# ENGINEERING ETHICS: MORAL AUTONOMY

Understanding Ethical Self-Governance

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Date: 16.05.2025

# Introduction to Moral Autonomy

- Definition: Self-governing or self-determining actions in ethical decisions
- Key Focus: Acting independently without external distortion
- Application: Present in moral, ethical, and political philosophy

### Core Concept

#### Moral Autonomy:

- Ability to decide right or wrong independently
- Enhances self-determination
- Guides personal conduct beyond external influences

# Skills Needed for Moral Autonomy

- Relating problems to law, economics, religion
- Clarifying and understanding opposing arguments
- Suggesting solutions based on facts
- Viewing problems from multiple perspectives
- Tolerance in giving moral judgments

# Skill 1 – Interdisciplinary Thinking

- Relate problems to existing laws and principles
- Differentiate moral reasons from legal or economic reasoning

### Skill 2 – Analytical Clarity

- Clarify arguments against moral standards
- Judge differences and similarities in ethical concerns

#### Skill 3 - Fact-Based Solutions

- Suggest consistent and unbiased solutions
- Base decisions on truths and complete aspects

# Skill 4 – Imaginative Perspective

- Understand issues from all viewpoints
- Develop alternative solutions with empathy

### Skill 5 - Tolerant Judgement

- Provide detailed reasoning behind decisions
- Remain impartial and explain both actions done and those recommended

# Improving Moral Autonomy

- Cultivate patience, interest, and humanity
- Be strict with "don'ts," liberal with "dos"
- Practice kindness and ethical consistency

# Supporting Ethical Reasoning

- Use of ethical language to support or oppose views
- Importance of tolerance, especially in conflicts
- Maintain moral honesty and understand human behavior

#### Conclusion

- Moral autonomy fosters ethical independence
- Essential for engineers facing complex decisions
- Continuous self-improvement is key to moral integrity