



# ABBHEY SESSIONS

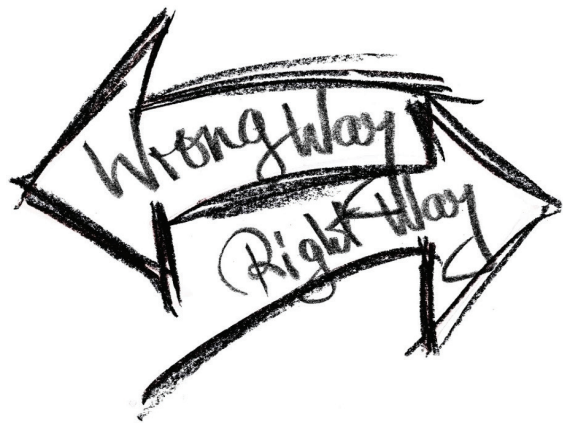
**FACTS AND VALUES FOR A BETTER WORLD**



*A unique conference for curious, like-minded people who are decision-makers and influencers, driven by a desire to explore and improve their own world.*



# We are constantly presented with new challenges that address our moral sense



## ABBEY SESSIONS, facts and values for a better world

A unique conference for curious, like-minded people who are decision-makers and influencers, driven by a desire to explore and improve their own world.

Many people have a pessimistic view of the world we live in, and listening to the news every day can seem to confirm this image. However, simply bemoaning our situation does not help. In fact, we have made tremendous progress in the last century. People's lives have improved all over the world, with poverty rates decreasing, infant mortality rates dropping, and deadly diseases such as smallpox, polio, and tuberculosis being eradicated or significantly reduced.

Nonetheless, the world continues to change, and we are presented with new challenges, such as pandemics, wars, climate crises, and economic fluctuations. In the next hundred years, we will undoubtedly face further obstacles. History, particularly since the advent of industrialization, has shown that professionals in the fields of production and electronics will once again play a significant role in solving these problems.

To effectively address the challenges ahead and act in a morally responsible manner, two things are crucial: a deep understanding of the major global obstacles on one side, and our core values, as well as the moral drivers that form our decision-making, on the other. Both elements form the foundation of ethics in the electronics industry.

The 30-hour **EiE Abbey Sessions, 'Facts and Values for a Better World'** will focus on these ethical foundations, exploring the crucial components of global challenges and core values. **Dr. Ralf Bodelier** and **Dr. Mirjam Vossen** will provide electronics professionals with a new perspective on these topics.

## 30 HOURS EIE ABBEY SESSIONS

Together with the participants, our two experts will delve into the most important global trends, exploring a broad social and historical view of worldwide problems and solutions. They will examine the influence of media on our perception of reality, with media scientist Dr. Vossen providing insights on how the media distorts our view of reality.

Additionally, we will explore our values, whether conscious or unconscious, and learn how to effectively share this knowledge with colleagues, superiors, and partners.

The result will be a more realistic worldview, an optimistic outlook on life, and greater self-awareness of one's moral principles. Above all, you will learn how to make profitable business decisions based on an ethical foundation or inform and influence decision-makers in your organization.

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## PRACTICAL ASPECTS

The Abbey Sessions will take place in monasteries or abbeys. Many abbeys were built in remote locations, such as mountains or forests, to provide a peaceful and contemplative environment for the community. These abbeys often became important centers of learning and culture, where scholars and artists could come to study and create. The EiE Abbey Sessions will feature lectures, inspirational sessions, discussions, short walks, films, meals (including breakfast, lunch, and supper), coffee breaks, and, of training, Abbey beer.

All participants are asked to be polite and respectful to the abbey personnel and to the processes and ceremonies taking place within the abbey.

### Participation from Day 1

The groups will consist of 10 to 20 specially selected and invited individuals. From C-Level to Engineers – Diversity is key.

**Step 1** You will get an invite and if you are interested an interview will be planned.

**Step 2** Interview about your background, prospects, expectations, motivations to participate.

**Step 3** Come and join us for the Abbey Session!

# SETTING UP THE ABBEY SESSIONS



## ***1. Before the party starts:***

Before the Abbey Sessions begins, we want to help you prepare with free books, videos, and other materials to help spark your ideas and imagination. This is not homework, but a way for you to come to the Abbey Sessions with a wealth of knowledge and inspiration.

## ***2. Our Material Progress:***

In the first session, we will dive into what has happened thus far. We will examine the hard data on global challenges and take a close look at the progress that has been made. While it may not appear so at first glance, we will find that poverty is decreasing, major diseases are being effectively combated, and climate change is declining. We are also making headway in solving environmental problems. In many wealthy countries, we are taking significant steps toward restoring biodiversity and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Throughout history, technology and electronics have proven to be the driving force behind much of this progress.

## ***3. Our Moral Progress:***

Society is not the only thing changing - our ideas about society are also evolving. Our views on human rights, sexuality, safety, and violence are



# SETTING UP THE



## ABOUT THE LEADERS OF THE TRAINING

For several years, Dr. Bodelier and Dr. Vossen have been organizing Abbey Sessions in Dutch abbeys and monasteries. They have been very successful. Both understand and speak German very well. However, they are better at expressing themselves in English.



**Dr. Ralf Bodelier** is a graduate in history (BA) and theology (MA). He holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy from a Faculty of Law. He is an essayist for a variety of media. He is the author of 12 books. Three of these books deal with the relationship between technology and society. In 2020/2021, he walked from Jerusalem to Bouillon in Belgium. He is currently at work on a book about this walk, the title of which is “On the reverse crusade. In the Footsteps of Godfried van Bouillon”.

- > vastly different from those held by our parents and grandparents. When we scrutinize our beliefs, we find that we are consistently raising the moral bar. In 1990, a safe environment meant protection from muggers and knife-wielding individuals. Today, a safe environment encompasses freedom from bullying and unwanted opinions.

### ***4. How the media shapes our worldview:***

We will then examine the origins of our pessimistic view of the world and the role of the media in shaping it. We will consider whether our newspapers and television news programs give sufficient attention to data and long-term trends, or whether they focus only on isolated incidents. You will learn to evaluate media coverage critically and gain skills to discern what is true and what is not. With these skills, you will be better equipped to share accurate information with your colleagues, clients, or partners, and help shape a more realistic worldview.

### ***5. How do we talk about our values?***

It is important to understand our own individual values and what motivates and inspires us. We can start by asking ourselves what is truly important to us and what we are passionate about. We can then explore how to communicate our values effectively, especially to those who may have different values. By doing so, we can influence our business decisions and ensure that they align

# ABBEY SESSIONS



with our personal values. We can also consider whether we have enough words or language to express our values and how we can expand our vocabulary to better articulate them.

## 6. Next steps, next sessions:

That sounds like a great way to continue the discussion and promote ongoing learning and growth in ethical leadership. By maintaining connections with each other and with the experts leading the session, participants can continue to share ideas, collaborate on projects, and stay up to date on the latest developments in ethical thinking. This kind of ongoing dialogue and community-building is essential for creating a more ethical and responsible electronics industry.

## 7. Acknowledgment is key:

At the end of the sessions, you will receive a certificate showing your dedication and learning experience. You will also get a digital file with the logo “EiE – ethical responsible”. The certificate and digital logo will serve as a visible reminder of your commitment to ethical responsibility and can be a valuable addition to your professional profile. It’s always important to recognize and reward efforts towards personal and professional development and to communicate that to your partners, colleagues, and stakeholders.

**Dr. Mirjam Vossen** has a BA in Journalism, an MA in Geography, and a Ph.D. in Media Science. The influence of media on our world view is her area of research. Her area of expertise is media framing. Dr. Vossen works as a consultant for organizations and companies in the field of communication on issues that are socially sensitive. She has conducted research for them on framing poverty, migration, disadvantaged neighborhoods, and nuclear energy. She is the author of several books and articles. She collaborates with On Migration and Replanet Nederland.



**Prof. Dr. Stefan Heinemann** is Professor of Business Ethics at the FOM University of Applied Sciences and spokesperson of the Ethics Ellipse Smart Hospital at the University Medicine Essen and focuses on the economic and ethical perspective on digital medicine and the healthcare industry. He is an experienced speaker and trainer, having delivered ethics training, lectures and seminars to leading global companies such as Daimler, Barmer and RWE. He has been researching and publishing on this topic for over 20 years and is widely recognized as a thought leader in the field of business ethics.

## ***Dates & Rates***

- Beginning: October 12th, 2023, 10:00 AM
- End: October 13th, 2023, 5:00 PM
- Included: 1 Night in a Single Bedroom in an abbey;  
1\* Breakfast, 2\* Lunch, 1\* Dinner
- Your contribution: 3.500 Euro
- Address:  
**Zisterzienserabtei  
Marienstatt  
57629 Marienstatt**



### **CONTACT**

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