

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS:

MAIN CHALLENGES
FOR NEW DEMOCRACIES



25-27
September 2019



KHARKIV INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FORUM



BALTIC-UKRAINIAN
CENTRE
for studies, research
and innovations



DATE

25

September
2019

TIME

09.00
18.30

LOCATION

Kharkiv,
Library&Learning Center
of the Yaroslav Mudryi
National Law University,
Conference Hall,
10th floor

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS:

MAIN CHALLENGES
FOR NEW DEMOCRACIES

Panel Discussion

PARTNERS:



Under support of the Council of Europe Project «Internal Displacement in Ukraine: Building Solutions» within the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine 2018 – 2021



In cooperation with the NGO «DRA» (Berlin) in the framework of «Working Group on Women and Gender Realities in the OSCE Region» of the «Civic Solidarity Platform», namely the project «Strengthening Civil Society Cooperation in the OSCE Region in Regards to Security, Human Rights, Conflict Resolution and Gender Equality», with the financial support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany



Project «Ukrainian Corporate Equality Index» with the financial support of The International «Renaissance» Foundation

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With methodological support

BR2Я Global Business and Human Rights Scholars Association



TASKS

To discuss what the differences between business and human rights in other (European) countries and post Soviet countries actually are.

To analyze the experience of countries which already have adopted a National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights, to identify positive and negative lessons.

To determine whether businesses fulfill an obligation to respect human rights and provide human rights due diligence in the post-Soviet region. To find common and specific problems in countries. To determine the spheres where the risk of human rights abuses by businesses is highest.

To raise the issue of applying gender lenses to the legal framework of business and human rights, to clarify the complexity of its implementation in young democracies.

To pay attention to the protection of human rights of vulnerable individuals, groups and communities, in particular human rights of internally displaced persons.

To give an overview of standards to respect human rights by businesses in the situation of conflict and internal displacement.

To develop a regional network to promote the implementation of standards of corporate respect for human rights in the post-Soviet countries.

GOAL

Develop a guidance to implement the recognized standards on business and human rights in new democracies which were founded in the post-Soviet region

REPRESENTED COUNTRIES

- Armenia
- Austria
- Belarus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Georgia
- Germany
- Italy
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Switzerland
- United Kingdom
- Ukraine
- United States of America

SCOPE

Today, the need to summarize the experience of developed democracies in a reasonable balancing of the obligations of the state and business in the field of human rights, to develop effective legal mechanisms for protecting human rights from business's violations, especially in situations where the state cannot offer such mechanism, is extremely urgent.

For new democracies, in addition to the disclosure of general issues, special attention should be paid to the following issues:

• The role of business in promoting democracy, the rule of law and sustainable development, in particular gender equality, in society

• Risks and dangers related to challenges of new democracies relating to the stability of democratic traditions, high levels of corruption, population's lack of trust in legal mechanisms for solving problems, lack of development of the economy

• The low tolerance of society to the vulnerable groups as a particular problem for post-Soviet countries which is significantly reflected in business practices, the deep rooting of the patriarchal culture, which is often supported by business

• The role of business for human rights in a conflict and post-conflict period and in situation of internal displacement which is topical issue for Ukraine now

Organizational issues:

AUDIO AND VIDEO

All speakers will be able to use plasma panels to present their materials.

The panel discussion will be staffed by technical experts to assist the speakers and moderators with their presentations

SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION

Ukrainian and English are the official languages of the Panel Discussion.

The reports will be translated in synchronous mode.

Participants should use the provided microphones for questions to ensure simultaneous translation. Please, tell your name and the institution you represent and whom your question is addressed to before asking questions.

VIDEO RECORDING

Video and photography of the events will be conducted within the Forum.

4 ІНКЛЮЗИВНІСТЬ ФОРУМУ

The Panel Discussion program includes the core speeches only. All participants will be able to participate in the discussion.

PANEL DISCUSSION PROGRAM

8.30
9.00

Registration
of participants

9.00
9.30

GREETINGS WORDS

Yurii Barabash, Vice-Rector of Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University, Secretary of the Forum

Ganna Khrystova, Senior Project Officer, Council of Europe Project «Internal Displacement in Ukraine: Building Solutions», Council of Europe Office in Ukraine

Evguenia Klementieva, Programme Manager for Asia, Caucasus and Europe, Human Rights Systems, Danish Institute for Human Rights

Ivan Shemelynets, Acting Director-General of the Directorate for Human Rights, Access to Justice and Legal Awareness of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine

9.30
11.30

SESSION I

**BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS:
PERSPECTIVES FOR THE POST-SOVIET REGION**

Moderated by:

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

Key speakers:

Mariam Jajanidze, Secretary for the Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia, Consultant to the Office of the Public Defender and UNDP projects (Georgia)

Yevhenii Shakotko, Government Expert of the Directorate of Human Rights, Access to Justice and Legal Awareness of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine (Ukraine)

Gulnara Shahinian, International expert on human rights, modern slavery and human trafficking, UN Special reporter on contemporary forms of slavery OHCHR 2008-2014, chair of «Democracy Today» (Armenia) (Via skype)

Commented by:

Olena Stepanenko, Representative of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (Ukraine)

Kateryna Levchenko, Governmental Commissioner for Gender Policy (Ukraine)

Larysa Shvetsova, Member of the High Council of Justice (Ukraine)

Dovilė Gailiūtė – Janušonė, Vice-Dean of the Law School of Mykolas Romeris University, expert from Lithuania in FRANET research network (Lithuania)

Aleg Gulak, Head of the Belarusian Helsinki Committee (Belarus)

Robert Khorolskyy, Expert on the legal and institutional aspects of Ukraine's European integration policy, Ukraine-EU association relations

Nina Potarska, National Coordinator of the International Women's League for Peace and Freedom

Questions and discussion

11.30
12.00

12.00
12.15



Coffee break

THE CEO GUIDE ON HUMAN RIGHTS developed by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. Ukrainian translation by Eugeniy Borokh and Olena Uvarova

Presented by:

Maryna Saprykina, Head of the Board of CSR Ukraine, expert organization Center for Corporate Social Responsibility Development, national partner of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development



World Business Council for Sustainable Development



6 12.15
14.00

SESSION II

**BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS:
LESSONS FROM EU COUNTIES**

Moderated by:

Evgenia Klementieva, Programme Manager for Asia, Caucasus and Europe, Human Rights Systems, Danish Institute for Human Rights

Key speaker:

Beata Faracik, Co-founder and President of the Board of the Polish Institute for Human Rights and Business (Poland)

Luisa Del Turco, International Cooperation Advisor – Gender, Peace and Security Policies Expert, Scientific Coordinator of the High-Level Training Course Women, Peace and Mediation, Sapienza University of Rome (Italy)

Lyra Jakulevičienė, Dean of the Law School of Mykolas Romeris University, co-founder of Lithuania's Responsible Business Network (Lithuania)

Commented by:

Ella Skybenko, Eastern Europe/Central Asia Researcher & Representative, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre

Victoria Scheyer, Member of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Expert at the Think Tank Center for Progressive Security (CPS) (Germany)

GENDER COMPONENT IN NATIONAL POLICIES ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND IN GLOBAL ECONOMY:

expert commentary by the Working Group on Women's Rights and Gender Realities within the OSCE Platform for Civic Solidarity

Presented by:

Annemarie Sancar, Expert on gender justice, care economy and women's rights, board member WIDE Women in Development Europe/Switzerland, Member of the WILPF Switzerland and member of the Member of the Working Group on Women's Rights and Gender Realities within the OSCE Platform for Civic Solidarity (Switzerland)

Heidi Meinzolt, Member of the Board of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), Founding member of the "Women's Security Council", Coordinator of the Working Group on Women&Gender realities in the Civic Solidarity Platform/CSP of OSCE (Germany)

Tolekan Ismailova, Head of the Human Rights Movement «Bir Duino-Kyrgyzstan» (Kyrgyzstan)

Questions and discussion



Lunch
Break

14.00
15.00

15.00
17.00

SESSION III

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PERIOD OF CONFLICT AND INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT

Moderated by:

Ganna Khrystova, Senior Project Officer, Council of Europe Project «Internal Displacement in Ukraine: Building Solutions», Council of Europe Office in Ukraine

Key speaker:

Sorcha MacLeod, UN Independent Human Rights Expert UNWG on Mercenaries, Marie Curie Fellow at University of Copenhagen

Maha Abdullah, Legal researcher and advocacy officer of the Palestinian NGO Al-Haq

RESEARCH: «BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN SITUATION OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT: THEORETICAL CONCEPT, PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE AND UKRAINIAN REALITIES» within Council of Europe Project «Internal Displacement in Ukraine: Building Solutions», Council of Europe Office in Ukraine

Presented by:

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University, Expert of the Council of Europe Project «Internal Displacement in Ukraine: Building Solutions»

Commented by:

Norwegian Refugee Council:

- **Serhii Panasenko**, Livelihood and Food Security Coordinator
- **Oleksandr Sydielnikov**, ICLA Human Rights Coordinator
- **Viktoriiia Klymovych**, ICLA Technical Officer
- **Yuliya Voronkova**, ICLA Human Rights Technical Officer

Charity Foundation «Right to Protect»:

- **Volodymyr Tsololo**, Leading Lawyer

Questions and discussion



Coffee break

**BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS:
ACTION PLAN FOR NEW DEMOCRACIES**

OPEN DISCUSSION

Moderated by:

Iryna Fedorovich, Deputy Chairman of the Board of the Center for Social Action, Co-Chair of the Coordination Council of the Anti-Discrimination Coalition in Ukraine

BHR INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

Presented by:

Anton Levdik, Program Director NGO FULCRUM UA, Coordinator of the Project «Ukrainian Corporate Equality Index»

Mariya Yasenovska, President of KhRF «Public Alternative», Coordinator of the project «Gender sensitivity of local policies and legal practices on internal displacement»

Darya Nagaivska, Coordinator of the Center for Small and Medium Business and Projects of the Contemporary Woman

Discussion of the draft statement of the Panel Discussion on Business and Human Rights: Challenges for New Democracies

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17.00
17.15

17.15
18.30

DRAFT

STATEMENT of the Panel discussion

«BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: MAIN CHALLENGES FOR NEW DEMOCRACIES» (September 25, 2019, Kharkiv, Ukraine)

THE PANEL DISCUSSION BECAME A PLATFORM FOR DISCUSSING STANDARDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION FROM BUSINESS ABUSES IN 15 COUNTRIES AND ANALYZING THEIR IMPLEMENTATION IN THE NEW DEMOCRACIES THAT EMERGED IN THE POST-SOVIET SPACE. MORE THAN 140 REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, STATE BODIES, INFORMAL INITIATIVES, ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL LEGAL COMMUNITY, BUSINESS PARTICIPATED IN THE DISCUSSION.

The need to pay special attention to this region is explained by the following factors:

HISTORIC – the USSR, which existed from 1923 to 1991, was the second economy in the world. It consisted of 15 states, the territories of which were covered by undemocratic state-political regime, official Soviet-communist ideology, common economic and legal systems. The period of joint long-term membership of the USSR was largely reflected in the challenges faced by countries in the period of transition;

ECONOMIC – private business has emerged in the territory of the former USSR only since 1991, with the beginning of privatization. Up to this moment, private entrepreneurship was banned (under the threat of criminal liability), the idea of private property was denied, all enterprises were state-owned. The economy was centralized and administered by command methods. The understanding the huge impact of private companies on human rights situation of people is still seen as a new trend in practice;

LEGAL – the idea of human rights was subordinate to state policy; collective interest prevailed over the private, legal regulation was based on the principle of the supremacy of the state will, but not the rule of law principle. Ideas of human dignity and personal autonomy were not elements of law understanding.

Today, post-Soviet countries are on different levels of progress when it comes to working with business and human rights:

COMPREHENSIVE MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS INITIATIVES – LITHUANIA, GEORGIA, UKRAINE:

LITHUANIA adapted the National action plan on business and human rights;

GEORGIA has developed a comprehensive chapter on business and Human Rights for 2018-2020 Human Rights Action Plan. The chapter on Business and Human Rights is drafted with the active participation and support of Public Defender's Office, Line ministries and other representatives of relevant non-governmental and international organizations. The elaboration of the chapter was preceded by baseline study on Business and Human Rights in Georgia. The baseline study was conducted by the representatives of Human Rights Secretariat of the Government of Georgia, Public Defender Office and local non-governmental organization CiDA;

UKRAINE conducted the National Baseline Assessment on Business and Human Rights. It was published and presented/ The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine has publicly announced its intention to develop national policy documents on business and human rights and to take other measures aimed at implementing the UNGPs on Business and Human Rights.

SOME STEPS –LATVIA, ESTONIA, BELARUS, KAZAKHSTAN:

ESTONIA and **LATVIA** indicate that implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights is possible without a separate national action plan, but on the basis of existing program documents only;

BELARUS, thanks to the efforts of a non-governmental organization, has published a Country Guide on Business and Human Rights in Belarus in 2015, but without the support of the governmental structures this initiative has not yet had reaction;

KAZAKHSTAN where some non-governmental initiatives are being implemented which recently have been attempted to include the UN Framework on Business and Human Rights.

NO STEPS – ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, KYRGYZSTAN, MOLDOVA, RUSSIA, TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN, UZBEKISTAN.

The following problems remain common to the countries from second and third groups, which pose significant barriers to effective implementation of business and human rights standards:

1. Law awareness of non-state actors, especially business, of their human rights impacts.
2. Risks and challenges associated with the absence of strong democratic traditions, high level of corruption, low public confidence in or justice system.
3. Maintaining a paternalistic approach to respect, protect and fulfill of human rights. The human rights sphere has traditionally been equated with state obligations.
4. Lack of awareness of the role of the corporate sector in the situation of conflict and internal displacement.
5. Low level of awareness of state institutions, academic community, non-governmental organizations, business with the UNGPs on Business and Human Rights, developed standards and initiatives, good practices.
6. Low level of gender equality, including in the area of corporate relations.
7. Low level of tolerance towards vulnerable groups, including internally displaced persons, as a separate problem of post-Soviet countries, which is also reflected in business practices.
8. Weak state institutions on effective protection of human rights, high level of corruption in public and private sectors.

BASED ON AN ANALYSIS OF THE EXPERIENCE OF EU COUNTRIES, SUMMARIZED THE PROBLEMS INHERENT IN POST-SOVIET COUNTRIES, EXAMINED THE CURRENT STANDARDS ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOOD PRACTICES OF IMPLEMENTING THEM, REALIZED THE ADDITIONAL RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH POST-SOVIET HERITAGE,

PARTICIPANTS OF THE PANEL DISCUSSION CALL:

THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS INSTITUTIONS (AGENCIES):

- to take into account the specificities of the region in the work on the implementation of the UNGPs on Business and Human Rights in post-Soviet countries (lack of a stable tradition of economic freedom and sustainable corporate social responsibility practices, lack of understanding of the importance of balancing state guaranties and autonomous regulation space, the focusing of human rights defenders on the control of state actions in the sphere of political and civil rights mainly, special barriers for gender equality improving etc.);
- to draw attention of the countries of the region on the corporate responsibility to respect human rights, particularly within the considering periodic state reports on implementation of the UN human rights instruments;
- to hold a regional UN Forum on Business and Human Rights (by analogy, South Asia Forum in 2019, Asia Forum in 2016, African Regional Forum in 2014, Latin-America and the Caribbean Forum in 2013 fora), paying particular attention to the additional challenges of the region, such as business responsibilities in conflict, occupation and internal displacement, which are relevant to several countries of the region;
- to consider the possibility of implementing the joint project with other international and regional organizations to promote standards of business and human rights in new democracies which were founded in the post-Soviet territory;
- to develop a report on the role of human rights defenders in promoting business and human rights standards in post-Soviet countries, in view of the particular challenges they face;

THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE, THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, OTHER REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- to use the framework of business and human rights – state obligation to protect human rights from violations by third parties, including business, corporate responsibility to respect human rights, including human rights due diligence, access to effective remedies – as a cross-cutting element in all initiatives planned and / or implemented in the region;
- to include information on specific challenges on business and human rights in the post-Soviet region (Council of Europe Handbook on Business and Human Rights for Law Practitioners, OECD Guidelines, etc.);
- to pay particular attention to the business responsibility to respect human rights in initiatives to promote protection the human rights of internally displaced persons, persons residing in conflict areas etc., to consider possible models of public-private partnerships for the implementation of initiatives to protect such persons who are vulnerable due to the conflict situation and forced displacement;

THE STATES OF THE REGION:

- to initiate the process of implementation of the UNGPs on Business and Human Rights and to increase the effectiveness of their implementation in the countries which have realized some appropriate steps already, with inclusion of civil society and NHRIs; and taking into account the specific challenges of the region;
- to pay particular attention to the spheres of legal regulation that are traditionally regarded as neutral in matters of human rights protection – public procurement, investment, tax law, corporate law etc.;
- to participate in the discussion of the draft of the legally binding international document on business and human rights, to draw attention of the UN Working Group to the additional risks and challenges which are presented in the region;
- to hold regional working meetings, conferences, discussions with businesses, non-governmental organizations, academic community on the implementation of standards on business and human rights, to determine priority areas of cooperation in this area;
- to increase public sector involvement in the implementation of private sector initiatives, in particular such as: Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights, the Kimberley Process for the Certification of Rough Diamonds, the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact, to disseminate information about such initiatives in their countries;
- to provide clear policy statements on the expectation that all businesses domiciled in state's territory and/or within its jurisdiction respect human rights; to identify specific business sectors or activities that may have particularly negative impacts on human rights; to develop the guidances for businesses on respecting human rights that are appropriate to different industry sectors; to determine the impact business makes on vulnerable groups and communities;
- to disseminate information on existing standards on business and human rights, and to raise public awareness of such standards;
- to pay special attention to the potential influence of business on women's rights and human rights of vulnerable groups;
- to integrate standards on business on human rights in the public procurement;
- to conduct an assessment of existing interstate agreements, domestic legislation, and national policies for compliance with standards of protection of human rights against violations by business and promotion of corporate responsibility to respect human rights; to adopt and operationalise a clear government policy to promote the protection of human rights against business abuses, to prevent and mitigate the effects of human rights abuses, and evaluate the impact of these processes on business. Such policies should be based on a preliminary assessment of whether policies, legislation, other tools are in place to adequately protect human rights against violations by businesses, including in situations of conflict and internal displacement;
- to collect and disseminate good practices on business and human rights, and inform business about the possibility of obtaining consultations from the state institutions and / or experts on business and human rights issues;
- to cooperate with business, facilitate implementation of its initiatives, accompany companies and provide them with methodological support at all stages of work to identify potential risks of their business operations for human rights;

BUSINESS, REGARDLESS OF COMPANY SIZE AND BUSINESS:

- to raise awareness of CEOs and employees of corporate responsibility to respect human rights, to participate in awareness raising campaigns for consumers, contractors / suppliers, communities in which the company operates;
- to participate in the initiatives of the state, non-governmental organizations, academic community to discuss business and human rights issues;
- to recognize commitment to human rights, particularly human rights of vulnerable individuals, groups, including IDPs, and communities;
- to operationalise recommendations provided in UNGPs within their own companies with special focus on adopting, publishing and operationalizing a human rights policy of the company and on developing the human rights due diligence procedure (if one does not already have one);
- to ensure own awareness of national policies on human rights, including on conducting economic activities in the conflict zone and on internal displacement situation, and to follow the recommendations of the state bodies;
- to adopt employment policies and appropriate working conditions, favoring the employment of vulnerable individuals and groups, including internally displaced persons, persons at risk, discriminated groups and minorities, using gender lenses and taking into account the factors of conflict and internal displacement;
- to develop a policy on corruption prevention, enforce the risk management procedures, including impact assessments, gender-based assessments, training programs and mechanisms;
- to update company policies in the field of human rights, responding to the risks in the company's activities, supply chains and other relationships to which the company is involved;
- to make company's policies on human rights public, particularly through posting on the company's website, where necessary in different languages. Communicate company's policies to employees, update their awareness of company's policies on human rights periodically;
- to stay updated on the conflict and internal displacement situation to gain an understanding of the company's operations impact to the ongoing conflict and internal displacement, and act accordingly;
- to cooperate with existing peacekeeping operations, programs and projects, including assistance programs for internally displaced persons;
- to develop human rights due diligence procedure (if one does not already have one); to monitor the impact of the company's activities, evaluate the effectiveness of the measures which have been taken;

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS:

- to establish a regional network (working group) to analyze the situation on business and human rights in the region, to develop recommendations with special attention to the specific challenges of the region;
- to evaluate the national policies of the countries of the region through the lenses of business and human rights framework;
- to raise awareness of civil society actors on business and human rights issues, to analyze the specific risks of the region for their activities;
- to monitor realisation of corporate responsibility to respect human rights;
- to provide expert support to public authorities, businesses, investors upon their request for effective fulfillment of business obligations to respect human rights, especially in the situations of conflict and internal displacement;
- to pay special attention to ensuring corporate responsibility to respect women's rights, rights of vulnerable individuals, groups and communities; to support victims of human rights business abuses, with particular attention to vulnerable individuals and groups;
- to participate in dialogues with the participation of national and international stakeholders, to share their experiences;
- to produce expert reports, analytics, recommendations and other relevant materials on the topic of business and human rights.

ACADEMIC COMMUNITY:

- to disclose human rights business commitments through the prism of ideas of human dignity and personal autonomy;
- to conduct comparative studies of the impact of legal, historical, political and economic context on the implementation of recognized standards on business and human rights;
- to explore the role of non-state actors in the area of legal regulation and human rights in particular; the role of non-state actors, especially business, in promoting democracy, the rule of law and sustainable development;
- to analyze the risks and challenges associated with the absence of strong democratic traditions, high levels of corruption, low public confidence in justice system;
- to review the paternalistic approach to respect, protect and fulfill of human rights;
- to provide a scientific basis for public-private partnerships to address complex social situations that entail mass human rights violations (including in situations of conflict and internal displacement);
- to promote awareness of state bodies, academic community, non-governmental organizations, business of the UNGPs on Business and Human Rights, developed standards and initiatives, good practices.

LAW SCHOOLS:

- to include courses on business and human rights, with special attention to the rights of vulnerable individuals and groups, in particular IDPs, to the normative (mandatory) part of the curriculum for law students;
- to train skills of legal professionals to develop policies on human rights commitment, with particular attention to the fulfillment by the corporate responsibility to respect human rights;
- to disseminate examples of best practices in legal protection against human rights abuses by businesses.



SIDE-EVENTS ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Representatives of businesses, state government institutions, non-government organizations and academic community are invited to participate in the discussion.

The main purpose of this part of the Forum is to discuss the findings of the National Baseline Assessment on Business and Human Rights in Ukraine and to develop recommendations for the National Action Plan.

CEO Guide to Human Rights (Ukrainian translation) which was developed by the World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD) will be presented.

DATE

26
September
2019

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TIME

10.00
13.00

LOCATION

Kharkiv,
Central building of
the Yaroslav Mudryi
National Law University
(Pushkinskaya st, 77),
2nd floor, 5th Hall

AGRIBUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS:

CORE CHALLENGES AND
PERSPECTIVES

Open Discussion

PARTNERS:



With methodological support



10.00
10.20

OPENING

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

Yurii Mikhailov, Founder of Agro Food Cluster – Kharkiv

Inna Kulchii, Coordinator of the Certified Educational Program «Lawyer in Agribusiness» at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

10.20
10.50

STANDARDS FOR AGRIBUSINESS OF ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT
OECD National Contact Point in Ukraine

Presentation of the Ukrainian edition of OECD-FAO Guidelines for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains

Maryna Kupchuk, Secretary of the National Contact Point at the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine

10.50
11.40

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR ENSURING CORPORATE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DUE DILIGENCE IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

Human rights and agribusiness in Ukraine

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

11.40
13.00

AGRIBUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: DEVELOPING THE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

Directorate for Human Rights, Access to Justice and Legal Awareness of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine

DATE

26

September
2019

TIME

14.00
18.00

LOCATION

Kharkiv,
Central building of
the Yaroslav Mudryi
National Law University
(Pushkinskaya st, 77),
2nd floor, 5th Hall

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VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS AND COMMUNITIES RIGHTS:

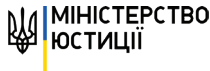
CORPORATE
RESPONSIBILITY
TO RESPECT

Open discussion

PARTNERS:



Ombudsman
of Ukraine



МІНІСТЕРСТВО
ЮСТИЦІЇ



INTERNATIONAL
RENAISSANCE
FOUNDATION



ТОЧКА ОПОРИ
FULCRUM



INDEX
UKRAINIAN CORPORATE
EQUALITY INDEX



14.00
14.20

OPENING

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

14.20
14.40

POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF BUSINESSES ON HUMAN RIGHTS. SPECIAL RISKS FOR VULNERABLE PERSONS. SITUATION IN UKRAINE

Mariya Yasenovskaya, President of Kharkiv Regional Foundation «Public Alternative»

14.40
15.30

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS: EXPERIENCE OF LEADING BUSINESS COMPANIES OF THE WORLD AND IN UKRAINE

Iryna Fedorovych, Deputy Chairman of the Board of the Center for Social Action, Co-Chair of the Coordination Council of the Anti-Discrimination Coalition in Ukraine

15.30
15.50



Coffee break

15.50
16.10

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: THE ROLE OF THE CORPORATE SECTOR IN PROMOTING RESPECT FOR LGBT RIGHTS

Darya Nagaïvska, Coordinator of the Center for Small and Medium Business and Projects of the NGO «Modern Woman»

16.10
17.00

LEGAL PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE PERSONS IN THE CONTEXT OF REGULATION OF GAMBLING MARKETS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE GAME

Robert Khorolsky, Expert on the legal and institutional aspects of Ukraine's European integration policy, Ukraine-EU association relations

17.00
17.20

PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS IN NATIONAL ACTION PLANS: GOOD AND BAD LESSONS FOR UKRAINE

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

17.20
18.00

Developing the Recommendations to the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights

Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

Directorate for Human Rights, Access to Justice and Legal Awareness of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine

DATE

27

September
2019

TIME

10.00
13.00

LOCATION

20

Kharkiv,
Central building of
the Yaroslav Mudryi
National Law University
(Pushkinskaya st, 77),
2nd floor, 5th Hall

HUMAN RIGHTS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTOR:

CORE CHALLENGES AND
PERSPECTIVES

Open discussion

PARTNERS:



Ombudsman
of Ukraine



With methodological
support

BR2Я Global Business and Human Rights
Scholars Association

THE DANISH
INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS

10.00
10.20

OPENING

Olga Shapoval, Executive Director of Kharkiv IT Cluster

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

10.20
11.00

INTERNATIONAL AND CORPORATE STANDARDS FOR CORPORATE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DUE DILIGENCE IN THE IT SECTOR

Human rights and IT business in Ukraine

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

11.00
11.30

IT COMPANIES AND COMBATING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS ON THE INTERNET: TOP PRACTICES

Yulia Razmetaeva, Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

11.30
11.50



Coffee break

11.50
13.00

Developing the Recommendations to the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights

Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

Directorate for Human Rights, Access to Justice and Legal Awareness of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine

DATE

27

September
2019

TIME

14.00
16.00

LOCATION

Kharkiv,
Central building of
the Yaroslav Mudryi
National Law University
(Pushkinskaya st, 77),
2nd floor, 5th Hall

GARMENT INDUSTRY AND HUMAN RIGHTS:

RISKS AND
BEST PRACTICES

Open Discussion

PARTNERS:



Ombudsman
of Ukraine



МІНІСТЕРСТВО
ЮСТИЦІЇ



Керівні принципи ОЕСР
для багатонаціональних підприємств
НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ КОНТАКТНИЙ ПУНКТ
УКРАЇНА



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BR2Я Global Business and Human Rights
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THE DANISH
INSTITUTE FOR
HUMAN RIGHTS

14.00
14.20

OPENING

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

Oleg Yegorov, Executive Director of Kharkiv Light Industry and Design Cluster

14.20
14.50

STANDARDS FOR LIGHT INDUSTRY OF ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

OECD National Contact Point in Ukraine

Presentation of the Ukrainian edition of OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector

Maryna Kupchuk, Secretary of the National Contact Point at the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine

14.50
15.20

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR ENSURING CORPORATE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND DUE DILIGENCE IN THE LIGHT INDUSTRY SECTOR

Human rights and Light Industry in Ukraine

Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on Business and Human Rights at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

15.20
16.00

Developing the Recommendations to the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights

Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights

Directorate for Human Rights, Access to Justice and Legal Awareness of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE FORUM
AND FOR YOUR INTEREST IN BUSINESS AND HUMAN
RIGHTS ISSUES!
WE LOOK FORWARD TO NEW FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS!

NOTE

For all issues that have been discussed at the Panel Discussion and side-events on business and human rights, please contact the Organizing Committee's email address: legalforum2019@ukr.net, or Olena Uvarova, Event Coordinator, directly: uvarova.info@gmail.com.

All panel discussion materials will be posted on its website: <https://legalforum.nlu.edu.ua/events/biznes-i-prava-ljudini-osnovni-vikliki-dlja-novih-demokratij/>.

These materials will be sent also to the e-mail addresses of the participants who have stated their wish to receive them during registration.