

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: FROM NATIONAL PRACTICE TO INTERNATIONAL BINDING STANDARDS

Wednesday, 12 October 2022 , 1:30 pm-6:30 pm CEST

In Geneva, Switzerland (CCV) & Online via Zoom

PROGRAM

13:30 – 13:45 Welcome

- **Hajo Lanz**, Director, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva Office
- **Sam Zarifi**, Secretary General, International Commission of Jurists

13:45 - 14:00 Keynote Speech

- **Anousheh Karvar**, Representative of France to the International Labour Organization (ILO)

14:00 – 14:55 Panel 1: National developments

- **“Lessons from the implementation of France’s law on due diligence”**, **François Gave**, Special representative for Corporate Social Responsibility and Social Dimension of Globalisation, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France
- **“The contributions of Germany’s law on due diligence in supply chains”**, **Carsten Stender**, Director-General, European and International Employment and Social Policy, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Germany
- **“Thailand’s reporting frameworks and beyond”**, **Nareeluc Pairchaiyapoom**, Director of International Human Rights Division, Department of Rights and Liberties Protection, Ministry of Justice, Thailand

Comments by Robert Grabosch, LL.M., Partner Schweizer Legal, Germany & **Monica Tepfer**, Legal Advisor, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) **and discussion**

Moderator: Carlos López, Senior Legal Advisor, International Commission of Jurists

14:55 – 15:10 Break

15:10 - 16:05 Panel 2: Development of Regional Initiatives

- **“The Draft EU Sustainable Due Diligence Directive”**, **Bernd Lange**, Member of the European Parliament
- **“Developments in the African Human Rights normative framework”**, **Michael Clements**, Director of International Programmes, Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (BHRRC), South Africa
- **“Inter-American Standards on Business and Human Rights”**, **Andrés de Cicco**, Advisor to the Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social and Cultural Right, and Environment, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

Comments by European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), tbc & **Ariella Scher**, Head Business & Human Rights, Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALs), South Africa **and discussion**

Moderator: Ana Maria Suarez Franco, Permanent Representative, FIAN International

16:05 – 17:00 Panel 3: Access to Remedies and reparations in global supply chains

- **“Overcoming obstacles to access justice”**, **Miriam Saage-Maaß**, Vice Legal Director at the European Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR), Germany
- **“Parent company responsibility and courts jurisdiction in transnational litigation”**, **Richard Meeran**, Head of the International department, Leigh & Day, United Kingdom
- **“Brazil’s Federal Prosecution service strategies on corporate accountability”**, **Thales Coelho**, Federal Prosecutor, Head of the BHR WG at Brazilian Federal Prosecution Service, Brazil

Comments by Charlie Holt, Legal Counsel Campaigns, Greenpeace International & **Tchenna Maso**, Advocate and researcher in HOMA, University of Juiz du Fora, Brazil **and discussion**

Moderator: Sandra Epal-Ratjen, International Advocacy Director and Deputy Executive Director, Franciscans International.

17:00 - 17:15 Break

17:15 - 18:10 Panel 4: The building of an international instrument

- **“The perspective of workers”**, **Sharan Burrow**, General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
- **“The perspective of global business associations”**, **Matthias Thorns**, Deputy Secretary-General, International Organization of Employers (IOE)
- *State representative, tbc*

Comments by Fabian Funke, Member of the German Parliament & **Kinda Mohamadieh**, Legal adviser and senior researcher, Third World Network (TWN) **and discussion**

Moderator: Gabriela Quijano, Independent Business & Human Rights Specialist

18:10 - 18:30 Concluding remarks

- **Fernanda Hopenhaym**, Chair of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights

18:30 – 19:00 Reception (Foyer)

Conference Moderator: Ira Gibson, Program Officer, Human Rights & Development, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva

Responsible

Carlos Lopez, Senior Legal Advisor, Business & Human Rights, International Commission of Jurists, Geneva

Ira Gibson, Program Officer, Human Rights & Development, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva

Organisation

Matthias Pesch, Assistant Program Officer
Human Rights & Development, FES Geneva

mpesch@fes-geneva.org