The Africa Reader on Information Ethics is based on papers presented at the First Africa Information Ethics conference that took place under the patronage of UNESCO, on 5–7 February 2007 in Pretoria, South Africa. It was co-organised by the University of Pretoria, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the International Centre for Information Ethics (ICIE).

The goal of the conference, which was attended by more than 80 scholars from Africa and other parts of the world, was to address the ethical challenges of the information society on the African continent, and to integrate leading African scholars into the international ethics debate. Thus started reflection on the impact of ICTs on Africa’s cultures, daily life and moral traditions, and on the extent to which it is changing opportunities for development in the economic, political and technological fields.

The editors trust that this publication will serve as a textbook for students, scholars and all who have an interest in, and want to make a contribution to, the development of an African information ethics.