

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: FROM NATIONAL PRACTICE TO INTERNATIONAL BINDING STANDARDS

Wednesday, 12 October 2022 , 1:30 pm-6:30 pm CEST
In Geneva, Switzerland (CCV) & Online via Zoom

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES FOR SPEAKERS

(in order of intervention)

Anousheh Karvar

Anousheh Karvar, is currently the French Government representative to the International Labour Organisation Governing Body and to the G7-G20 for Labour, Employment and Social Protection policies. She chairs, since June 2019, the Global Partnership against Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery (Alliance 8.7).

She was appointed by the President of the French Republic Knight of the Légion d'Honneur in July 2021. She was formerly Deputy Director of the Minister of Labour's cabinet (2016-2017), and Counsellor to the President of the French Parliament, in charge of social policies (2017-2018). In 2012, she joined the General Inspectorate for Social Affairs, the French Government audit, evaluation and inspection office for social, employment and labour public policies, and was appointed as the Head of Labour and Employment Section of the General Inspectorate (2012-2015).

She holds a PhD in History and Sociology of Science from the University of Paris – Denis Diderot & Ecole polytechnique.

François Gave

François Gave is a career member of the French Diplomatic Service with 25 years of experience. He held various positions at the Economics Directorate, the European Department and the Planning Staff in Paris. He was also posted in The Hague, Brussels, New York and Geneva. He was part of the team in charge of the first European Energy and Climate Package in Brussels under the EU French Presidency. He contributed to the Rio+20 Summit on behalf of the French government and coordinated the French team in charge of reaching an agreement on the SDGs in New York (2013-2017).

He was Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN and other international organisations in Switzerland (2017-2021). He particularly focused on WHO (covid-19 crisis and ongoing reforms of the global health architecture), the Human Rights Council, Humanitarian Affairs, ILO and WTO. He was named Special Representative for Corporate Social Responsibility and the Social Dimension of Globalization in early September 2021.

He is a graduate of Ecole Normale Supérieure, Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris and Ecole Nationale d'Administration. He also holds a Master's degree in Philosophy and a Doctorate in Economics.

Carsten Stender

Carsten Stender is head of Directorate-General VI "European and International Employment and Social Policy" at Germany's Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS). He had previously been in charge of a unit at Germany's Federal Foreign Office responsible for political coordination for the Vice-Chancellor. Dr. Stender has many years of experience in his field as Head of the SPD Chairman's Office and Head of Office of the SPD General Secretary. He has also worked as policy advisor, head of a minister's office, party mobilization manager, and as a legal adviser to the Executive Committee of his party. He studied law, passing his state examinations with honours and writing his dissertation on legislative techniques. Dr. Stender also holds master's degrees in political science and public management. He is married to an Austrian book designer and is the father of a nine-year-old son.

Nareeluc Pairchaiyapoom

She is the Director of the International Human Rights Division of the Rights and Liberties Protection Department, Ministry of Justice Thailand. As a seasoned civil servant of the Ministry of Justice, Nareeluc has extensive experience in working with representatives from governments, civil societies and domestic and international organizations on a wide range of human rights issues. She is a team leader for drafting and pushing forward the first National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP) in Thailand, also well recognized as the first NAP in Asia. She also widely acclaimed for her expertise

in policies relating to legal aid, gender diversity, anti-torture and enforced disappearances, and business and human rights issues.

She was awarded the “Thailand’s Best Government Officer Award” in 2013 and the “Rising Star of the Year Award 2017” as presented by the prestigious Associations of Thai Government Scholarship Students. She holds LLB in Law and LLM in Private and Business Law from Chulalongkorn University, Master degree in Theory and Practice of Human Rights from Essex University, and Post Graduate Diploma in Human Rights Law from Nottingham University.

Robert Grabosch

Robert is a German lawyer specialising on Business & Human Rights. He’s a Partner at Schweizer Legal, a German law firm, based in Berlin. He has been consulting Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation ever since the idea of HRDD legislation came up in Germany.

After the Supply Chain Due Diligence Act was successfully passed last Summer, he published the first handbook for practitioners. Robert also consults companies that have to comply with the legislation.

Mónica Tepfer

She is currently a Legal Officer at the Legal Unit of the International Trade Union Confederation, Brussels. She is a lawyer and Master in Public Policies.

Bernd Lange

Member of the European Parliament. Chairman of the International Trade (INTA) committee, which, among other things, wrote the INTA opinion on the European Parliament Due Diligence report and negotiated the conflict minerals regulation and has closely followed the issues of trade and sustainability/human rights for years.

Michael Clements

She is the Director for International Programmes at Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, where she supports the work of the Resource Centre’s teams working on labour rights and supply chains, responsible natural resources use, and technology and human rights, as well as corporate legal accountability and civic freedoms and human rights defenders.

Before joining the Resource Centre, she worked as a human rights attorney at South African public interest legal organisation, Lawyers for Human Rights, where she was Head of Programmes, and acted as the National Director for three years. Prior to this, she practiced law in New York, specialising in international arbitration and litigation. Michael has an undergraduate degree from Barnard College and a juris doctor from Columbia University. She is based in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Andrés De Cicco,

Andrés is a lawyer from the National University of Córdoba (Argentina) and obtained a master's degree in Governance and Human Rights from the Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain. He currently works as a consultant to the Special Rapporteurship on Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights (REDESCA) of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)

Maddalena Neglia

Maddalena is the director of the Globalisation and Human Rights desk at FIDH, where she oversees the organisations’ strategic priority on « Promoting Respect of Human Rights and environment by Economic Players » and she coordinates the Federation’ activities on strengthening the international and European regulatory framework on corporate accountability and on improving access to justice for victims of corporate related human rights and environmental abuses.

Prior to join FIDH, Maddalena was postdoctoral research fellow at the Center for Ethics and Law of the University College of London, Business and human rights specialist at Fairfood International in Amsterdam, Judicial clerk at the Milan Court of Appeal and lawyer at Latham and Watkins LLP in Milan. Maddalena has published articles on business and human rights. She holds a Ph.D. in Public Comparative Law.

Ariella Scher

Ariella is an attorney and Head of Programme: Business and Human Rights at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALS) located at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. Her work focuses on ensuring corporate accountability for human rights violations through litigation, advocacy and research in both the domestic and international spheres, targeting both the corporate and regulatory spheres. She previously worked as an attorney in private practice specializing in labour law and government consulting, and served as a judicial clerk at the South African Supreme Court of Appeal. Ariella holds a BSocSci (2010) and LIB (2012) from the University of Cape Town, and a Master of Studies in International Human Rights Law (2019) from the University of Oxford.

Miriam Saage-Maaß

She is Vice Legal Director at the European Centre for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR), Germany, where she has developed and headed the Business and Human Rights program. She worked on various cases against corporations, including civil proceedings against German retailer Kik with regards to labour exploitation in South Asia. Furthermore, she is engaged in criminal proceedings against high-ranking managers for their involvement in international crimes, e.g. arms exports from Europe to Saudi Arabia. She regularly publishes articles on the question of corporate accountability for human rights violations in global supply chains and is an internationally renowned expert for corporate responsibility and human rights. She lectures at Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, and joined Stiftung Forum Recht's advisory board in 2020.

In October 2016, the German Vereinigung Demokratischer Juristinnen und Juristen awarded Saage-Maaß and ECCHR General Secretary Wolfgang Kaleck the Hans Litten Prize for their strategic approach to ECCHR's work.

Richard Meeran

Richard has been a Partner at Leigh Day since 1991 where he is Head of the International Department. He pioneered UK litigation against multinationals from the mid-1990s, transforming English law on parent company liability and *forum non conveniens*. He has also collaborated for 20 years with local lawyers in multinational litigation in the South African courts, most recently a lead poisoning class action for Zambian children against Anglo American. He has spoken frequently in Geneva at the Forum on Business and Human Rights and regarding a legally binding treaty. He is Editor of 'Human Rights Litigation against Multinationals in Practice' published by Oxford University Press in October 2021

Thales Coelho

Thales Cavalcanti Coelho is a Federal Prosecutor in Brazil. At the Brazilian Federal Prosecution Service, he is the Head of the Business and Human Rights Working Group and a former member of the Mariana Dam Disaster Task Force. He holds a Master in Criminal Law and a Law Degree from the University of Sao Paulo

Charlie Holt

Charlie is a Legal Counsel Campaigns at Greenpeace International. He supports the food and forest campaigns and advises on Greenpeace International's anti-SLAPP strategy. Prior to joining the Legal Unit at Greenpeace International, he worked as a legal consultant in Somaliland, where he worked with government ministries and state institutions to build up the territory's justice sector in line with international human rights standards. Having helped set up the US anti-SLAPP coalition [Protect the Protest](#), Charlie is currently focussing on building resilience against SLAPPs in Europe through the new [Coalition Against SLAPPs in Europe \(CASE\)](#). Charlie is a member of the Bar of England & Wales and holds an LL.M. degree in international human rights law from Northwestern Law School in the USA.

Tchenna Masso

She is Associate Researcher at HOMA, University of Juiz du Fora, Brazil. She is also a PhD candidate in Law at the Federal University of Paraná | Brazil. She holds a Master in Political Science and International Relations from the Federal University of Latin American Integration, Brazil. Before joining HOMA, she was working at the Movement for the people Affected by Dams- MAB.

Sharan Burrow

Sharan Burrow is the General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation, representing 200 million workers in 163 countries and territories with 332 national affiliates. The ITUC's primary mission is the promotion and defense of workers' rights and interests, through international cooperation between trade unions, global campaigning, and advocacy within the major global institutions.

Previously President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) from 2000 – 2010, Sharan is a passionate advocate and campaigner for social justice, women’s rights, the environment, and labour law reforms, and has led union negotiations on major economic reforms and labour rights campaigns in her home country of Australia and globally. She has also served as a member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation and is represented on a number of international commissions concerning climate action, industrial transition, and economic reform.

Matthias Thorns

As Deputy Secretary-General, Matthias Thorns has a part in the overall responsibility for the management of the IOE Secretariat in its work to support the global business community in its representation vis-a-vis the UN institutions, as well as G20, G7 and other international initiatives. His career began as Adviser for Social Affairs in the European Business Federation UNICE (now BUSINESSEUROPE), before moving to the Confederation of German Employers (BDA) as Adviser and later Deputy Director of the International and European Affairs Department, looking after European and International Social Policy, CSR and Human Rights as well as OECD ELSA matters. After leaving the Confederation of German Employers in 2012, Matthias joined the IOE as Senior Adviser, leading the work on Human Rights, G20 and G7, Global Supply Chains as well as SMEs. In 2017 Matthias joined the Workplace Rights team of The Coca-Cola Company as Human Rights and Workplace Rights Manager. He was also engaged in the preparation and follow-up to meetings with IUF. In 2018 he was appointed IOE Director of Stakeholder Engagement and a year later IOE Deputy Secretary-General. Matthias is a member of the Governance Committee of the Centre for Sports and Human Rights, the UN Global Compact Expert Network, Co-Chair of the ILO Child Labour Platform and member of the Global Coordination Group of the Alliance 8.7. Matthias holds a Master of Arts in European Studies and a Magister Artium in History and Philosophy, both from the University of Hannover. He participated in the CGF “Future Leaders Programme” in 2018 and in the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) of the U.S. State Department in July 2012

Douglas Cassel

Doug Cassel is a scholar, practitioner and commentator on international human rights law, specializing in issues of business and human rights, regional human rights systems, and international criminal and humanitarian law. Cassel has served as Legal Advisor to the United Nations Commission on the Truth for El Salvador; Executive Council member of the American Society of International Law; co-chair of the International Committee of the Board of Directors of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law; Chair of the Independent International Panel on Alleged Collusion in Sectarian Killings in Northern Ireland; and consultant to the Department of State, Department of Justice, Ford Foundation, the President of the American Bar Association, and non-governmental human rights organizations. He served as President of the Due Process of Law Foundation (“DPLF”), based in Washington, D.C., from 2000 to 2012.

Cassel earned a B.A. cum laude from Yale in 1969 and a J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law School in 1972. After visiting at Notre Dame in 2002, Cassel joined the faculty in 2005, and served as director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights from 2005-2012. He previously directed human rights centers at DePaul College of Law and Northwestern University School of Law. He retired from the Law School in June 2018.

Kinda Mohamadieh

Kinda Mohamadieh is a legal adviser and senior researcher with the Third World Network office in Geneva. Her work focuses on WTO processes and negotiations, international investment governance, and the role and accountability of business enterprises. Previously, she served as senior researcher for seven years with the intergovernmental organization the South Centre, based also in Geneva. She had also worked for nine years with the Arab NGO Network for Development, based in Beirut. Kinda holds an LL.M. in International Economic Law from the University of Lausanne, a master’s degree in Public Affairs from UCLA, and an undergraduate degree in economics. She is a PhD candidate at the Graduate Institute of International and development Studies, Geneva.

Fernanda Hopenhaym

Fernanda Hopenhaym is currently a member and chair of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights. She was Co-Executive Director at Project on Organizing, Development, Education and Research (PODER), an organization in Latin America dedicated to corporate accountability. For twenty years, Ms. Hopenhaym has worked on economic, social and gender justice. Since 2006 Ms. Hopenhaym has been working on issues related to human rights and financial institutions and in the last ten years, she has focused specifically on business and human rights, working to advance corporate accountability and strengthen respect for human rights vis-a-vis private and public investments or development projects, and private sector operations. She has been involved in processes related to the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles, as well as in other processes regarding relevant instruments, such as the Binding Treaty negotiations and due diligence laws. She has conducted research on cases related to corporate impact on human rights and the environment

and worked with and accompanied local communities affected by public/private projects in their pursuit of justice and remedy. She has conducted advocacy in the LAC region and globally to advance corporate accountability and human rights as well as leading training and capacity building on business and human rights related issues. From January 2019 to December 2021, Ms. Hopenhaym was Chair of the Board of ESCRNet, the international network for economic, social and cultural rights; she has been a board member of EarthRights International since early 2021 and an adviser to the Business and Human Rights Award Foundation since early 2020

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES FOR MODERATORS

Carlos López

Carlos is currently a Senior Legal Advisor, Law and Policy Office at the International Commission of Jurists, Switzerland, where he leads the programme on business and human rights. He represents the ICJ in UN processes towards legally binding instruments regarding companies and human rights responsibilities. He has led in the ICJ work on access to justice in business and human rights and company operational grievance mechanisms. Before, he worked at the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, in various posts and tasks and short assignments in several international NGOs. He holds a PhD in international law from the Graduate Institute of International Relations, Geneva

Ana María Suarez Franco

Ana María Suárez Franco is a lawyer from the Universidad Javeriana and did a postgraduate course in public policies at the Universidad de los Andes, Colombia. She holds an LLM degree from the University of Heidelberg and a doctorate from the University of Mannheim, Germany. She is the coordinator of FIAN International's accountability work and the organization's permanent representative to the UN in Geneva. Ana María participated in the processes of elaboration of the Maastricht Principles on Extraterritorial Obligations, the negotiation processes of the Declaration on the Rights of Peasants, as well as in the current negotiation process towards a Binding Instrument on Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises with regard to Human Rights. Ana María has worked closely with communities affected by violations of their right to food in various regions, supporting them to use accountability mechanisms in the UN Human Rights System and the Inter-American Human Rights System.

Yves Lador

Since 1988, Yves Lador has served as the Permanent Representative of Earthjustice to the United Nations in Geneva, focusing on the links between human rights and the environment, including, the role of civil society, the human impact on climate change, pollution and toxic products, the right to water and to a healthy and sustainable environment. Yves has published articles on human rights and the environment, the work of the different agencies of the United Nations based in Geneva, and human rights training. He also actively participates in different groups and networks in these fields. A Swiss citizen, Yves holds a degree from the Geneva Graduate Institute of Development Studies.

Gabriela Quijano

Gabriela Quijano is an independent Business and Human Rights specialist. Since January 2020, she has been working with NGOs and civil society networks on the development of normative frameworks, legal and advocacy strategy and specific cases of corporate human rights abuse. From December 2005 to December 2019 Gabriela worked in the Business and Human Rights team of Amnesty International as head of team, senior legal adviser and strategy adviser. This work also involved research and advocacy around specific cases, strategic litigation and engagement in standard setting processes. Gabriela is a qualified lawyer from Argentina and holds a Masters degree on Human Rights from the Human Rights Centre of Essex University. Prior to moving to the UK, she practiced civil, commercial and corporate law in the cities of Buenos Aires and La Plata, in Argentina.

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