

Business & Human Rights

Corporate policy and Human Rights?
Costs, benefits, risks and legal proceedings



30 November 2017
Seminar 9am - 6pm followed by a cocktail

Fédération des Entreprises Romandes Genève,
rue de Saint-Jean 98, 1201 Genève

Media partner

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Seminar organised jointly by the Human Rights Commission of the Geneva Bar Association (ODAGE), the University of Geneva (UNIGE), the International Association of Lawyers (UIA) and the Fédération des Entreprises Romandes Genève (FER Genève).

Aimed at lawyers, in-house counsels, judges and students, this seminar will address in a practical way the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights within companies, but also before civil and criminal courts.

The seminar will be conducted in French and English. Simultaneous translation for participants will be available throughout the day.

08:30 - 09:00	Registration of participants
09:00 - 09:30	Welcome Grégoire Mangeat , Partner at Mangeat Avocats and Bâtonnier of the Geneva Bar Association Prof. Bénédict Foëx , Dean of the Law Faculty at University of Geneva Laurence Bory , Partner at Bory & Associés Avocats, Immediate Past President of the International Association of Lawyers Sandrine Giroud , Partner at LALIVE and President of the Human Rights Commission of the Geneva Bar association
09:30 - 10:30	Human Rights and companies: an area in continuous development Moderator : Stéphane Brabant , Partner at Herbert Smith Freehills and co-author of the IBA's Guidance for Business Lawyers on the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights Béatrix Niser , Coordinator in the French-speaking part of Switzerland for the Responsible Business Initiative <i>The Responsible Business Initiative: protecting human rights and the environment</i> Alice Navarro , Adviser to the French Ministry for the Economy and Finance <i>The recently adopted French law relating to the duty of care of parent companies and the companies and the sourcing companies</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break

11:00 - 12:30	<p>Practical legal aspects: how to implement the UN Guiding Principles effectively before the courts?</p> <p>Moderator : Elsa Savourey, Vice-president of the Commission human rights and companies, Alliance des Avocats pour les Droits de l'Homme</p> <p>Frédéric Bernard, Attorney at Siegrist & Lazzarotto and lecturer at the University of Geneva <i>UN Guiding Principles: possible sanctions before the European Court of Human Rights</i></p> <p>Sylvain Savolainen, Partner at MENTHA Avocats and member of the Human Rights Commission of the Geneva Bar Association <i>UN Guiding Principles: possible sanctions before civil courts in Switzerland</i></p> <p>Martin Witteveen, Public Prosecutor in the Netherlands <i>Prosecution and criminal liability of a company and its bodies for Human Right violations: the Dutch and European perspective</i></p> <p>Olivier Jornot, Public Prosecutor of Geneva <i>Prosecution and criminal liability of a company and its bodies for Human Right violations: the Swiss and Geneva perspective</i></p>
12:30 - 14:00	Free time for lunch
14:00 - 15:30	<p>Practical aspects for companies: what cost for Human Rights policies? How to implement such policies?</p> <p>Moderator : Dr. iur. Giulia Neri-Castracane, Attorney at Lenz & Staehelin, author of the publication <i>Les règles de gouvernance d'entreprise comme moyen de promotion de la responsabilité sociale de l'entreprise - Réflexions sur le droit suisse dans une perspective internationale</i></p> <p>Gérald Paschoud, Managing partner at Pluto advisory, former Special adviser of Prof. John Ruggie <i>Implementing a concrete Human Rights due diligence programme within a company</i></p> <p>Anita Ramasastry, Member of the United Nations Working Group on Business and Human Rights <i>Authoritative standpoint: practical guidance for the implementation of a Human Rights programme within a company</i></p> <p>Melchior De Muralt, Managing partner of De Pury Pictet Turrettini & Cie S.A. <i>Example of an investment fund in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights</i></p> <p>Nicolas Tamari, CEO of Sucafina SA, President of the Swiss Coffee Trade Association, Board member of the Swiss Trading and Shipping Association <i>Setting the economic conditions for Human Rights to flourish</i></p>
15:30 - 15:40	Break
15:40 - 17:10	<p>Human Right violations: how to concretely prevent, limit, define and quantify a prejudice for victims as well as for a company?</p> <p>Moderator : Prof. Maya Hertig, Professor of International and comparative Human Rights at the University of Geneva and co-director of the Certificate of Advanced Studies in Human Rights at the University of Geneva</p> <p>Marie Dosé, Partner at Marie Dosé & Judith Lévy and attorney representing the association Sherpa <i>What prejudices to allege regarding war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide?</i></p> <p>Prof. Henry Peter, Director of Geneva Centre for Philanthropy of the University of Geneva, Professor of commercial law at the University of Geneva, partner of Kellerhals Carrard <i>Infringements or accusations of Human Rights and environmental violations: What are the risks for the company's reputation and image? What measures could be taken?</i></p> <p>Prof. Christine Chappuis, Professor at the University of Geneva in law of obligations, contract law and tort law <i>Conclusion of contracts and codes of conducts incorporating Human Rights and environmental protection dimensions: focus on access to remedies</i></p>

17:10 - 17:55	Discussion and dialogue on Business and Human Rights issues Jean Ziegler , Vice-president of the Advisory Committee to the United Nations Human Rights Council Vincent Subilia , President of the Swiss Chambers' Arbitration Institution, Deputy Executive Director of the Geneva Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Services
18:00	Closing of the seminar
18:15 - 19:45	Cocktail Les Bulles du 23 23 Rue de la Coulouvrenière, 1204 Genève

Registration

Register by completing and returning the present form no later than **27 November 2017** by e-mail to secretariat@odage.ch

Surname: _____

First name: _____

Law firm / company / institution: _____

Profession: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Places are limited.

Registrations will be processed on a first come first served basis and will only be validated upon payment.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT (All tax included)

- ☐ CHF 300 Standard
- ☐ CHF 250 Members of the Ordre des avocats de Genève (ODAGE), of the the International Association of Lawyers (UIA) or of the Fédération des Entreprises Romandes Genève (FER Genève).
- ☐ CHF 75 Trainees or students

Payment must be made no later than the **27 November 2017** by wire transfer on the account mentioned below with express reference to "Seminar Business & Human Rights".

Account: 12-519214-4
Institution : Poste suisse
Account holder : Ordre des avocats de Genève – CDH
IBAN : CH80 0900 0000 1251 9214 4
BIC : POFICHBEXXX
Reference: Seminar Business & Human Rights

Only registrations paid within the above mentioned deadline will be considered.