

Åke Elden, PhD

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Research Profile

My research examines how artificial intelligence and technological systems reorganise the conditions of human judgment, agency, responsibility, formation, and institutional answerability. Working across philosophy of technology, social epistemology, theological anthropology, and institutional theory, I develop conceptual accounts of epistemic automation, predictive mediation, the externalisation of judgment, and the transformation of institutional agency.

Research Areas

Philosophy of technology; philosophy of artificial intelligence; social epistemology; philosophy of agency and responsibility; theological anthropology; institutional theory; algorithmic governance.

Selected Publications

Published

Elden, Å. 2026. "When Responsibility Fails to Arise: Institutional Conditions of Action in Algorithmic Governance." *AI and Ethics* 6: 341. DOI: 10.1007/s43681-026-01204-1.

Elden, Å. 2026. "The Diffuse Void: Responsibility Under Conditions of Predictive Institutional Mediation." *AI and Ethics*. DOI: 10.1007/s43681-026-01095-2.

Elden, Å. 2026. "Epistemic Automation and the Deformation of the Human." *Religions* 17: 515.

Elden, Å. 2026. "Micro-Discipline: A Conceptual Model of Behavioural Regulation and Character Formation." *Behavioral Sciences* 16: 879.

Forthcoming

Elden, Å. "The Gifted Subject: Kenosis, Phenomenology, and the Constitution of Responsive Agency." *Studia Theologica*. DOI: 10.1080/0039338X.2026.2691693.

Elden, Å. "From Phronesis to Pronoia: Algorithmic Mediation and the Theological Displacement of Practical Wisdom." *Studies in Christian Ethics*.

Elden, Å. "Creaturehood Under Conditions of Optimization: AI and the Externalization of Moral Formation." *Studies in Christian Ethics*.

Elden, Å. "Algorithmic Habitus and the Invisible Mission: Sanctification as the Re-Ordering of Desire." *New Blackfriars*.

Elden, Å. "Algorithmic Formation and the Mimetic Self." *Theology and Science*.

Selected Current Manuscripts

When Institutions Cannot Answer: Two Routes to AI-Mediated Unanswerability

Institutional non-constitution, cognitive unoccupiability, and the limits of answerability.

Post-Agential Institutions: How Algorithmic Mediation Dissolves Institutional Agency

How distributed technological mediation undermines the constitutive conditions of institutional action.

Epistemic Infrastructure and Human Judgment Formation

AI as a background structure shaping attention, evidence, memory, and epistemic authority.

When Death Stops Ending

AI-mediated posthumous systems and the technological transformation of mortality and finality.

Academic Formation**PhD in Psychology**

UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Postdoctoral Research and Marie Curie Fellowship

Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg

MSc in Behavioural Science

Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Current Research Programme**Technological Systems as Anthropological Environments**

The programme investigates how technological infrastructures increasingly shape the background conditions under which persons and institutions think, judge, act, become responsible, and enter relations of answerability.