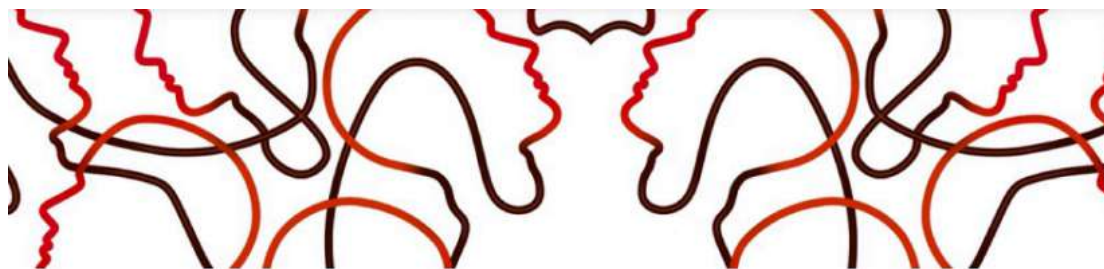




NOVA BHRE Newsletter March 2024

ACTIVITIES

In March, the NOVA BHRE was delighted to receive Professor Errol Mendes as a visiting scholar. On the 21st of March 2024, in the SPEED Lunch Seminar we welcomed Professor Errol Mendes who presented on the topic 'Moving From Promoting Soft Law Regarding Business and Human Rights in the UN to an Advocate to Hard Law in the Canadian Court', followed by a discussion from the panel composed of Gianluca Parolin, Anaïs Tobalagba and Claire Bright and Helena Pereira de Melo as the moderator.



SPEED Lunch Seminar

Moving From Promoting Soft Law Regarding Business and Human Rights in the UN to an Advocate for Hard Law in the Canadian Supreme Court

21 March 2024 (Thursday, 12h30-14h00)

Scientific Council Room and online on [Zoom](#)

Speaker:

Errol P. Mendes

Professor of Law, *University of Ottawa*

Discussants:

Claire Bright

Associate Professor, *NOVA School of Law*

Gianluca Parolin

Professor of Law, *Aga Khan University*

MODERATOR:

Helena Pereira de Melo

Associate Professor with Agregação, *NOVA School of Law*

Coordinators: Veronica Corcodel, Nausica Palazzo

Contact: speeden.doutoramento@novalaw.unl.pt

SPEED Lunch seminars are funded by national funds through FCT – Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, I. P., within the scope of the project UIDB/00714/2020. Lunch is provided.



On the 19th of March 2024, Professor Errol Mendes delivered a guest lecture to the students of the course on Business, Human Rights and Sustainability, sharing his experience as the author of the Human Rights Chapter of the UN Global Compact and analysing the discussions around the binding Treaty on Business and Human Rights.



On the 13th of March 2024, the NOVA BHRE presented the preliminary findings of the report co-authored by Claire Bright and Luca Tenreira on the evolution of corporate practices and policies before and after the French Duty of Vigilance Law was introduced.

This report, part of the project led by BIICL 'Identifying and Comparing Impacts of mHREDD Legal Models on Internal Corporate Practice', aims at producing evidence of internal corporate responses to mHREDD legal models, to inform the design and implementation of more effective mHREDD laws. The presentation took place as part of the Roundtable on *Impacts on human rights due diligence laws on internal corporate practice*, organised by the British Institute on International and Comparative Law.



On the 12th of March the NOVA BHRE participated in the HRDD Forum organised by the British Institute on International and Comparative Law on [the Future of the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive - different possible scenarios](#), as Claire Bright shared the panel with Andrea Rümke (Westfälische Hochschule) and Lise Smit (Norton Rose Fulbright) discussing the positions of the various member States, and in particular France, Germany and Italy, in the recent debates and lobbying in relation to the latest votes on the CSDDD.



12 Mar 24

HYBRID

HRDD Forum: The future of the EU Corporate Sustainability Due diligence Directive - different possible scenarios

At this roundtable, legal experts in different jurisdictions will discuss the impacts of the CSDDD on the French duty of vigilance law, on the German due diligence in supply chain act ...

Business and Human Rights +1

On the 12th of March 2024, Claire Bright delivered an online guest lecture introducing the topic of Business and Human Rights to the students of the Master on Global Economics and Social Affairs of the University Ca' Foscari in Venice.



On the 6-8th of March 2024, the NOVA BHRE participated in the Themis Seminar on the Social Responsibility of Lawyers in the Global Context at the Bocconi University in Milan as Claire Bright delivered a presentation focusing on the role and responsibility of lawyers in light of the changing landscape on Business and Human Rights.



The project 'Decoding Sustainable Finance' coordinated by the NOVA BHRE and led by Dussu Djabula, Raquel Burgoa Dias and João Maria Botelho has received the Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy Award by Fundação Santander Portugal. The project was carried out in the framework of the activities of the NOVA Centre on Business, Human Rights and the Environment and the podcast episodes can be accessed [here](#).

BLOG POSTS

□□ Ana Santos Duarte, "[Diretiva relativa ao Dever de Diligência das Empresas em matéria de Sustentabilidade: É o fim do início?](#)", March 2024

□□ Stéphane Brabant, Claire Bright, Luca Tenreira, "[Entreprises, droits humains et environnement : l'Union européenne consacre 25 ans de \(r\)évolution du droit](#)", March 2024

☐☐ Luís Prata e Castro, "[Proibição de Produtos Fabricados com Trabalho Forçado: due diligence de trabalho forçado como um novo standard?](#)", March 2024

[BHR lawyers and practitioners call for support for the Belgium compromise on the CSDDD](#), March 2024

ARTICLES

☐☐ Claire Bright and Ana Santos Duarte: "[O Compromisso Empresarial com a Sustentabilidade: Desafios e Oportunidades](#)", Vida Judiciária, 23-25, March 2024

Vida Judiciária
N.º 234 - janeiro/fevereiro 2024 - bimensal - 8,5 €

ACEDA AQUI
A Associação

**Direito empresarial/
Organização
e Dirigentes**

Entrevista
"O NOVA Knowledge Centre for Business, Human Rights and the Environment quer promover práticas empresariais responsáveis e sustentáveis"
CLAIRE BRIGHT
Professora Associada na NOVA School of Law e Diretora do NOVA Knowledge Centre for Business, Human Rights and the Environment

Nota de Abertura
O direito empresarial como "área de prática da advocacia"!
ANTÓNIO RAPOSO SUBTIL
Sócio Fundador da RSA - Raposo Subtil e Associados

O novo paradigma da gestão de riscos no *governance* das organizações
FERNANDO GOMES DE AMORIM
Gestor

Organização Societária e responsabilidade nas sociedades totalmente dominadas
JOÃO REGADAS
Managing Associate - PLMJ

Integridade e Transparência no Desporto Português: O Papel Crucial das Sociedades Anónimas Desportivas
JOÃO SUBTIL
Sócio da RSA - Raposo Subtil e Associados

Reflexões sobre a - real - efetividade dos programas de *compliance* bancário
ANDRÉ ALMEIDA RODRIGUES MARTINEZ
Procurador da Fazenda Nacional (Brasil) e ex-Superintendente de Compliance da rede nacional de agências do Banco Itau S/A (Brasil)

CALL FOR PAPERS

Participation in the II research workshop is encouraged. Articles are to be submitted by the 14th of April 2024 (in ENG, ESP or PT). More information [here](#).

CALL FOR PAPERS

II RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

17 JUNE 2024 - UNIVERSITAT JAUME I (CASTELLÓN)

The Pillar III of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights reaffirms that States, as part of their duty to protect against human rights violations related to business activities, must take appropriate measures to ensure, through judicial, administrative, legislative, or other means as appropriate, that when such abuses occur within their territory and/or jurisdiction, affected persons can access effective remedies. Despite the progress made in the field of business and human rights, significant challenges persist in terms of ensuring access to adequate and effective remedies for individuals and communities affected by business activities.

This call for abstracts aims to analyze and reflect on the challenges and measures regarding access to remedy and legal accountability of companies for the negative impacts of their activities on human rights and the environment. This Research Workshop provide a forum for junior and early-career researchers in the field of business and human rights. Selected papers may be published at the **Spanish Journal of Business and Human Rights** published by Editorial Colex.

This workshop is part of the Congress "La regulación de los impactos de la actividad empresarial en un contexto de multigobernanza: sostenibilidad, diligencia debida y acceso a la justicia", which will take place on June 18th and 19th, 2024 at the Universitat Jaume I (Castellón), and is developed within the framework of the R&D Projects: 'Access to justice in the context of corporate abuses: litigation as a strategy of resistance and empowerment for victims (ACCJUSTEDH)' (ref: ICIO23/23/000001), funded by the Catalan International Institute for Peace; and 'Opportunities and challenges in the implementation of corporate due diligence standards on human rights and the environment' -CIGE/2022/63- from the Department of Innovation, Universities, Science and Digital Society of the Valencian Government.

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

- Access to remedy and the Business and Human Rights Treaty
- Access to remedy and the EU's Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence
- Access to remedy and mandatory due diligence legislation
- National Action Plan and Access to remedy
- State-based non-judicial grievance mechanisms (e.g. regulators, ombudsmen, national human rights institutions, national contact points under the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, etc.)
- Non-State-based grievance mechanisms (i.e. private mechanisms through which grievances concerning business-related human rights abuse can be raised, and remedy can be sought)
- The impact of strategic human rights litigation on corporate behaviour
- Climate litigation and corporations
- Other proposals related to the topic of business and human rights

SUBMISSION:

Proposals will be accepted in **Spanish, English, and Portuguese**, with a maximum length of **3,500 characters**. They must be submitted before the specified date through the following form: <https://forms.gle/5sy1FKwHJHs1K64u8>

For further information: daniel.iglesias@urv.cat and estrella.valle@uv.es

We look forward to welcoming you in Castellón de la Plana!

IMPORTANT DATES



NOVA BHRE

[Unsubscribe](#)

