



# MUSLIM, CHRISTIAN, AND JEWISH VIEWS ON THE CREATION OF WEALTH

April 23 and 24, 2007

Hesburgh Center Auditorium  
University of Notre Dame

Twelve years ago the Interfaith Declaration of International Business Ethics was developed and promulgated by a group of distinguished Muslim, Christian, and Jewish leaders from business, banking, academia, and religious institutions in order to promote common business values in harmony with their religious teachings. Taking this Declaration as a starting point, the conference examines its impact and explores major challenges these faith traditions are facing in the global economy.

The particular focus is on the creation of wealth for three reasons: First, the process of wealth creation in the last 50 years has showed both winners and losers, which poses the question why some nations are so rich and some so poor. Second, the worldwide discussion about “corporate social responsibility” or CSR seems to overlook the question how companies can and should create genuine wealth. Third, the firm’s objective of “maximizing shareholder value” or “adding value” is widely assumed without critical examination in economic and ethical terms. Hence the question what wealth creation really means will be discussed from these multiple viewpoints.

## ■ OPENING PERSPECTIVES

### *Historical record: Why some nations are so rich and some so poor*

Benjamin Friedman, William Joseph Maier Professor of Economics, Harvard University

### *Interfaith Declaration of International Business Ethics: 12-year experiences and new challenges*

Simon Webley, Institute of Business Ethics, London

### *Conceptual clarifications of the creation of wealth*

Georges Enderle, Ryan Professor of International Business Ethics, University of Notre Dame

### *Business examples of genuine creators of wealth: Medtronic Inc., Accion International, Deloitte & Touche*

Patrick E. Murphy, Smith Co-Director, Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide, University of Notre Dame, convenor

## ■ CONCEPTS, MOTIVATIONS, AND CHALLENGES OF THE CREATION OF WEALTH

### *from a Muslim perspective*

Monzer Kahf, Consultant/Trainer/Lecturer, Islamic Banking, Finance, and Economics,  
Westminster, California  
Nasser Elahi, Director of the Center for Economic Studies, Mofid University in Qom, Iran

### *from a Christian perspective*

David W. Miller, Executive Director, Yale Center for Faith and Culture, Yale University  
Todd D. Whitmore, Associate Professor of Theology, University of Notre Dame

### *from a Jewish perspective*

Moses L. Pava, Alvin Einbender Chair in Business Ethics, Yeshiva University  
Rabbi Michael A. Signer, Abrams Professor, University of Notre Dame

## ■ MOVING TOWARD A COMMON GROUND

### *in pluralistic societies*

Paul J. Weithman, Professor of Philosophy, University of Notre Dame

### *facing conflicting paradigms of economics*

Amitava K. Dutt, Professor of Economics, University of Notre Dame

### *redefining corporate responsibilities*

Ernst Ligteringen, CEO, Global Reporting Initiative, Amsterdam  
Robert Audi, Gallo Professor of Ethics, University of Notre Dame

### *challenging leaders in business, government, and civil society*

Joanne Ciulla, Coston Family Chair in Leadership and Ethics, University of Richmond  
R. Scott Appleby, Regan Director of the Kroc Institute, University of Notre Dame

*For more information and to register, please visit*

[conference website]

or contact Georges Enderle at (574) 631-5595 or [genderle@nd.edu](mailto:genderle@nd.edu)

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