The relation between ICT, sustainability and ethics

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Abstract: Issues about ICT, sustainability and ethics are very closely related. All three areas are interconnected, meaning that handling a problem belonging to one area leads most often to the need to discuss issues from the other two areas. The problems in each area are very similar in nature. Ready-made answers cannot be found and any solution proposed is easily contested. Not only ethics but also ICT and sustainability have a strong connection to values. With classical and modern philosophy as a foundation, and based on psychological research on ethical decision-making, it is suggested to focus on the way to take care of issues rather than on normative or ideological aspects. It appears that the method used to handle problems in these areas is of crucial importance; and this is also common to all of them.

Keywords: Communication, Decision-making, Environment, Ethics, Information technology, Moral philosophy, Psychology, Sustainability, Usability.