



Nova BHRE Newsletter May 2021

ACTIVITIES

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 (NOVA BHRE) in collaboration with the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the EU

Episode 5: Corporate Due Diligence and Sustainable Finance

27 May 2021, 2:00 - 4:00 pm (Lisbon Time)

Speakers:



Celine Tan,
Warwick Law School



Tara Van Ho,
Essex University



Robin Brooks,
Norton Rose Fulbright



Daria Davitti,
Lund University



Tyler Gillard,
OECD



**Rodrigo Marques
Tavares,**
Nova SBE



Phil Bloomer,
Business and Human
Rights Resource Center



Chair:
Paloma Muñoz Quick,
Advisor on the UN Working
Group on Business & Human
Rights - UNGPs 10 + /
Next Decade BHR



Europe

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 [here](#).

The second episode is available [here](#).

The third episode is available [here](#).

The fourth episode is available [here](#).

The **fifth episode** of the series took place on the 27th of May and focused on the interconnectedness between corporate due diligence and sustainable finance in light of the legislative developments at the European level. The panel of experts featured Phil Bloomer, Robin Brooks, Daria Davitti, Tyler Gillard, Rodrigo Marques Taveres, Celine Tan, Tava Van Ho, and chaired by Paloma Muñoz Quick.

Link to register for the last episode:

<https://novabhre.novalaw.unl.pt/business-and-human-rights-developments-in-europe/>



Speed Webinar

On the 19th of May 2021, Claire Marzo presented her paper on Platform workers and the due diligence duty in the new French Law proposal in the framework of the SPEED webinar series. The paper was discussed by Claire Bright and Barbara Palli.

How Companies are Preparing for the EU's Upcoming Legislation on Mandatory Due Diligence

On the 25th of May 2021, the NOVA BHRE participated in a webinar organised by Business for Social Responsibility (BSR) discussing the EU-level developments in relation to mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence and its implications for companies. The panelists included Marissa Saretsky (Director of Corporate Sustainability at Pandora), Laurent Lhopitalier, (Head of Healthy Planet and Vigilance Plan at Sanofi) and Claire Bright.



E-course on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

As part of the short e-course on Women's Rights and Gender Equality, Claire Bright delivered a session on Gender Equality in Business and Human Rights which took place on the 25th of May.



Apresentação

Plano
curricular

Candidaturas

Propinas

Testemunhos

O E-Course on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (Direitos das Mulheres e Igualdade de Género) tem como objetivo o estudo dos mecanismos legais para proteger os direitos das mulheres e promover a igualdade de género, a nível regional e internacional.

Público-alvo: Todos aqueles que estudam e trabalham com temas relacionados com os Direitos das Mulheres e Igualdade de Género.

Data: 24 a 28 de maio, 2021

Local: Online – Plataforma

Horário: De segunda a sexta-feira, 18:00 – 21:30 (hora de Lisboa)



Jurisnova Specialization Course

On the 21st of May 2021, the NOVA BHRE participated in the webinar on "The challenges of public procurement and the circular economy - sustainability criteria in public procurement" organised by Vera Eiró with Tiago de Melo Cartaxo, and the Secretary of State for the Environment, Inês dos Santos Costa, as Claire Bright talked about public procurement and human rights due diligence in the supply chain.



Collaboration with IMVF

As part of the campaign OurFood.OurFuture, implemented in Portugal by IMVF, Nova BHRE elaborated a legal brief about “Diligência devida em matéria de direitos humanos e ambiente”. For more information you can consult: [tudo-o-que-precisas-de-saber-sobre-a-diligencia-devida-em-materia-de-direitos-humanos-e-ambiente](#)

Cocoa Coalition

On the 11th of May, the NOVA BHRE participated in a webinar organised by the Cocoa Coalition, in which Shahmeem Purdasy (Senior Executive and General Counsel with Plenitude Consulting) and Claire Bright discussed the provisions on corporate liability in the European Parliament Resolution of the 10th of March with recommendations to the Commission on Corporate due diligence and corporate accountability.

ESG Risk Management in Financial Contract

As part of the ESG Risk Management in Financial Contracts course, Alison E. Holm discussed the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises together with a group exercise on the Michelin special instance before the French NCP.

International Commercial Law

On 11 May Laura Íñigo Álvarez gave a guest lecture about the mediation system established by the OECD National Contact Points for Responsible Business Conduct. This was a joint session with Prof. Angelica Bonfanti and her students from the Università degli Studi di Milano and the students from NOVA School of Law Available in [here](#).

As part of the Brill's Podcast series "Chains" professor Vasco Becker-Weinberg has participated on the episode about Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in the Fishing Industry. The episode is available [here](#).

INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS OF THE TEAM

Eva Tanque (Research Assistant)

Eva Tanque graduated in International Relations from the University of Porto, and is currently a student of the Master's in International and European Law at NOVA School of Law. During her Bachelor's degree, she was a member of the Students' Association and vice-president of the International Relations Student Organization from University of Porto. She was also involved in various projects, such as the HeForShe centre at her faculty. She attended Maastricht University under the Erasmus Programme, where she completed a Minor in European Studies in 2017.



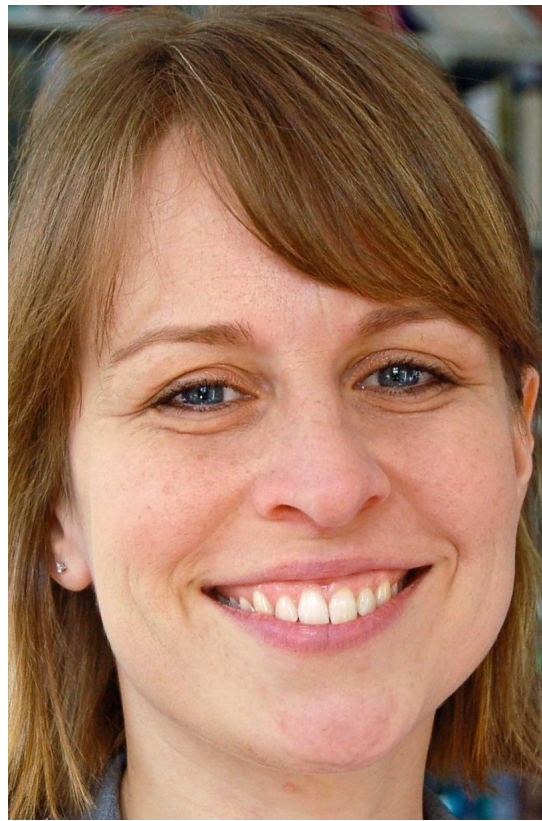
Leonor Sustelo (Research Assistant)

Leonor Sustelo holds a Bachelor in Political Science and International Relations, by Universidade Católica de Lisboa, and is currently engaged in the Master in International and European Law, at Nova School of Law. In 2017, she attended a course on Human Rights, which sparked in her an attraction to the subject. It aroused her curiosity to the impact that these inalienable rights could have or should have on the political and economic relations between the different international actors.



Lise Smith (Associate)

Lise Smit is Senior Research Fellow in Business and Human Rights at the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. She conducts research on corporate human rights due diligence and other aspects of implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Prior to joining the BIICL, Lise was a practicing advocate at the Cape Town Bar in South Africa. She has worked on business and human rights issues for the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre and the UN Global Compact Office. She was also law clerk to the Chief Justice of South Africa, Pius Langa, at the South African Constitutional Court. She has authored various publications in the area of business and human rights, including on human rights litigation against companies.



Maíra Tito (Research Associate)

Maíra Tito is a licensed lawyer in Brazil and a PhD candidate at NOVA School of Law, Lisbon. Her main areas of expertise are: Public International Law, Constitutional Law and Environmental and Urban Law. She was a consultant for the Food and Agriculture Organization – UN/FAO (2006), a public attorney in Londrina, Brazil (2011-2020) and Director of Urban Planning in Londrina (2014-2016). She was also professor of Environmental and Urban Law at the State University of Londrina (2015-2016).



Mariana Ferreira

Mariana Ferreira has a Law Degree from NOVA School of Law and studies Human Rights and Democratization with a focus on international trade and human rights at the Global Campus of Human Rights. She is currently writing her thesis at the European Training and Research Centre for Human Rights and Democracy at the University of Graz. Mariana has been involved with different organizations from civil society related to human rights and

sustainability and performed humanitarian work in refugee camps in Greece.



Introducing Nova BHRE Partners

The Nova BHRE is delighted to announce its partnership with [PLMJ](#), a collaboration which will support its goals of fostering sustainable business conduct in Portugal and beyond. Our joint work will focus on enabling companies to respect human rights, including labour rights and environmental standards, throughout their global value chains, thereby advancing the [United Nations](#) Sustainable Development Goals.

<https://novalaw.unl.pt/destaques/plmj-parceira-juridica-do-nova-business-human-rights-and-the-environment/>



Publications and Blog Posts

Proposta de Diretiva relativa ao Dever de Diligência das Empresas e a Responsabilidade Empresarial by **Ana Duarte**, May 11, 2021

Concluding Remarks on Business and Human Rights in Greece, by **Iris Anastasiadou**, May 11, 2021

O trabalho infantil na produção de cacau: que responsabilidade para as empresas do setor? by **Benedita Sequeira**, May 13, 2021

Company Law: the corporate board and mandatory sustainability due diligence, by **Beate Sjøfjell**, May 25th 2021

The French Duty of Vigilance Law in Comparison with the Proposed German Due Diligence Act - Similarities and Differences by **Laura Nasse**, May 26th 2021

A proposta de lei Alemã sobre devida diligência nas cadeias de abastecimento by **Rafaela Oliveira**, May 27th 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

4 June 2021

Dr. Laura Íñigo Álvarez will participate in a webinar series organised by the Business and Human Rights Working Group of the University of Sao Paulo. Laura will talk about the binding treaty on business and human rights, its main challenges and expected outcomes. More information at <https://sites.usp.br/businessandcrime/vivamus-tellus-velit-lacinia-nibh-et-iaculis-fringilla-metus/>



Business and Human Rights

Working Group

USP

Webinar Series

Theme: *Binding Treaty on Business and Human Rights and expected outcomes*

Date: June 04 2021 - Time 1 pm Brazil (GMT - 3)

speaker

Laura Íñigo Álvarez

- Postdoctoral researcher in International Law at the Nova School of Law
- Research Associate at the Nova Centre on Business, Human Rights and the Environment



Organizers



Victoria Vitti de Laurentiz

PhD candidate at the University of Sao Paulo



Daniela Arantes Prata

LLM candidate at University of Cambridge, King's College



João Victor P. Gianecchini

Undergraduate student at the University of Sao Paulo

Online event at Google Meets

<https://meet.google.com/ekz-ryhh-rmj>

Debaters



Julia Gracia

*Founding Member/NOVA Compliance Lab
Research Associate/NOVA Centre for Business,
Human Rights and the Environment*



Bruna Santos

*LLM candidate at
ProLam/USP*

WG Coordinator:
Eduardo Saad-Diniz



/businessandhrwg



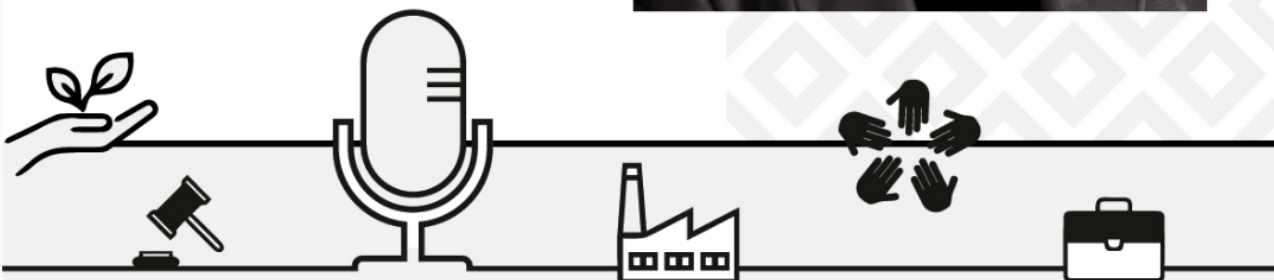
@/bhrworkinggroup/

24 June 2021

Dr. Laura Íñigo Álvarez will speak at the Toogdag 2021 organised by the Netherlands Network for Human Rights Research under the theme 'Human Rights and Vulnerability'. She will discuss her research about non-judicial remedies for business-related human rights abuses and the main obstacles for indigenous groups for obtaining effective remedies. More information at <https://www.asser.nl/nnhrr/events/annual-toogdag/>



PODCAST

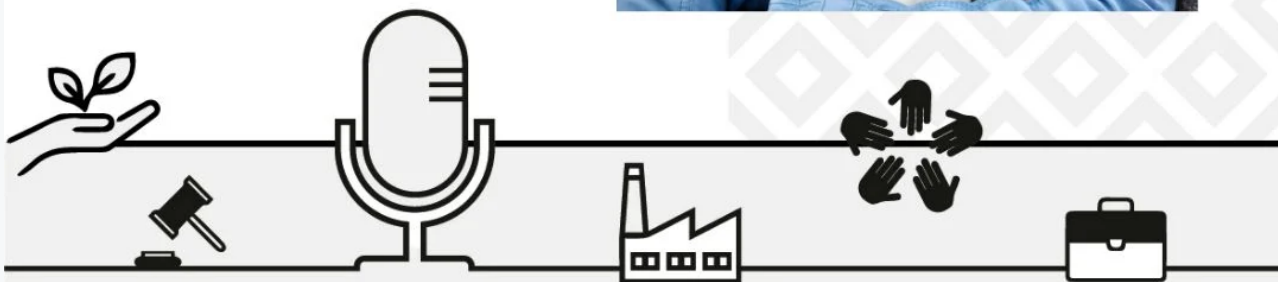


In the fourth episode of the Podcast series, Dr. Claire Bright and Dr. Filipa Cansado Carvalho held a conversation with Dr. Catherine Kessedjian on the Hague Rules on Business and Human Rights Arbitration, based on an article she recently published on the topic for the Journal du Droit International

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dp9Hlov0gLg>

Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/5beHCvedwsaKmaYObxLNj9>

PODCAST



In the fifth episode of the Podcast series, Ana Duarte and Laura Íñigo Álvarez held a conversation with Eleanor Lumsden on the relationship between tech companies, inclusion and diversity.

Youtube: <https://lnkd.in/d6vrzGr>

Sportify: <https://lnkd.in/djafesZ>

Nova BHRE

[Unsubscribe](#)