



SEMINAR

Business, human rights and Access to justice

20 October 2009 / Warsaw

INTRODUCTION (10:00 – 10:30)

Outline of the problem and presentation of ICJ research project.

Overview of the main problems in access to justice for victims of human rights abuses involving corporations.

Speakers:

Katarzyna Szymielewicz / Carlos Lopez (ICJ) /introduction/

Stanisław Trociuk (Ombudsman Office)

Prosecutor Sławomir Górnicki (Country Prosecution)

PANEL I (10:35-11:45)

How can the rule of the adversary trial system, the rule of the impartiality of the judge and the right to a fair trial (in particular, the need to protect the weaker party in the proceedings) be reconciled?

Speakers:

Judge Katarzyna Gonera (Supreme Court)

Judge Anna Czapracka (State School for Prosecution and Judiciary)

Łukasz Bojarski (Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights)

Coffee break (11:45-12:00)

PANEL II (12:00 – 13:00)

Problems with pursuing criminal liability of companies under Polish law

Speakers:

Artur Pietryka (Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights)

Barbara Nita (Jagiellonian University / Constitutional Tribunal)

Sędzia SN Stanisław Zabłocki (Supreme Court)

Lunch (13:00 -13:45)

PANEL III (13:45-15:00)

Like David v. Goliath? : Barriers in establishing liability of corporations and/or their management board members/ evidentiary problems (supply chains, delegation of responsibility, pressures on witnesses, protection of whistle-blowers)

Speakers:

Maciej Bernatt (Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights)

Jacek Okoń (PIP)

Anna Wojciechowska – Nowak (Batory Foundation)

Lech Obara / Joanna Wysocka (Lecha Obara law firm)

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS (15:00 – 15:30)

Prof. Andrzej Rzepliński (Constitutional Tribunal)

Minister Jacek Czaja (Ministry of Justice)

Adam Bodnar (Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights)