

A culture of peace requires respect for the contributions of all kinds of knowledge as well as sharing this knowledge in solidarity for a just equilibrium between people and nature.

How might we reconcile the interests of information 'donors' and information 'users'? For example, indigenous peoples, who have been targeted by researchers into human genetic diversity, have been particularly sensitive to this issue and have closely followed the recent work of UNESCO on the development of the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights.

The ethical imperative in this context is to formulate a concept of the public interest and take a balanced view of the needs of the users and communicators of information and of access-providers and content-providers the world over. Further, the corresponding practical problem is to identify and develop organizations capable of giving this concept effective voice.

In conclusion, we must promote an awareness of the complexities of these issues and we must develop multilateral capacities to deal with these challenges while guided by the principle of precaution.