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## Editorial Preface

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# Editorial Preface

Baha Abu-Shaqra, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Canada

Steven Umbrello, Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technologies, University of Turin, Turin, Italy

It is both our honour and privilege to assume the editorial duties of the *International Journal of Technoethics*. IJT is a testament to the vision of the founding editor-in-chief, Rocci Luppicini, who established the journal in 2010 as a platform for advancing state-of-the-art scholarship on moral and ethical aspects of technology in society.

In the ensuing decade since its inception, IJT has been the host of international scholars exploring issues ranging from e-learning and the digital divide to cybersecurity and human-machine hybridization.

IJT provided a platform for international collaboration on the creation/co-creation and dissemination of state-of-the-art theoretical and practical knowledge on the philosophy and ethics of technology, broadly construed. The journal emphasized scholarship that contextualizes technology use within its ethical and social dimensions which facilitates fair and efficient technology governance.

However, as the field of technoethics evolves, it naturally branches off into many various sub-fields and specialities. The question of IJT's relevance is consequentially brought into question, more specifically, as to how this far reaching journal can remain of use to scholars, policy-makers, and publics. The new editorial team of IJT firmly believes in that the journal must continue its leading role in defining technoethics and supporting its dissemination.

Nonetheless, as technoethics has come into its own as a dominant and research domain for scholars across various disciplines internationally, the scope and aim of the questions being addressed by technoethics scholars are likewise changing. New questions such as how to create actionable principles for designing and regulating artificial intelligence, whether and how we should introduce sex robots into society, the economic impact of ubiquitous nanotechnologies and how, if at all possible, international governance can be established to ensure safe futures are some of the questions that have become central to technoethics. To open IJT to these new questions and other emerging themes, the new IJT editorial team is placing renewed emphasis on attracting new and significant papers that address significant problems in technoethics, with less attention to speculative theory that has potential application to research in applied technoethics. The journal will also be applying higher standards in accepting papers for publication. The editors will be looking for results that are of significant interest to the many of the journal's readers, not solely narrowly specialized research. Accompanying these higher standards, the editors will substantially reduce the time it takes to review and publish submissions so that IJT will truly be a rapid publication journal.

The new editorial structure of IJT is a reflection of our committed objective in tackling this expanded scope. The office of the Editor-in-Chief has been expanded to include two co-Editors-in-Chief that reflect IJT's commitment to international dialogue and research dissemination, both at an editorial level as well as at the level of scholarship.

Steven Umbrello currently serves as the Managing Director at the Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technologies. He studied Philosophy of Science and Technology at the University of Toronto (Hons. BA), Epistemology, Ethics and Mind at the University of Edinburgh (MSc) and Science and Technology Studies at York University (MA) and the philosophy of the digital world at the University of Turin (PhD). Additionally, he served as a junior associate at the Global Catastrophic

Risk Institute from 2013 to 2018 where his primary research and authorship was on the ethics of atomically precise manufacturing (APM) and other nanotechnology. This research explores the extent and impacts that nanotechnology has on the environment, society as well as the military and surveillance. Similarly, he is currently an expert consultant at Ethical Intelligence Associates Ltd. where he provides consultancy for companies to gain a competitive edge by mitigating ethical risks and formulating custom tools and protocols to embed ethics into their practices that align with current ethical guidelines and company values.

Baha Abu-Shaqra has served as Associate Editor for IJT since September 2017. He holds a PhD in E-Business from the University of Ottawa Faculty of Engineering and an MA in Communication from the University of Ottawa Faculty of Arts, an MSc in Environment and Management from Royal Roads University, Victoria, BC, Canada, and a BJ (Bachelor of Journalism) from the University of King's College, Halifax, NS, Canada. His research focuses on ethical hacking technology risk assessment and knowledge management in society based on the work of Mario Bunge and Rocci Luppicini in technoethics and sociotechnology.

*Baha Abu-Shaqra*  
*Steven Umbrello*  
*Editors-in-Chief*  
*IJT*