

# CALL FOR PAPERS

# BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS RESEARCH WORKSHOP

12 JULY 2023 - UNIVERSITAT ROVIRA I VIRGILI (TARRAGONA)

States are obligated under international human rights law to protect against human rights abuse within their territory and/or jurisdiction by third parties, including business enterprises. According to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, all business enterprises have an independent responsibility to respect human rights, and that in order to do so they are required to exercise human rights due diligence to identify, prevent, mitigate and account for how they address impacts on human rights and the environment.

Given the scarce (voluntary) implementation of corporate due diligence in human rights by business enterprises, mandatory due diligence legislations are already emerging across jurisdictions, both at regional and national level (European Union, Spain, Catalonia, among others).

Human rights and environmental defenders (HRED), among other stakeholders, play a key role in human rights due diligence and enabling businesses to understand the concerns of affected stakeholders, and in facilitating access to justice and remedy

This call for contributions aims, amongst others, to analyse the content, scope and challenges of the most recent legislative proposal and developments in mandatory due diligence legislations. This Research Workshop aims to provide a forum for junior and early-career researchers in the business and human rights field. Selected papers will be included in a special issue of the **Spanish Journal of Business and Human Rights published by Editorial Colex**.

This workshop is part of the **International Conference "Towards a mandatory human rights due diligence: legislative proposals and lessons learned"** to be held on **13-14 July 2023**. This conference is part of the project "New standards of mandatory due diligence as a response to the violence suffered by human rights and environmental defenders" (IC1019/22/000010), funded by the International Catalan Institute for Peace.

Proposals may address, *inter alia*, one of the following **themes**:

- Proposal for a Directive on corporate sustainability due diligence
- European national human rights due diligence standards and ongoing legislative processes
- Business and human rights treaty negotiations
- Access to justice and human rights due diligence
- Non-judicial mechanisms and access to remedy for adverse human rights and environmental impacts of business activities
- The protection of defenders in HRDD
- HRDD in conflict-affected and high-risk area
- Gender lens to the HRDD
- Climate change and HRDD
- Regional approaches to HRDD
- Sectorial human rights due diligence
- Business and human rights litigation

## SUBMISSION:

**Proposals will be accepted in Spanish, English and Portuguese**, with a maximum length of **3.500 characters**. They will be submitted before the indicated date using the following **form**: <https://forms.gle/X4wAgqGNYfWB2cS48>.

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**We look forward to welcoming you in Tarragona!**

## IMPORTANT DATES

