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Laura Westra, Janice Gray, Franz-Theo Gottwald (Eds.)

The Role of Integrity in the Governance of the Commons

Governance, Ecology, Law, Ethics

- No other legal work aimed at governance joins together scholars who base their work on ecological integrity or at least use it as a starting point
- Most of the contributing authors accept the necessity for principled action and critique strongly the status quo
- It is important to note that the agreement on principles and the forceful critique that ensues, coming from legal scholars, scientists including medical professionals, and economists

This book explores the impact of disintegrity on various aspects of governance, as the disregard of ecological conditions produce grave direct effects to human rights (to water or food) and, indirectly, also to human security in several ways. International legal regimes need to be reconsidered and perhaps re-interpreted, in order to correct these situations that affect the commons today. Some believe that our starting point should acknowledge the impact we already have on the natural world, and accept that we now live in the "anthropocene". Others think that the present emphasis on sustainable development needs to be re-defined. Finally, many believe that reconnecting with moral principles both in professional life and in governance in general represents a necessary first step.

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