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What Values Does Science Hold? BfR Knowledge Dialogue on Ethics in Research and Society

Science and technology are the essential foundation of modern industrial civilization, ensuring social prosperity. At the same time, they are often perceived by the public as responsible for real or perceived risks, including microplastics, plasticizers, glyphosate, genetic engineering, and antibiotic residues.

What role do moral considerations play in this context? What are the values of science? Can ethics and knowledge go together?

“Knowledge and values - significance for science and society” is the topic of the 3rd BfR Knowledge Dialogue on 4 November 2024 at 4 pm in Berlin's Magnus-Haus. The event will feature presentations on various aspects of the topic, concluding with a panel discussion.

Link to the programme

- https://www.bfr-akademie.de/media/wysiwyg/2024/bwd_2024/Programm.pdf

“Manipulative and unjust - ethical aspects of health education” is the title of the lecture by Professor Julika Loss (Robert Koch Institute, Berlin). Professor Gerhard Schurz (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf) will discuss “Value neutrality and value commitment in the sciences”, and Professor Gerd Gigerenzer (Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin) will address the question “Are we risk-competent?” Jan-Martin Wiarda will moderate the event.

The BfR Knowledge Dialogue is part of Berlin Science Week 2024. Simultaneous German-English interpretation and livestreaming will be available. Admission is free, but registration is required.

About the BfR

The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) is a scientifically independent institution within the portfolio of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) in Germany. The BfR advises the Federal Government and the States ('Laender') on questions of food, chemicals and product safety. The BfR conducts independent research on topics that are closely linked to its assessment tasks.

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