



# Nova BHRE Newsletter April 2021

### WEBINAR SERIES:

# Business, Human Rights and the Environment in Europe: Connecting the Dots

Organised by the NOVA Centre on Business, Human Rights and the Environment in partnership with the British Institute of International and Comparative Law in collaboration with the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

### Episode 4: Corporate Due Diligence and the Green Deal 22 April 2021, 2:00 - 4:00 pm (Lisbon Time)

#### Speakers:



Arianne Griffith, Global Witness



Sebastian Lesch, Head of Unit, International Agricultural Policy, Agriculture, Innovation, German Ministry of Economy



**Delara Burkhardt,** Member of the European Parliament



**Surya Deva,** UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights



**Ivano Alogna,** British Institute of International and Comparative Law



**Chair: Joanne Scott,** European University Institute















# ACTIVITIES

### <u>Webinar Series Business, Human Rights and the</u> <u>Environment in Europe</u>

With the support of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the Nova Centre on Business, Human Rights and the Environment (NOVA BHRE) is organizing, in partnership with the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, the Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum, and NOVA 4 The Globe, a webinar series gathering experts from different fields and representing various groups of stakeholders to discuss key issues pertaining to Business, Human Rights and the Environment.

The **first** episode is available <u>here.</u>

The **second** episode is available <u>here</u>.

The **third** episode is available <u>here.</u>

The **fourth episode** of the series which took place on the 22th of April focused on the interconnectedness between corporate due diligence and the green deal in light of the legislative developments at the European level. It was chaired by Joanne Scott and the speakers were Surya Deva, Delara Burkhardt, Sebastian Lesch, Arianne Griffith and Ivano Alogna.

Link to register for the next episodes:

https://novabhre.novalaw.unl.pt/business-and-human-rightsdevelopments-in-europe/





SUSTAINABILITY, CONSUMPTION.

#### Consumer Conference 2021

On the 21st and 22nd of April 2021, on the occasion of Earth Day 2021, the NOVA Consumer lab organised, in partnership with the NOVA Centre on Business, Human Rights and the Environment, a conference on Sustainability & Consumption in which the EU Commissioner for Justice, Didier Reynders and the Portuguese Secretary of State for Trade, Services and Consumers Protection, João Torres, gave the welcome address. The online conference gathered nearly 50 panelists. Claire Bright gave an overview of the current legislative landscape concerning Sustainable Supply Chains in the panel on "Consumer Law and Sustainability".

### Webinar - The Role of the private sector in the transition to a green, fair, and sustainable economy

On the 28th of April 2021 the NOVA BHRE took part in the webinar on The Role of the private sector in the transition to a green, fair, and sustainable economy, organised by the Plataforma Portuguesa. The Portuguese Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and

Cooperation, Francisco André, and the Vice-President of the European Investment Bank, Ricardo Mourinho Félix delivered the opening remarks, followed by a debate moderated by Claire Bright with a distinguished panel of experts including Maria Shaw Barragan, from the European Investment Bank, Batchi Baldeh, from the African Development Bank, Elina Mikola, from the Finnish Development NGOs, Erika Mendes from Justiça Ambiental / Friends of the Earth Mozambique and Erinch Sahan from the World Fair Trade Organization.



# **TEACHING ACTIVITIES**

### <u>Guest lectures at the European Master Programme on Human Rights and</u> <u>Democratisation (EMA)</u>

Laura Iñigo Álvarez and Claire Bright participated in the European Master Programme on Human Rights and Democratisation (EMA). Laura presented on 'Business and Human Rights and non-judicial remedies' on the 8th and 9th of April and Claire gave guest lectures on 'Human Rights Due Diligence and Access to Remedy' on the 12th and 13th of April.

#### Course on Law and Cinema

As part of the course on Law and Cinema coordinated by Francisco Pereira Coutinho - NOVA Law School in partnership with the ICA - Instituto do Cinema e do Audiovisual, the documentary "Under Rich Earth" by Malcolm Rogge was screened, and was presented by Claire Bright, followed by a live Q&A session with the film's director.

#### ESG Risk Management in Financial Contract

On the 16th of April 2021, as part of the module on ESG Risk Management in Financial Contract led by Claire Bright, Céline da Graça Pires from Business for Social Responsibility (BSR) gave a guest lecture on human rights impact assessments.

# INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS OF THE TEAM

### Carlota Martins (Research Assistant)

Carlota Martins is currently in the first year of the MaSters in Law and Management at NOVA School of Law. She holds a bachelors degree in Law from the Faculty of Law from Porto University, where she graduated in 2020. Since 2016, she has taken part as a volunteer in the European Youth Parliament (EYP) Network, being part of the Governing Bodies of EYP Portugal since 2017. She was also part of the Board of Conselho Nacional de Estudantes de Direito between the years of 2017 and 2019.





#### Gabriela Soares (Research Assistant)

Gabriela Soares is currently in the first year of the Masters in Law and Management at NOVA School of Law, and Nova SBE. In 2020, she graduated in Law from Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto. During her Bachelor's Degree, she was a member of the editorial department of the Faculty Journal- Jornal Universitário Tribuna. Gabriela was President of the Association Legislatuna- Tuna Feminina da Faculdade de Direito da Universidade do Porto.

#### Irene Pietropaoli (Associate of NOVA BHRE)

Irene Pietropaoli is a Research Fellow in Business and Human Rights and joined BIICL in October 2018. She conducts research on corporate human rights due diligence, other aspects of implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on business and human rights, and legislation on modern slavery in supply chain. Irene is also leading BIICL's work on Artificial Intelligence and its links with business and human rights. Irene holds a PhD from the school of Law of Middlesex University, London.





#### Jorge Morais de Carvalho (Research Associate)

Jorge Morais de Carvalho is an Associate Professor at the NOVA School of Law and a researcher at CEDIS - Research Centre on Law and Society. He is also the Director of the NOVA Consumer Lab. He has authored over a hundred books and scientific articles on civil law, commercial law, consumer law, civil procedural law, alternative dispute resolution (including mediation and arbitration) and comparative law and participated in over a hundred seminars and conferences in Argentina, Brazil, England, Italy, Peru, Portugal and Spain. Co-editor of the EuCML -Journal of European Consumer and Market Law. He graduated from a Law degree in 2002 and a PhD in Law at the NOVA School of Law in 2011.

#### Sara Pacheco (Research Assistant)

Sara Pacheco is a forth-year student at NOVA School of Law. During one semester she attended Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona under the Erasmus Programme. Sara was a researcher at CEDIS - Research Centre on Law and Society - on the Project "Development Cooperation and Education Law on the Higher Education System in Angola, Cape Verde and São Tomé and Príncipe" and currently integrates the Green Lab's team that is cooperating with the Portuguese Environment Agency in the context of the Portuguese Presidency of the European Union Council 2021.



## **Introducing Nova BHRE's Partners**

<u>NOVA Consumer Lab</u> – The mission of the Nova Consumer Lab is to develop activities related to Consumer Law, particularly with regard to general contractual terms, advertising, pricing, unfair commercial practices, sale of consumer goods, essential public services, financial services, accommodation, transportation, digital economy and its challenges, regulation and dispute resolution. Taking advantage of almost two decades of experience of NOVA School of Law in monitoring and resolving consumer disputes, in UMAC - Unit for Mediation and Monitoring of Consumer Conflicts (which the Consumer Lab succeeds).



# **Publications and Blog Posts**

Private international law issues in the Second Draft of the legally binding instrument on business and human rights, by Claire Bright, Maria Chiara Marullo and Francisco Javier Zamora Cabot, Nederlands International Privatrecht [Dutch Journal of Private International Law], **39/1** 2021. Transcript of the Keynote Speech delivered by the Portuguese Secretary of State for Commerce, Services and Consumer Protection by João Torres, April 6, 2021

The relevance of the history and nature of company law in the context of human rights and the environment by Stephen Turner, April 7, 2021

Alterações climáticas e o TEDH: ação proposta por 6 jovens portugueses by Sara Pacheco and Sara Félix, April 8, 2021

Contracting for Human Rights and Corporate Due Diligence: Using the ABA Working Group's Model Contract Clauses 2.0 by Sarah Dadush, April 15, 2021

The Next Step for Corporate Accountability in the Netherlands: The New Bill for Responsible and Sustainable International Business Conduct, by Joseph Wilde-Ramsing, Manon Wolfkamp and David Ollivier de Leth, April 18, 2021

Business and humans rights violations: the Greek approach to corporate liability ex crimine, by Athina Sachoulidou, April 18, 2021

Sustainability and the Contractual Organization of Production by Jaakko Salminen, April 20, 2021

Corporate Law as a Barrier to Human Rights Claims and the Promise of MHREDD Laws by Rachel Chamber, April 20, 2021

The complete list of the Blog Posts can be found here:

https://novabhre.novalaw.unl.pt/noticias-empresas-direitos-humanos/

https://novabhre.novalaw.unl.pt/latest-bhr-developments/

https://novabhre.novalaw.unl.pt/corporate-due-diligence-in-contract-andcompany-law/

### **Upcoming Events**

<u>Webinar Business, Human Rights and the Environment in</u> <u>Europe</u>

**Episode 5-** Thursday 27th of May 2021: 14:00 – 16:00: Corporate Due Diligence and Sustainable Finance. Register <u>here</u>.

**Episode 6-** Thursday 24th of June 2021: 14:00 – 16:00: Corporate Due Diligence and Gender Equality. Register <u>here</u>.





In the third episode of the podcast series, Corporate Criminal Liability in Brazil, Eduardo Saad-Diniz shares insights with Athina Sachoulidou and Julia Gracia on corporate criminal liability in Brazil. You can listen in:

Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9eMZy9bbG3Q

Spotify: https://open.spotify.com/episode/2fh6DHtThQwZD3MBj9tXen

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