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The role of geoethics in the framework of a sustainable development of georesources supply

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Geoethics consists of the researches and reflections on those values upon which are based the appropriate practices concerning human activities interesting Geosphere.
Since Geoethics deals with ethical, social and cultural implications of geological research, it also reflects the opportunity for any researcher to become more conscious of the social role and responsibilities in conducting activities related to the environmental management and geo-resources exploitation.
In this context Geoethics would also represent a concrete tool to sensitize and influence the awareness of society opening questions on the reliability and sustainability of the technological options presently proposed as a way to answer the huge global energy demand.
Aim of this note is to generally discuss the role of geoscientists in the framework of the development of a sustainable energy supply chain related to georesources exploitation, in terms of making ethical choices during each phase of the process, from the research of potential sources of energy to their feasible and reliable exploitation.
Since the beginning of energetic revolution, the well established energy supply chain technological models often force the research community to approach such system unconsciously accepting it, or conversely refusing it at all.
We would point out that make geoethical choices for georesources supply purposes should not be to prejudicially counteract the whole supply system, but rather to base the research activity on a solid background scheme of perspectives, principles and criteria which could make the people aware of the improvements and drawbacks of their work. This basically means to avoid the overexploitation of non-renewable resources, to fairly develop more efficient technological and green procedures abating the local and/or the diffuse pollution, or consciously and carelessly expose vulnerable elements like humans and infrastructures to natural and artificial geological hazards.
This process could be possible only if the connections between each part of the georesources supply chain is known, because at those points the ethical and sustainable research actions must be grafted.
Several geoethical processes are already ongoing, therefore it could be useful to analyze them in terms of what can we learn and export to improve a more fair and sustainable global georesources supply model, as well as to mitigate such problems related to non-geoethical but already established processes.