, and even cures. However, in far too many ways, these same tools cause catastrophic regression. At our worst, we incite violence and enact unjust wars. We continue methods and systems of oppression and call them traditions.

Many turn to local and global leadership for direction, for resources, and for refuge. They should. And thankfully, some will be able to answer that call. When other leaders, or worse systems of justice and safety, falter or fail, it is the everyday efforts of ethical people that not only keep us all moving forward, but also restore hope in a way that only humanity can.

Showing and receiving empathy. Seeing the inherent worth and dignity in every person and being seen. Doing the most responsible thing possible and experiencing the benefit of someone else's good choice. Thoughtful efforts and intentional actions. Everyday ethics can also be contagious. We are inspired by neighbors helping neighbors, strangers supporting strangers. We are better when we consider the well-being of not only those we know, but also those we will never meet. We are better when we think globally and act locally. Because ultimately, for better or worse, we are all co-inhabitants of the same shared world.

While systems of injustice endure, or just crumble slowly, everyday efforts of ethical people remind us that justice and equity are still possible, even

if not always immediate. Individual ethical leadership grows into positive collective action, into social justice, and eventually systemic change. At our best, we pull each other up and forward because despite our differences and distances, we are still connected, locally and globally.

For the past ten years, *The International Journal of Ethical Leadership* has strived to contribute to the interdisciplinary, international conversation on what ethical leadership requires, but also what ethical leadership can do. Ethics requires genuine efforts toward justice and equity because this gives every person their best chance to flourish. Ethics gives our shared world a chance to flourish.

In this ninth volume, our contributors and contributions come to us from Africa, Argentina, Australia, Turkey, and the United States and collectively cover a range of perspectives from emerging students to esteemed faculty and distinguished practitioners. This volume is dedicated to our authors; my trusted advisors; and ethical people who contribute to positive human progress every day by striving to make good choices for themselves and for their local and global neighbors. Frankly, I'm rooting for us all.