



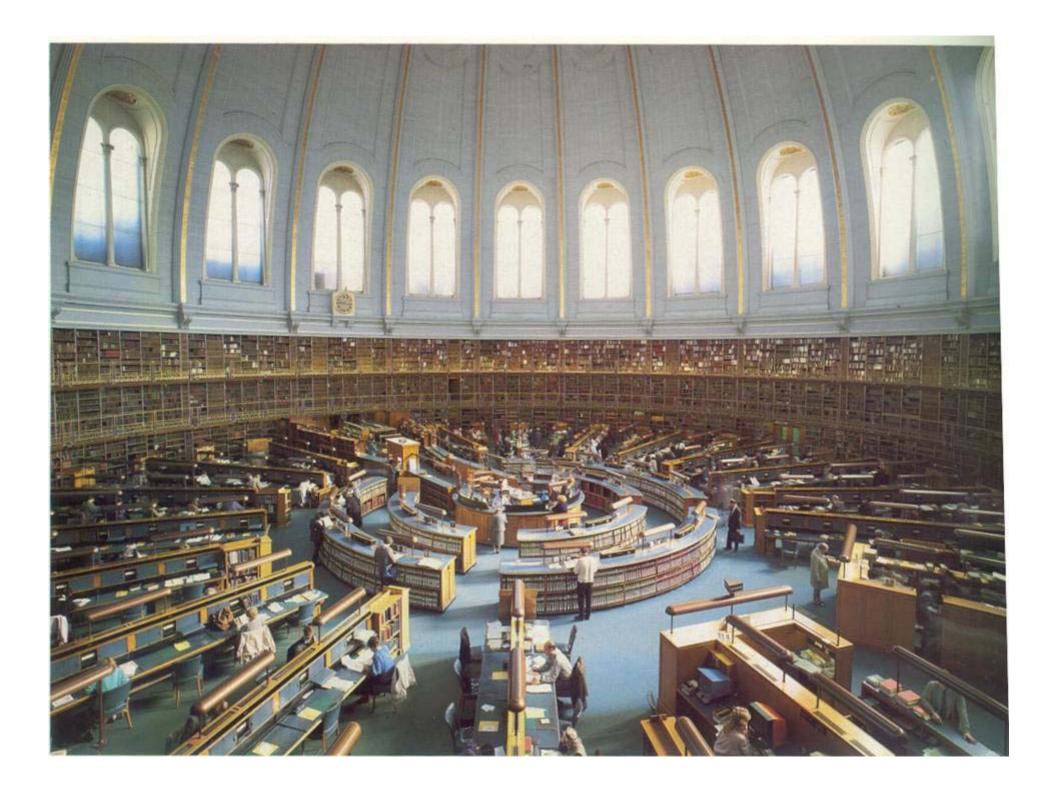
Why do have we have to wait for a global academic digital Library.....?

Be it:

- by discipline such as health related sciences library,
- that the definition of global (how global is global) is disputable: group of countries, EU, intercontinental, ...

Rik Verhaaren **Faculty of Medicine University of Ghent, Belgium**

IMHE General Conference OECD - Paris September 11-13, 2006











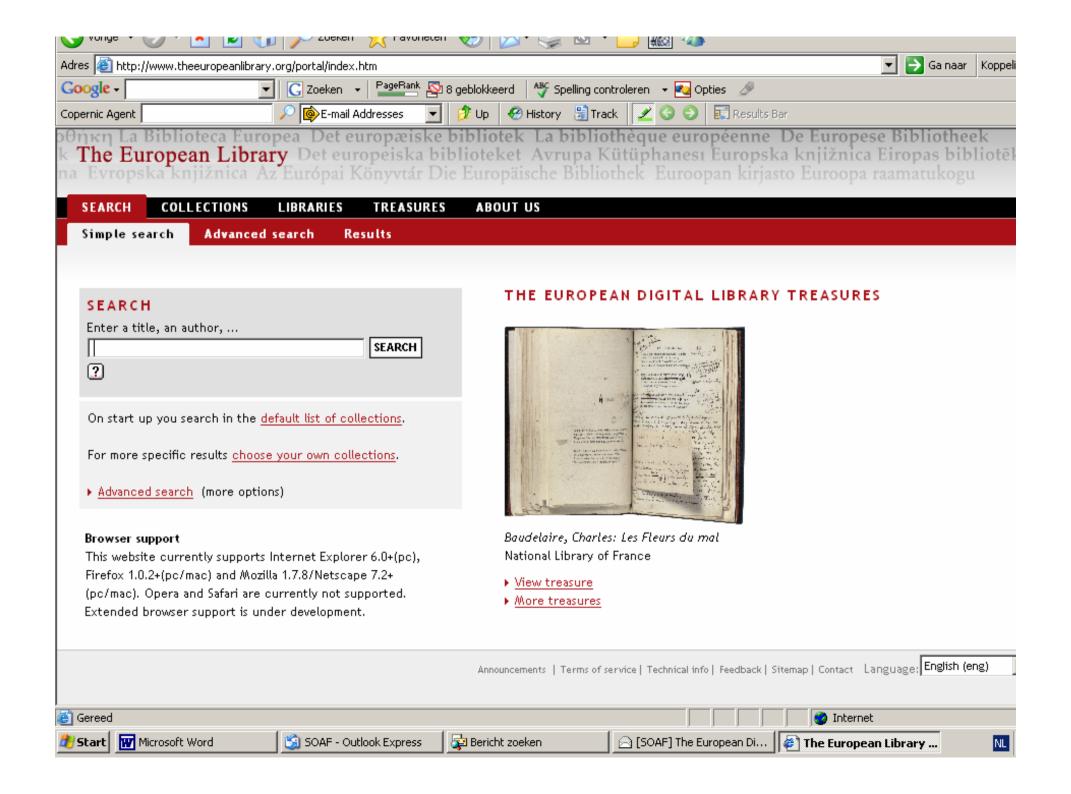


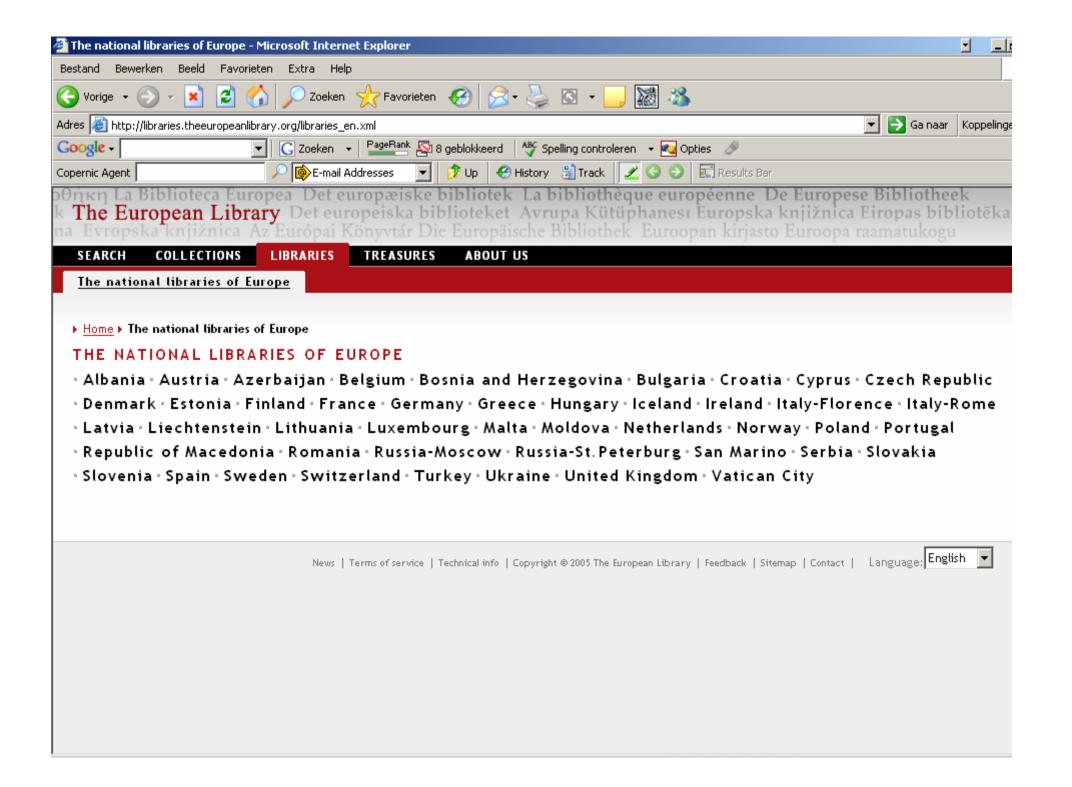
What would we like to have?

Full, unlimited access

ICT allows total globalisation of education and research

The use of the FULL POTENTIAL of ICT









Digital libraries for countries in way of development

PERI-INASP

(Program for the enhancement of Research information / International network for the availability of Scientific Publications)

EiFL

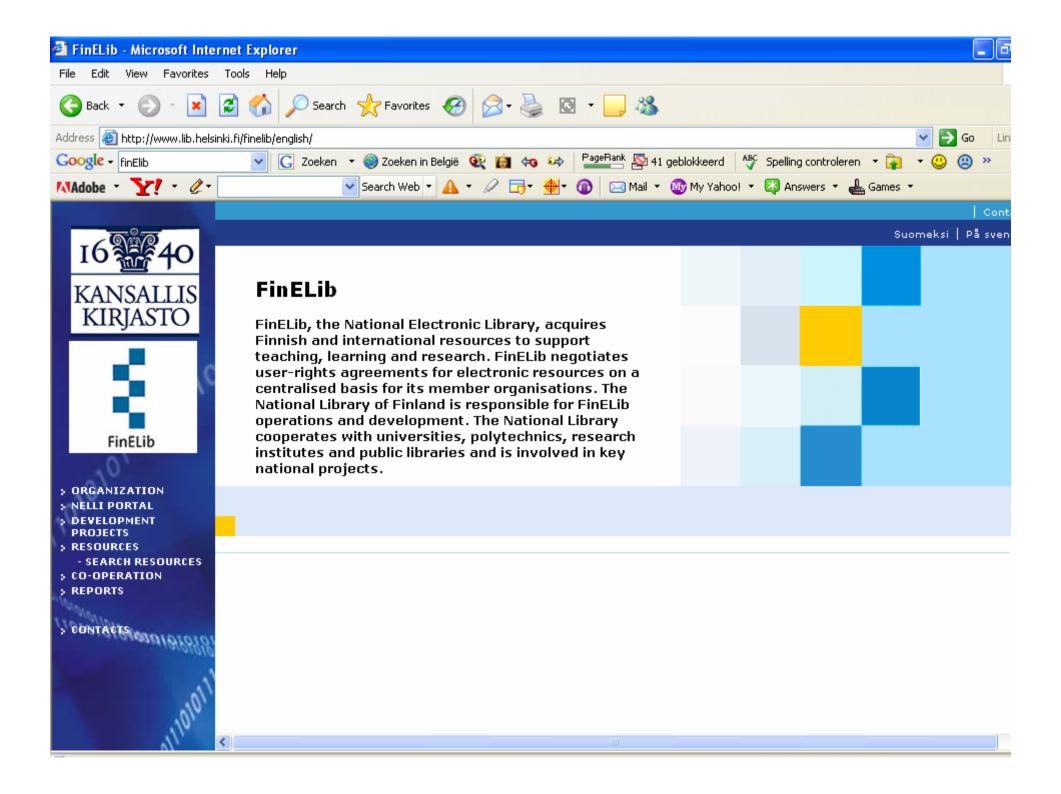
(Electronic information for Libraries)

NAS (National Academy of Science)

- Pakistan and Iraq Digital Libraries

HINARI-AGORA (Unesco)

Health InterNetwork Access to Research Initiative / Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture





Research – Learning and Education

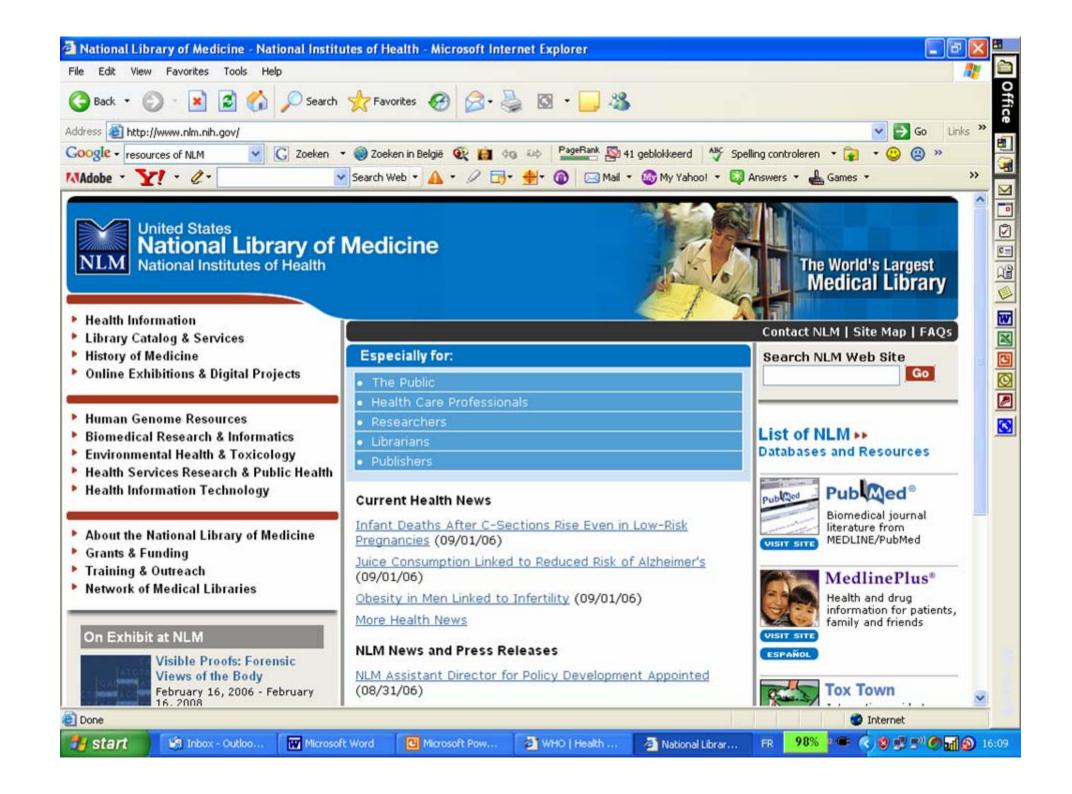
More than just JOURNALS

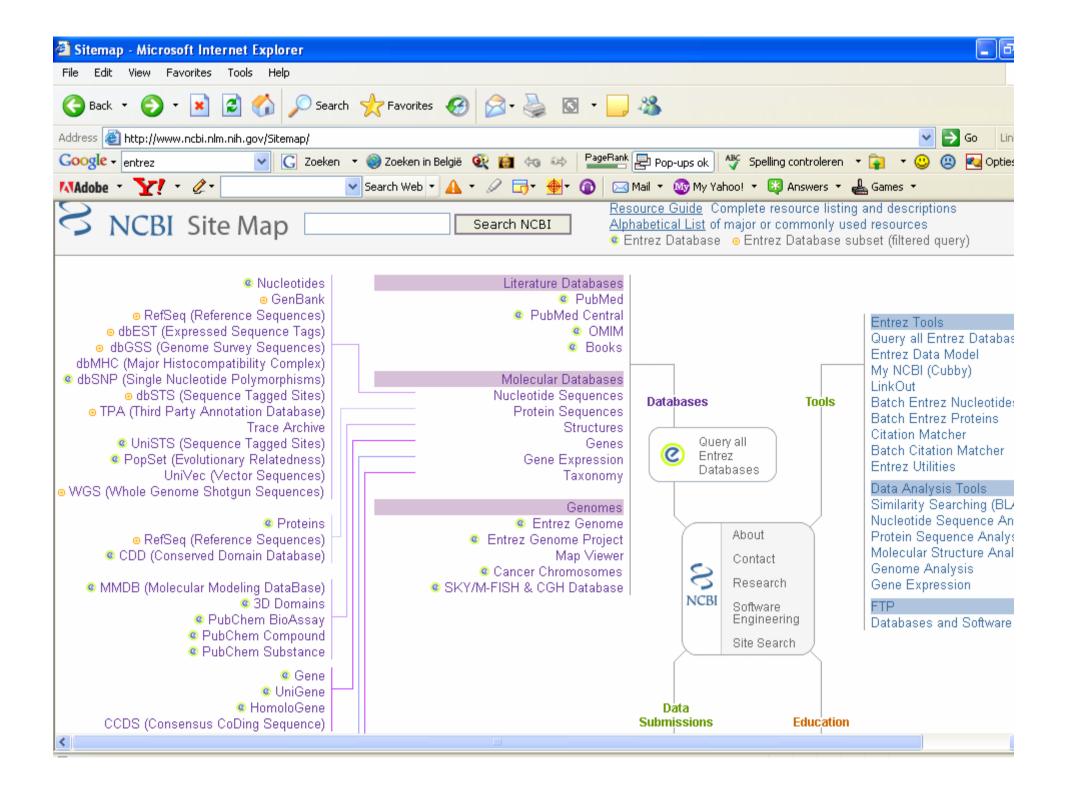
Scientific Publishing

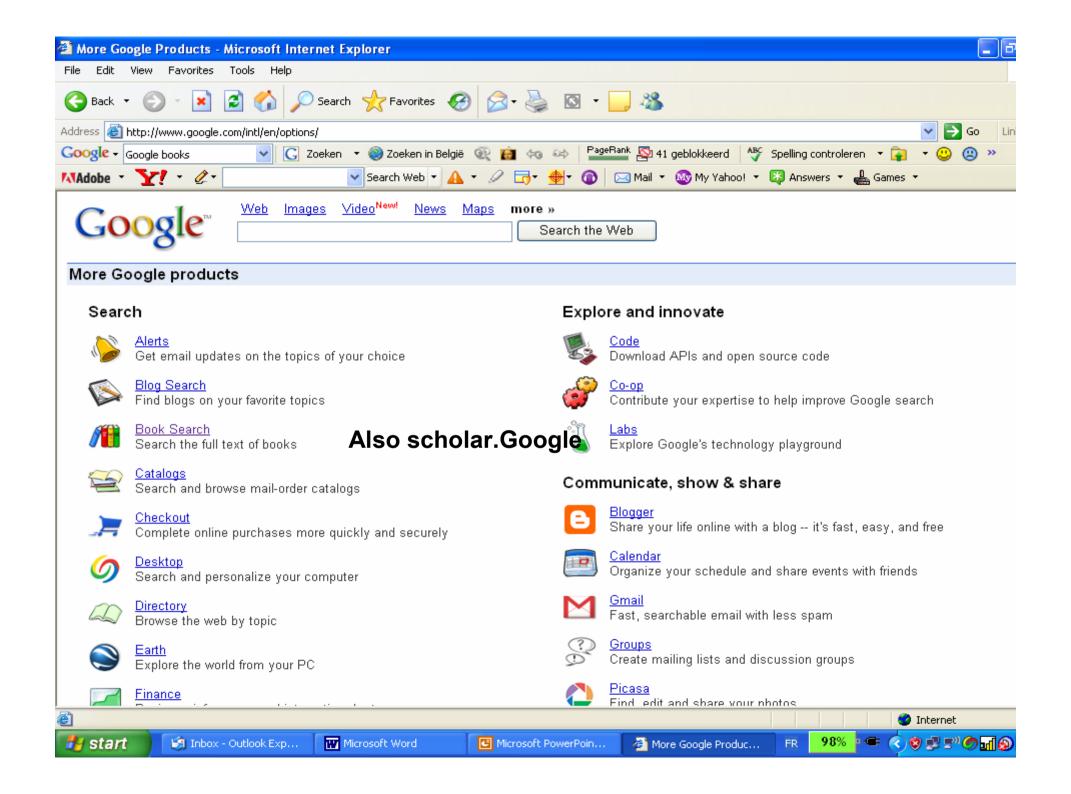
= one of the possible ways of "Scholarly communication"

Communication = more than publications

E-Books, databases, instititional depositories, educational materials, multimedia, ..









Why is the world not perfect? The problems and their consequences

"Price war"

Polarization libraries to ICT

Monopolistic strategies

Lack of global cooperation

Licenses, copyright, patents,

We do not use the full power of ICT: insufficient "capacity building"

In the actual situation there is no answer to the real needs and expectations of the academic and scientific society

Ethics (values and norms) in knowledge management are poorly defined



Is knowledge a universal (human) right?

Specific rights derived from the Universal declaration:

Housing, health, water, environment, finances, EDUCATION, KNOWLEDGE, Research, ???

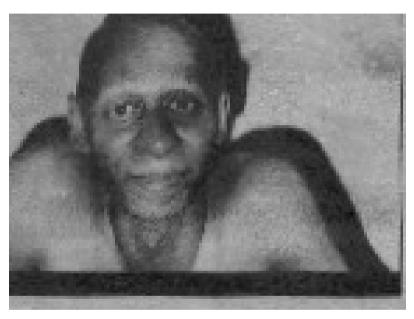


The informed humanity Strategic ethical objectives (1)

Ethics of the infosphere (COMEST/Unesco):

Although the right to education was clearly formulated, the COMEST did not go as far as to proclaim *access to information* as a basic human right

This man regarded it as a fundamental right



De Standaard (Belgian news paper, september 2, 2006) "This 43 year old psychologist and journalist, Guillermo Fariñas was on hungerstrike for seven months to obtain unlimited access to the internet. This access is limited in Cuba, where the authorities decide to whom and to what extent access to internet is given."



Also other people believe in the right on information

(without going to hunger strike)

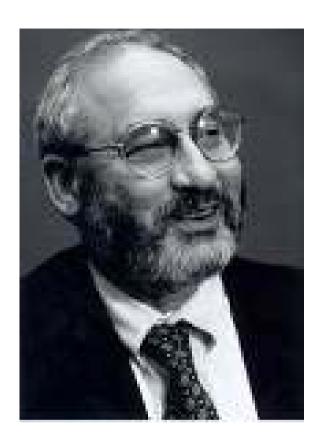
The COPE guidelines

The AMIA workgroup on ethical, legal and social issues PLOS-PLOM

OAI (open archive initiative)

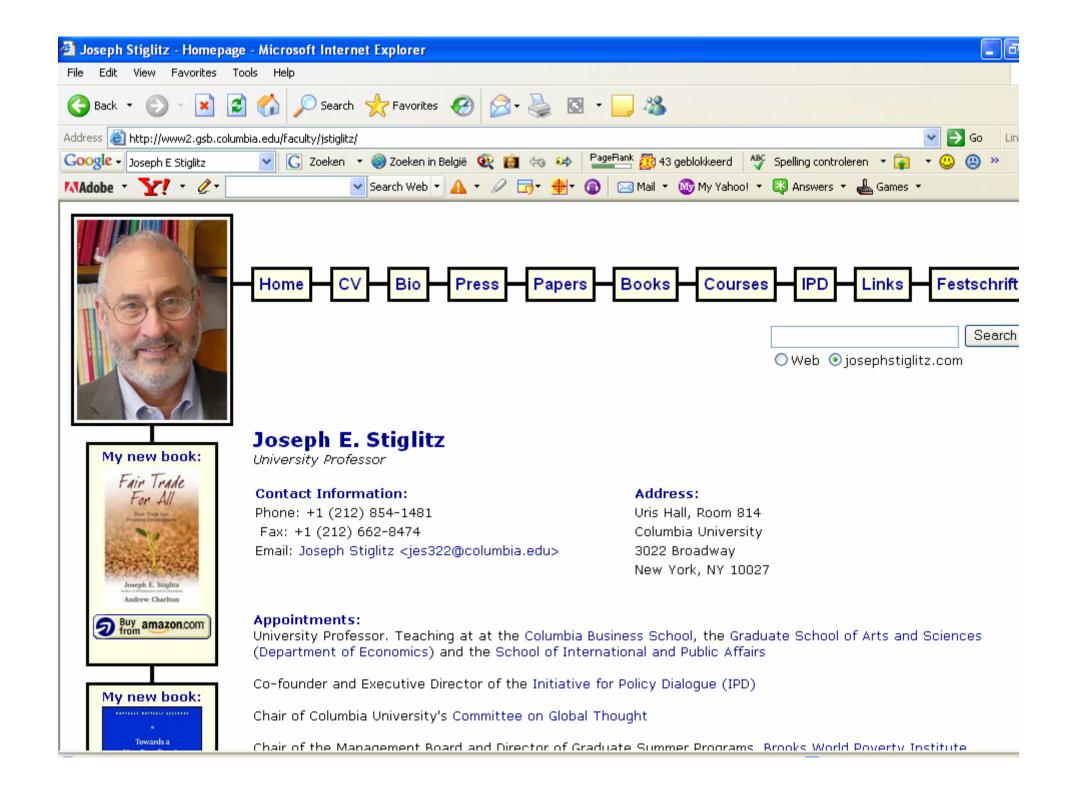
NHS recommendations on "Research governance Framework for Health and social care

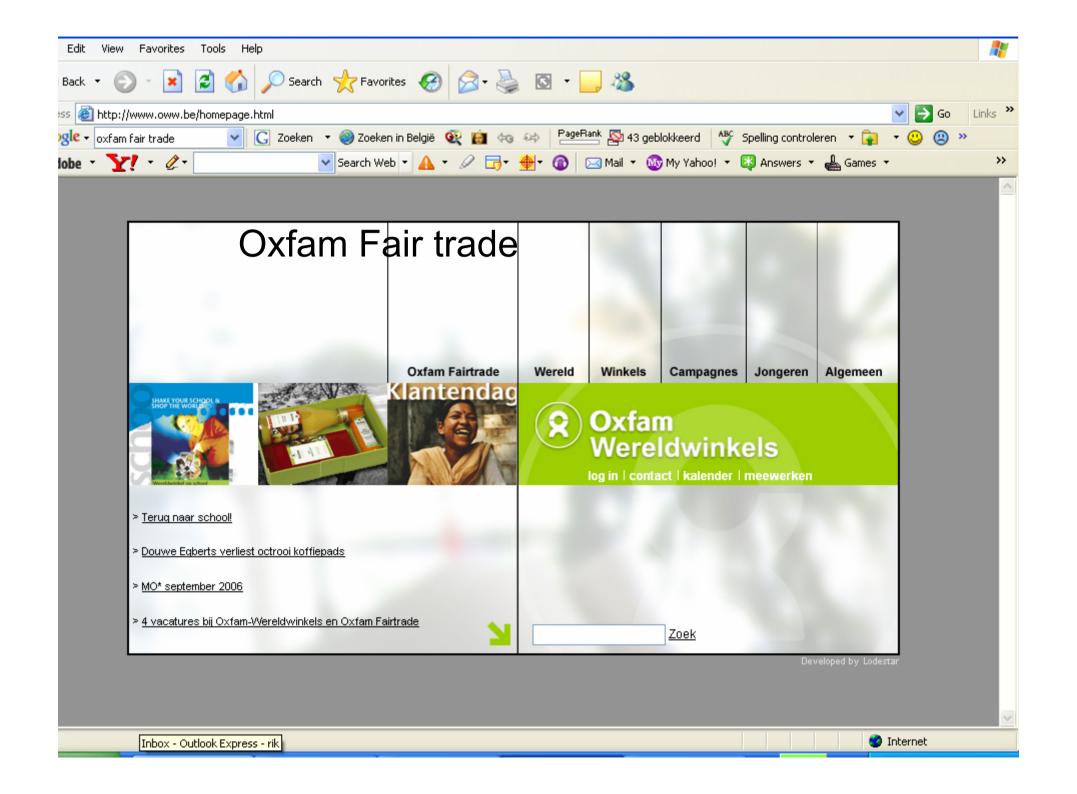
Joseph E. Stiglitz, former Vice-President World Bank And many others...



Knowledge is a global public good

Senior Vice-President and Chief-Economist 1997-2000 Professor at Colombia University





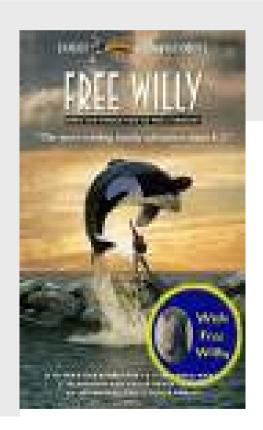


The informed humanity Strategic ethical objectives (2)

The ethics of corporate governance OECD principles IFAC code of ethics

"Equity, sustainability, honesty, transparancy and responsibility"

A humanistic view on economics: "aiming to free people"





From The Ultimate Field Guide to the U.S.

Small Is Beautiful: An Introduction to E. F. Schumacher (2/5/03)

By Noah Enelow

Few economists of the last fifty years have offered more striking alternatives to mainstream economic thinking than Ernest Friedrich Schumacher. (..)

Schumacher's career afforded him the ability to critique the economic system from within, and propose alternatives - not primarily through policy prescriptions, but through a radically different attitude towards life.

Several of Schumacher's ideas are particularly relevant to contemporary economic life. Perhaps the foremost among these is

the idea of decentralization.

Our challenge: combine this with globalisation Think global, act local



The informed humanity
Strategic ethical objectives (3)

Ethics of research and education

There exist well defined internal rules of conduct BUT:

Academic institutions lack well defined rules of conduct on relations with each other



Possible roads to "external code of ethics" for academic institutions

They are not prepared for real collaboration

Remedy?

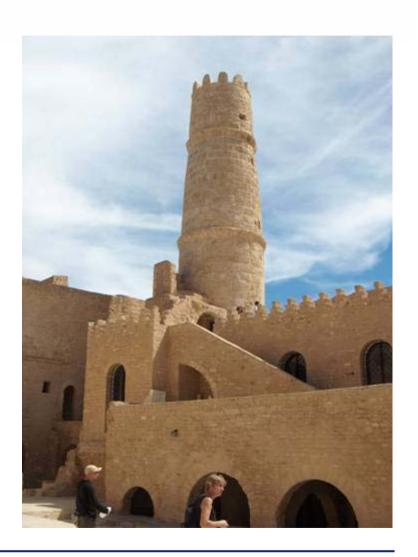
The principle of

OPTIMIZATION OF FUNCTIONS

Not maximization (trying to be the biggest)
Also in the field of documentary information



My University is a fortress





Roadmaps?

EXAMPLES:

Library of congress – NLM Already existing global information platforms

Europe (Asia): additional challenge of multilinguicity and multiculturality



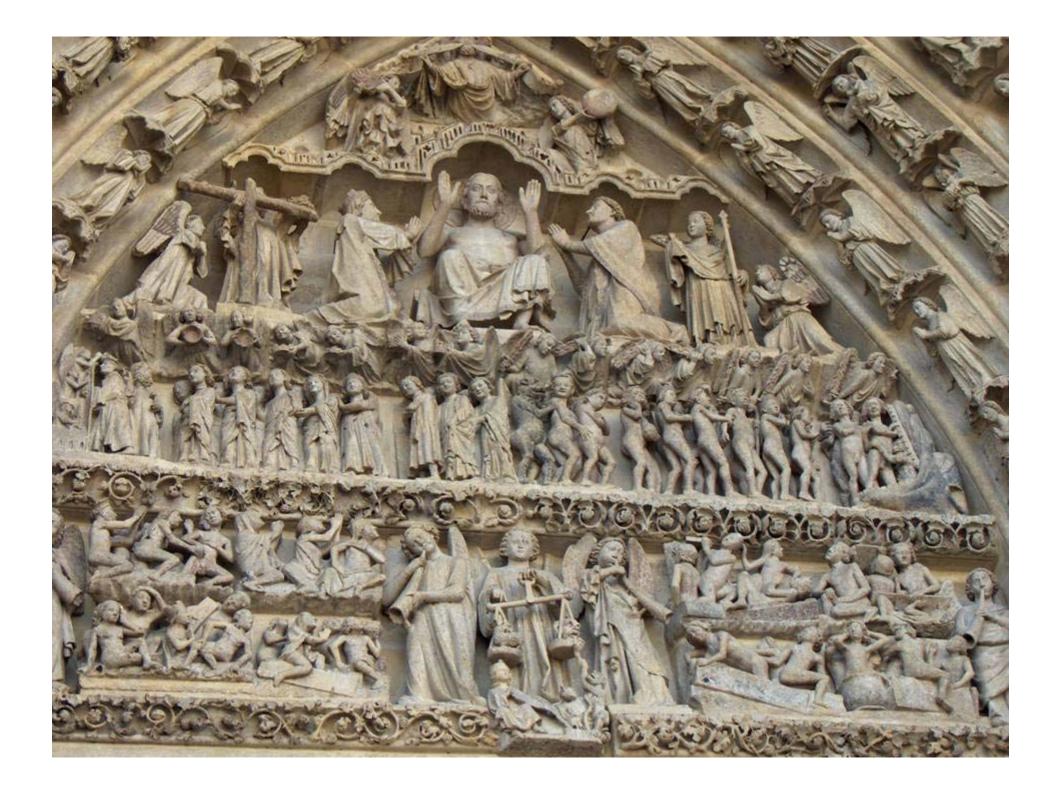
Concrete Policy following certain lines:

- Organization according to "knowledge pools"
- **•OPTIMIZATION:** binding education to information resources, binding knowledge to effective action
- Centralization of administrative structures (principle of subsidarity)
- Decentralization of functions
- Rules of good (fair) governance
- Balance between local needs and global technology
- Responsibility towards development and globalization



Who should take the initiative?

Who will guide this process?







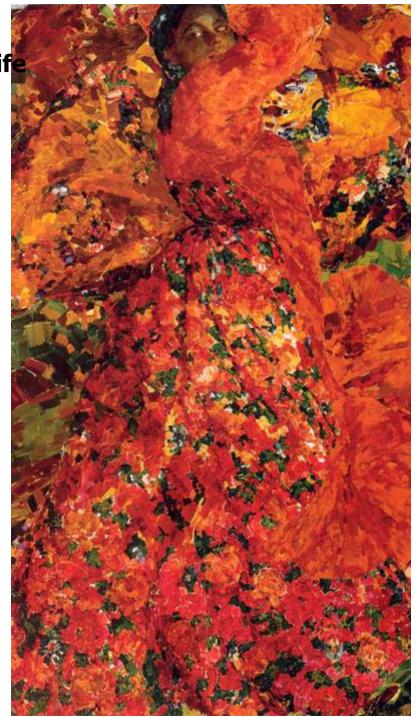
Major players ? (unlimited)

Academic Institutions Government Industry

Sponsors Society

Maljavin F.
Dancing farmer's wife

Let us use
the full power
of present time
technologies
to provide full, free
and easy Access to
knowledge to
everyone



The challenge to make something beatiful together

Enhance

Capacity building and global development



Knowledge

One of the precious things where...



Altman N. Composition with non-living materials, 1920

