

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTEREST GROUP ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS 2017/2018

Coordinating Committee: **Dr. Mara Tignino** (University of Geneva), **Dr. Marta Bordignon** (Temple University, Rome Campus), **Prof. Angelica Bonfanti** (University of Milan), **Dennis West** (University of Oxford), **Mihaela Maria Barnes** (Graduate Institute, Geneva)

The Interest Group on Business and Human Rights (IG BHR) is pleased to submit this report to our members and stakeholders. The membership of the IG BHR remains strong with 376 members at the time of writing this Report. In February 2018, the Coordinating Committee welcomed two additional members: Prof. Angelica Bonfanti from the University of Milan and Mihaela Barnes, PhD Candidate at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva. The new members of the Coordinating Committee will work alongside Dr. Tignino, Dr. Bordignon and Dennis West, who will remain on the Coordinating Committee for a further two years.

1 ESIL Annual Conference Workshop – 13th September 2018, Manchester

The ESIL IG BHR prepared a Call for Papers called “Rethinking Limited Liability in Light of the Universality of Human Rights”. The Call for Papers served as the basis for selection of the speakers of the Workshop that was held in Manchester on September 13th 2018 during the ESIL Annual Conference. The Workshop was a success and we would like to thank all the participants – in particular our speakers and moderators – for their efforts: Prof. Angelica Bonfanti, Dr. Mara Tignino, Dr. Roberta Greco, Dr. Marija Jovanovic, Dr. Alla Tymofeyeva and Mihaela Barnes. Prof. Surya Deva delivered the Keynote Speech.

2 UN Forum on Business and Human Rights – November 2018, Geneva

The IG BHR intends to organise a Panel back – to – back to the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights that will take place in Geneva between 26 – 28 November 2018. More information about this event will be posted in due course on the website of the IG.

3 Agenda 2018/2019

The Agenda of the IG BHR for 2018/2019 will focus on the following priorities:

- Increasing the visibility of the IG at the next UN Forum on Business and Human Rights.
- Organisation of an informal meeting with the IG Members present at the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights.
- The Coordinating Committee has decided to open the website of the IG BHR for participation from our members. We welcome contributions in the form of short blog pieces, book reviews, reports from conferences, research seminars and other similar items which will be posted on <https://igbusinessandhumanrights.wordpress.com/>
- Support Members' activities in the field of Business and Human Rights.
- Increasing the visibility of the IG BHR by using social media platforms such as Twitter for the posting of news and events.

4 Members' Queries and Participation

We welcome proposals from our Members for the organisation of conferences, seminar, research fora and other similar events concerning Business and Human Rights generally. If you have any other queries or any of the members of our IG would like to make any proposals in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact any of the Members of the Coordinating Committee by email:

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