

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ESIL INTEREST GROUP ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS 2021/2022

Coordinating Committee: Dr. Mara Tignino (University of Geneva), Prof. Belen Olmos Giupponi (Kingston University), Dr. Emanuela Orlando (Sussex University).

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 427 members at the time of writing this Report. The Coordinating Committee is composed of: Prof. Belen Olmos Giupponi, Dr. Mara Tignino, Dr. Emanuela Orlando.

1. Activities during 2021

Given the remaining uncertainties concerning travel requirements in many parts of the world, the Coordinating Committee took the decision to transition the Workshop that was supposed to be organised on the 8th of September 2021, in Stockholm, on the occasion of the 16th Annual Conference of the European Society of International Law (“Changes in International Lawmaking: Actors, Processes, Impact”) to an online format. The Online Workshop was held via Zoom and was well-attended, with close to 70 participants. We would like to thank all the participants – particularly our speakers – for their efforts: Dr. Emanuela Orlando, Professor Kishanthi Parella, Professor Klara Polackova van der Ploeg, Professor Anna Asseeva and Mihaela Buzenche. The Keynote Speech was delivered by Professor Larry Catá Backer (Pennsylvania State University).

2. Activities during 2022

On the occasion of the 17th Annual Conference of the European Society of International Law (“In/Ex-clusiveness of International Law”), the Coordinating Committee organized an Hybrid Workshop on “In/Ex-clusiveness Through the Lens of International Business and Human Rights”. The Hybrid Workshop was well-attended. We would like to thank all the participants – particularly our speakers – for their efforts: Andy Symington, Dr. Nicolas Bueno, Dr. Isidore Ngueuleu, Sek Lun Cheong, Samantha Hopkins, Prof. Miharuru Hirano, Tsubasa Shinohara, Stefania di Stefano, Prof. Laurence R. Helfer, Prof. Molly K. Land, Prof. Tim R Samples, Katherine Ireland Kuiper, and Caroline Kraczon. The Keynote Speech was delivered by Professor Larry Catá Backer (Pennsylvania State University).

3. Agenda for the remaining of 2022 and 2023

The Agenda of the IG BHR for the remaining of 2022 and 2023 will focus on the following priorities:

- Organisation of the 2023 ESIL Annual Conference Workshop in Aix-en-Provence, France which will have the theme “Is International Law Fair?”.
- Increasing the visibility of the IG at the next 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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