

Association of Catholic Entrepreneurs BKU, Germany

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Faith based entrepreneurs - stronger together

1. BKU Germany - facts & ideas
2. New role of faith based entrepreneurs

**BKU board member Stephan Werhahn Ph.D. at
World Council of Churches, Geneva January 22nd, 2018**

1. BKU



- non-profit association, ca 1200 Christian business executives, founded in 1949 in Cologne/Germany.
- Mission: Christian ethics into the business community, economic expertise into churches, both into society.
- Christian Social Thought + Social Market Economy

Main ideas of BKU are :



- Christian entrepreneur responsible for own enterprise, it's employees, for a free, democratic State, Social Market Economy, Human Rights, Fair Trade, Global Peace
- Entrepreneurship = noble vocation
- wealth for all persons, sustainability of entire planet
- key idea Christian Subsidiarity Principle:
„lowest level first – bottom up approach“

2. new role of faith based entrepreneurs (FBE)

- FBE have an integral view of the local civil society as well as global ecology and prefer a sustainable business development
- FBE global resources + environment Common Good:
**the planet is our HOME,
not a hotel**
- FBE ensure fair access
to work for men and women



- FBE know: technical progress may be a good solution
i.e.
on-line shops,
decentral blockchain
technology for money
transfers, mail for
letters, social media
for marketing, etc
- FBE help the
churches to
better understand the modern world





- FBE ensure efficient market economic order
- FBE respect regulatory framework for open markets, fair trade only with social responsibility,
- Christian **Subsidiarity Principle** in civil society:
persons are best self motivated, best express their creativity, inventiveness in level of responsibility to serve their needs („practical wisdom“)



- **ethics at individual + at institutional levels**
i.e. Citizen, Community, Regions, States, EU, UN
- **'human ethics and faith'**
rooted in minds & hearts of people as well as
in the structures and institutions of society, the States, the EU and international UN structures.



**Thank you for your kind
attention**