



Workshop “Moral Technologies”

Introduction

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Agenda

09.00 – 09.30	Introduction (Markus Christen)
09.30 – 11.00	2 input talks: Mark Alfano & Peter Schaber
11.00 – 11.30	Break
11.30 – 13.00	2 input talks: Darcia Narvaez & Giuseppe Ugazio
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.30	2 input talks: Jeroen van den Hoven & Roberto Weber
15.30 – 16.00	Break
16.00 – 17.30	Brainstorming 2015 conference “moral technologies”
18.00	Dinner with participants



Topic of the Workshop

Starting point: Many empirical disciplines like sociology, psychology, neuroscience, economics and anthropology contribute to an increasing knowledge on the foundations, mechanisms and conditions of human moral behavior in various social contexts.

This knowledge provides the basis for “**moral technologies**” – interventions with the aim to improve moral dispositions, decision making and behavior in a non-explicit way; i.e. that do not target deliberation itself, but underlying neurological or psychological processes, social contexts, and technological mediators of human social interaction.

This raises the **ethical problem**, whether and under which circumstances it is justified to use moral technologies given the fact that modern societies have to solve many difficult problems of social coordination to avoid moral hazards, which may be an incentive to apply such technologies.



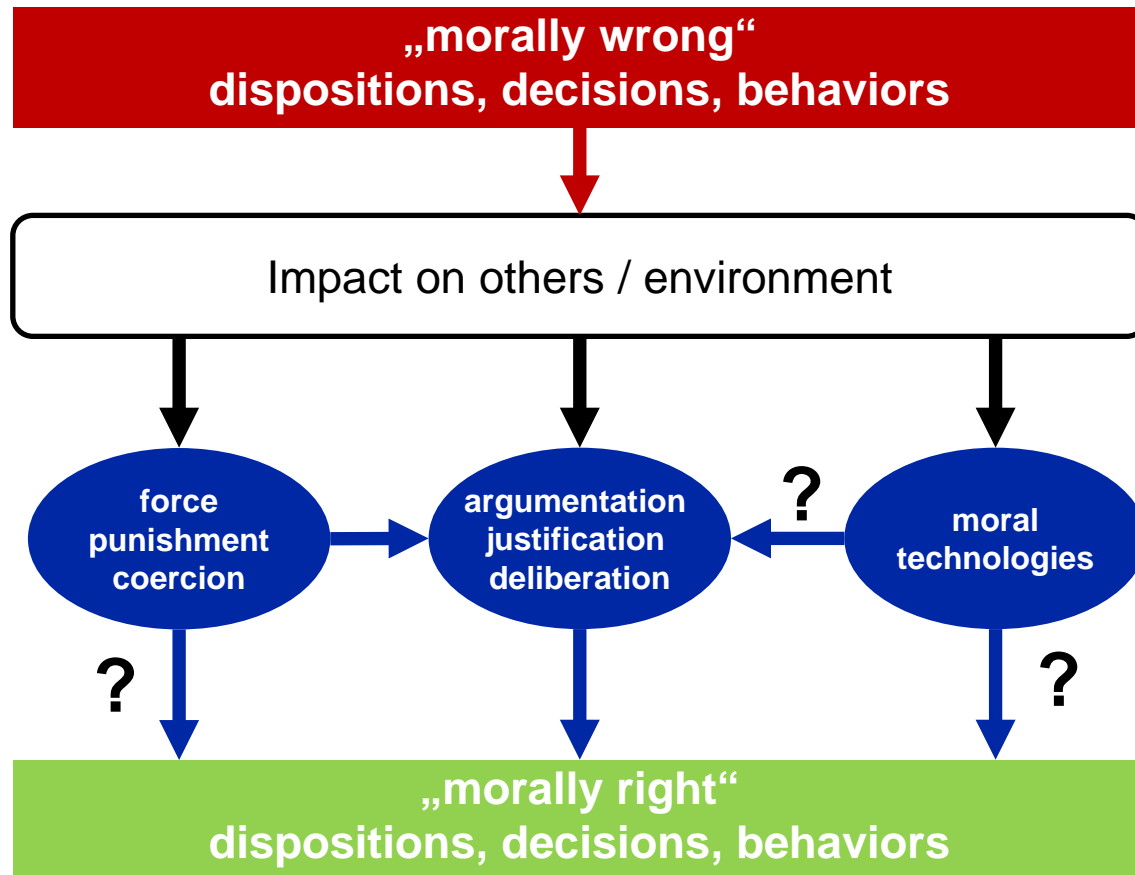
Goal of the Workshop

- **Outline the structure of the ethical (and empirical) problems of moral technologies.**
- **Create an inventory of issues that are associated with moral technologies.**
- **Draft the framework of an international conference (questions, speakers) in 2015 on this topic (with the members of this workshop as organizing committee).**

Maybe: Write a joint paper on these issues (the results of the workshop) as a programmatic starting point for this conference.



Suggesting a draft of the structure of the problem





Suggesting potential issue classes

Objectives of MTs:	Dispositions, virtues, behaviors, decisions, ...
Targets of MTs:	Genes, ion channels, brain regions, psychological constructs, access to environment, ...
Tools of MTs:	Pharmacological active substances, implants, parenting practices, “nudging”, computer/smartphone apps, ...
Fields of application:	Parenting, Schools, Companies, Prisons, Favelas, ...
Moral content of MTs:	Values, ten commandments, human rights, ...



Suggesting potential questions for the conference

Are context-sensible moral technologies possible?

To what extent can it be justified to bypass deliberation for improving moral decision making?

Does the aim of “improving moral behavior” involve the danger of hiding ethical risks?

Do moral technologies endanger ethical plurality?