

Spiritual Humanism and Economic Wisdom

Essays in Honor of Luk Bouckaert's 70ths Anniversary

edited by

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Preface

Our friend and colleague, *Professor Luk Bouckaert* celebrates his 70th birthday on April 24, 2011. Luk Bouckaert is a prime example of *loyalty to the place*. He spent his entire adult life in Leuven working at one of the finest universities of Europe, the *Catholic University of Leuven*, where he studied philosophy and economics. In the 1960s he started to teach *Methodology of Economics and History of Economic Thought*. Later his interest turned to the moral and spiritual foundations of economics and business. In 1988 he established the *Center for Economics and Ethics* (www.cee.be). He and his center became a front liner in European research on business and economic ethics.

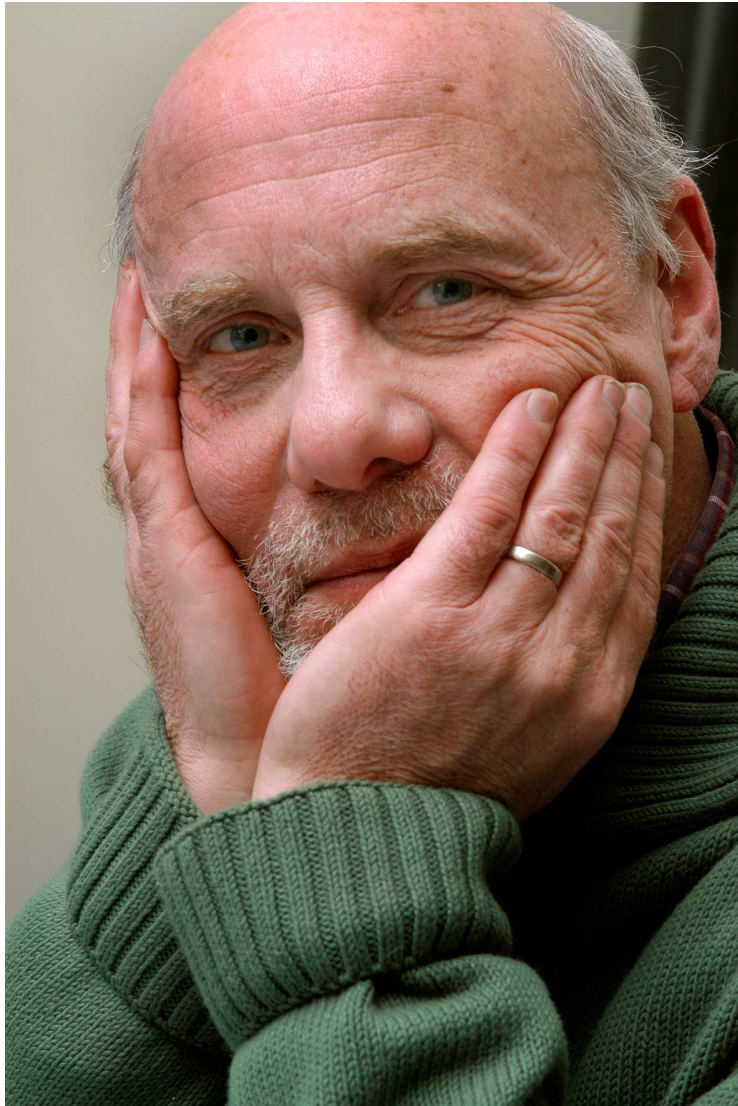
In 2000 - in cooperation with Hendrik Opdebeeck and Jaak Stokx - Luk Bouckaert initiated the *Belgian SPES-forum* (www.spesforum.be). The mission of SPES is to make spirituality accessible as a public good to as many people as possible. The mission is expressed in the key word of SPES, being on the one 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. SPES aims to open up spirituality as a vital source in social and economic life. The SPES Academy was founded to realize this goal by organizing conferences, workshops, action-oriented research and the publication of a series of cahiers.

In 2004 - in cooperation with Laszlo Zsolnai - Luk Bouckaert founded the *European SPES Forum* (<http://www.eurospes.be>), to realise the mission of SPES on an international level. The European SPES Forum has a focus on experience-based spirituality that succeeds in making a connection between day-to-day activities and the inner, pluriform quest for meaning. In 2005-2010 the Forum organized five international conferences and published six books on diverse topics including spirituality as a public good, frugality in economics, business spirituality in Europe-Asia perspective, the spiritual roots of European identity, and European literature and the ethics of leadership.

Luk Bouckaert is truly and wholly European. His "life project" addresses a contribution to the restoration and renewal of the *spiritual and moral foundations of European business and society*. We feel ourselves to be privileged that - with many other friends and colleagues - we can contribute to his noble efforts in nurturing the "soul" of Europe.

Antwerp and Budapest, 2011 January

Hendrik Opdebeeck and Laszlo Zsolnai



Professor Luk Bouckaert

A Selection of Luk Bouckaert's Publications in English

Books:

The Ethics of Participation. How to Share Work, Profit and Ownership. 1999. Dordrecht: Kluwer Academic publishers (co-editor with Albert Löhr)

Spirituality as a Public Good. 2007. Antwerp: Garant (co-editor with Laszlo Zsolnai)

Frugality. Rebalancing Material and Spiritual Values in Economic Life. 2008. Oxford-Bern: Peter Lang (co-editor with Hendrik Opdebeeck and Laszlo Zsolnai)

Imagine Europe. The Search for European Identity and Spirituality. 2009. Antwerp: Garant (co-editor with Jochanan Eynikel)

Respect and Economic Democracy. 2010. Antwerp: Garant (co-editor with Pasquale Arena)

Papers:

"Business and Community" in B. Harvey (ed.): *Business Ethics: A European Approach.* 1994. New York: Prentice-Hall. pp. 154-189.

"The Ethics of Interest: A Cultural-Historical Perspective" in H. Lange H., A. Löhr and H. Steinmann (eds.): *Working across Cultures. Ethical Perspectives for Intercultural Management.* 1998. Dordrecht: Kluwer, pp. 305-321.

"Mondragon, an Experiment in Economic Democracy" in N. Vasiljeviené and R. Jeurissen (eds.): *Business Ethics: From Theory to Practice.* 2002. Vilnius: Vilnius University. pp. 237-241.

"Reducing Opportunism through Moral Commitment: The Ethical Paradox of Management" In: Heidi von Weltzien Hoivik H. (ed.): *Moral Leadership in Action: Building and Sustaining Moral Competence in European Organizations.* 2002. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar. pp. 84-97.

"Humanity in Business" in J. Verstraeten and M. Duffy (eds.): *Sustaining Humanity: An Ethics Agenda for European Leaders Today.* 2004. Leuven: EEN Co-ordination Centre pp. 99-109.

"Spirituality and Economic Democracy: A Personalist Approach" in L. Zsolnai (ed.): *Spirituality and Ethics in Management.* 2004. Dordrecht: Kluwer. pp. 51-58.

"Dostoyevsky's Grand Inquisitor as a Mirror for the Ethics of Institutions" *Journal of Business Ethics* 2004 Vol. 53, Issues 1-2, pp. 29-37. (with Rita Ghesquière)

"The Ethics Management Paradox" *International Yearbook of Business Ethics.* 2006. Oxford: Peter Lang, pp. 199-202.

"When More Ethics Create Less Ethics – Some Further Clarifications on the Ethics Management Paradox" *International Yearbook of Business Ethics*. 2006. Oxford: Peter Lang, pp. 215-218.

"Spirituality in Economics" in Luk Bouckaert and Laszlo Zsolnai (eds.): *Spirituality as a Public Good*. Antwerp: Garant, pp. 11-24.

"Why Frugality" in Luk Bouckaert, Hendrik Opdebeeck and Laszlo Zsolnai (eds.): *Frugality. Rebalancing Material and Spiritual Values in Economic Life*. 2008. Oxford-Bern: Peter Lang, pp. 3-24. (co-author with Hendrik Opdebeeck and Laszlo Zsolnai)

"Rational versus Spiritual Concept of Frugality" in Luk Bouckaert, Hendrik Opdebeeck and Laszlo Zsolnai (eds.): *Frugality. Rebalancing Material and Spiritual Values in Economic Life*. 2008. Oxford-Bern: Peter Lang, pp. 27-44.

"Doing Business Ethics in Europe" in Luk Bouckaert and Jochanan Eynikel (eds.): *Imagine Europe*. 2009. Antwerp: Garant, pp. 79-88.

"Business Spirituality and the Common Good" in H-C. de Bettignies and Mike J. Thompson (eds.): *Leadership, Spirituality and the Common Good*. 2010. Antwerp: Garant. pp. 13-26.

"Faust and the Magic of Entrepreneurship" in Rita Ghesquière and Knut J. Ims (eds.): *Heroes and Anti-heroes. European Literature and the Ethics of Leadership*. 2010. Antwerp: Garant, pp. 13-34. (with Rita Ghesquière)

"Economic Democracy as a Social and Spiritual Utopia" in Luk Bouckaert and Pasquale Arena (eds.): *Respect and Economic Democracy* 2010. Antwerp: Garant, pp.13-28.