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MANUSCRIPT INFORMATION PAGE Manuscript title The role of ethical leadership on employees' behaviours, performance and commitment to the organisation Manuscript abstract Background: The rapid competition among companies puts pressure on managers to maintain their business competitive advantage. However, due to the massive competition and economic downturn during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, financial scandals occurred at a much higher rate than in the past. This phenomenon has caused organisational leaders to shift their focus from material concerns to ethical leadership contexts in the workplace. It has a strong correlation with employee attitudes. **Objectives**: This research examined the effects of ethical leadership on work engagement and knowledge sharing, which influence job performance and commitment among employees to the organisations. Method: A survey was conducted with 670 Indonesian' government employees, and Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) was used to validate the research framework. **Results:** The results showed that ethical leadership significantly affects employees' work engagement and knowledge-sharing, which further enhances employees' job performance and commitment to organisations. Furthermore, the mediator variables partially mediate the relationship between ethical leadership and outcome variables (e.g., employees' job performance and organisational commitment). **Conclusion:** The leaders of public organisations should address moral and rational concerns to improve service quality in society. Additionally, it should be centred on purifying employees' and organisations leaders ethical concerns and communication patterns to promote society's service quality. Contribution: The research outcomes provide insight into the fact that leadership style plays an important role in employees' attitudes and commitment. Hence, the organisation leaders should apply it to enhance employees commitment to organisations and performance. Manuscript keywords Ethical leadership; work engagement; knowledge sharing; employees' job performance; organisation commitment Number of authors 5 Acknowledgements The author would like to express her gratitude to the Universitas Muslim Indonesia president, with whom he had impressive experience during field research. They were kindly willing to share their knowledge about their views of their beliefs and practices. The author would also like to express deep gratitude to members of president of Universitas Muslim Indonesia and Universitas Muhammadiyah Palopo, who openly answered his questions and shared their opinions within contextual understanding. **Competing interests** The authors declare that they have no financial or personal relationships that may have inappropriately influenced them in writing this article Author(s) contributions S.S. conceived of the presented idea, developed the theory, writing and editing and verified the analytical methods. R.R. contributed to the design and implementation of the research. S.R. Both authors discussed the results and contributed to the final manuscript. J.J. did problem formulation, data collection and review of the literature. R.A.N. did supervision, review and editing the final of manuscript. **Funding Information** The author(s) received no financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this art Data availability statement Data sharing applies to this article as new data were created or analysed in this study. Disclaimer The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of any affiliated agency or the author. **Ethical consideration Statement** Ethical clearance has been provided by the School Research Committee in view of the (include number)

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