Teaching on the ethical use of geographic information in America

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SUMMARY

In recent times, geographic information, promoted by exposure during the COVID-19 pandemic, has gained great visibility and its use has been expanded strongly. Geographical data and the use of geomatic tools provided by geographic information systems (GIS) are now playing a prominent role in facing this pandemic. So this is an strategic moment to promote the relevance of educating in ethic aspects of the use of geographic information.

Within the framework of the United Nations Academic Network for the Americas for the Global Management of Geographic Information, we are conducting research about different levels of teaching ethics in the use of geographic data in the Americas. Because of this, we have carried out a survey that has more than 80 responses. Fact that allows us to make a first consideration on the situation regarding teaching ethics in geographic data in our countries.

From the primary analysis of the responses received, it can be concluded that there is a high interest and concern for including these topics on the academic agenda. Even though this is a first approach to the analysis, it allows us to open the doors to community reflection on the need to include teaching ethical use of geographic information in the academic curricula.