

Ethics Education: A Crucial Component for Professionals in GeoWorld

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SUMMARY

The use of massive data, especially geographic data, has become commonplace for everyone, particularly for those who use applications related to global positioning system.

This trend has generated an environment in which geographic information has become an integral part of our daily lives and professional activities. However, we must reflect on whether we are leveraging this data effectively and ethically.

As cartographers and professionals in geographic data collection, we have the responsibility to ensure that the data we generate, and use fits the real demands. In addition to this, we must be critical about the data sources we use. Are we training people to make qualified decisions about which data should be used to solve the specific problems they face?

It is crucial to prepare future generations of professionals to address the ethical challenges that arise in the world of geographic data. This includes not only the appropriate use of information, but also the ability to respond ethically when faced with situations of data misuse. The professionals of the future must possess the ability to evaluate and select the most appropriate and ethical methods for obtaining, processing and visualizing geographic information.

It is relevant to note that a group of researchers has been working on the creation of a core content related to the teaching of ethics in the use of geographic data. This content is based on worldwide surveys that have been developed by the working group. The research has been conducted in both the Americas and Europe and seeks to provide a global view of the ethical challenges in this area.

In this paper, it is proposed to share the results of this research and to raise awareness of the urgent

relevance of including ethics in the use of geographic information in academic education. Furthermore, some suggestions will be presented on how to effectively integrate this thematic in professional education, with the aim of training specialists who can ethically and technically contribute to the geographical world, especially to adequately measure geographic indicators related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, to join efforts to reach them.

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