

## Business & Human Rights – New Scientific Approaches

### Conference Program

**DATE:** April 12 – 13, 2024

**VENUE:** Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften,  
Markgrafenstraße 38, 10117 Berlin (Gendarmenmarkt)

**ORGANIZERS:** Deniz Utlu (German Institute for Human Rights, Berlin)  
Gari Walkowitz (Technical University Bergakademie Freiberg)

**SPEAKERS:** Professor Johann Graf Lambsdorff, University of Passau  
Professor Tara Van Ho, University of Essex  
Professor em. Joseph Vogl, Humboldt-Universität Berlin

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**WEB:** You can find updated information on the conference here:

<https://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/veranstaltungen/detail/business-human-rights-new-scientific-approaches-conference-call>

<https://blogs.hrz.tu-freiberg.de/bhrconference2024/>

At the end of this document you will find valuable information on travel, accommodation and organization of the conference.

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE

The idea of embedding ethical principles in international business has been reflected by legal efforts including the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, but also increasingly by national supply chain legislation. These legal frameworks have the purpose of holding enterprises accountable when violating ethical standards or when purchasing from partners that violate ethical standards. Despite these efforts, scandals concerning human rights in international supply chains still fill newspaper headlines and TV documentaries on a regular basis.

This conference brings together scholars and practitioners with different backgrounds. Twelve years after the endorsement of the UN Guiding Principles on Human Rights, one important goal of the conference is to reflect on the current state of knowledge on what tools can and should be used to better understand the impact of business on society, taking a trans-disciplinary perspective.

Complementing normative deliberations and empirical evidence, the conference aims to initiate a discussion on future research directions and new methodological approaches: How can scientific approaches be combined and extended in a transdisciplinary and complementary way? What can the business and human rights field learn from other disciplines in this respect? What challenges are posed by new technological developments? How can these also be used in research at the same time? Additional to classical business and human rights approaches, we will specifically consider recent tools and insights from the fields of behavioral economics and social psychology. Another focus will be on the application of philosophical analysis to business and human rights themes such as sector initiatives. The interdisciplinary approach should broaden the pool of measures in human rights due diligence procedures of companies as well as legislative or policy initiatives of governments.

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

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19:30 – 22:00      Arrival of the conference participants, Informal welcome dinner, location:  
„Ristorante Lungomare“, Krausenstrasse 11, 10117 Berlin,  
Link: [www.lungomare.de](http://www.lungomare.de)

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FRIDAY, APRIL 12

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10:00 – 10:15      Welcome by the organizers

10:15 – 11:45      **Keynote 1 - Professor Tara Van Ho:** University of Essex  
*Identifying and Reforming Legal Barriers to a Human Rights-Centred  
Economy: Interdisciplinary Methods in Business and Human Rights*

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11:45 – 12:45      Lunch break

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12:45 – 14:15

### Open Parallel Session 1

Room A:  
*Scientific Approaches to  
Human Rights*

**Miriam Schroer-Hippel:**  
*Methodological Framework for Human  
Rights Research*

**Katryn Wright:**  
*Changing Behaviour, Changing  
Outcomes: How Can Behavioural  
Science Advance Corporate Respect  
for Human Rights?*

Room B:  
*Grievance Mechanisms &  
Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives I*

**Bruna Singh:**  
*Clarifying Leverage within the  
Business and Human Rights  
Framework*

**Padma-Dolma Fielitz:**  
*Effective consultations along the  
supply chain from the perspectives  
of rights holders in the German  
context: Participatory field access*

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14:15 – 14:30

Coffee break

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14:30 – 16:00

### Open Parallel Session 2

Room A:  
*Diverse*

**Ekaterina Zibrova:**  
*Rethinking diversity in an  
organizational context: a paradigm*

Room B:  
*Grievance Mechanisms &  
Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives II*

**Ulla Gläßer:**  
*Implementing effective non-  
judicial grievance mechanisms in*

*shift from innovation to human-rights based approach*

*supply chains - the potential of interactive research*

**Patricia Caparó & Florencia Otero:**  
*An intersectional approach to Business & Human Rights policymaking in Latin America*

**Jenny Laube:**  
*Responsive, adaptive, stimulative - Designing grievance mechanisms as a component of learning risk management systems*

**Matthias Fertig:**  
*Should I stay or should I go? A Delphi study on how to institutionalize corporate respect of human rights in conflict-affected areas*

**José Manuel Barreto:**  
*Colonial Companies and Human Rights*

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16:00 – 16:15	Coffee Break
16:15 – 17:45	<b>Keynote 2 - Johann Graf Lambsdorff:</b> University of Passau <i>Between Diffusion and Ownership – Experimental Evidence on Responsibility</i>
19:30 – 21:30	Conference Dinner Location: Brasserie am Gendarmenmarkt Link: <a href="https://brasserieamgendarmenmarkt.de">https://brasserieamgendarmenmarkt.de</a>

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## SATURDAY, APRIL 13

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10:00 – 11:30	<b>Keynote 3 - Joseph Vogl:</b> Humboldt University of Berlin <i>Capitalism and Ressentiment. An example drawn from Brexit</i>
11:30 – 11:45	Coffee break

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11:45 – 13:15

### Open Parallel Session 3

Room A:  
*Digital Human Rights*

Room B:  
*Human Rights in Supply Chains*

**Esther Jaromi:**  
*Holding Social Media Accountable for Hate Speech in Times of Conflict and War: An Urgent Necessity*

**Christina Schampel:**  
*Sharing insights from HRDD approaches of German Companies implementing the Act on Corporate Due Diligence in Supply Chains – Challenges and achievements towards establishing HRDD in global supply chains*

**Sarah Hechler:**  
*Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights – Recommendations for Companies*

**Otgontuya Davaanyam:**  
*Corporate Human Rights Responsibility in the OECD National Contact Point Specific Instances*

**Tadej Uršič, Tara Sergeja Kadunc  
& Amadej Petan:**  
*Digital Lives of the Youth Along the  
Silk Road*

**Carla Cabanillas:**  
*Between the German Supply Chain  
Due Diligence (LkSG)  
Technicalities, Human Rights and  
Environmental Degradation: A  
Multi-sited Legal Ethnography of  
the German Copper Supply Chain*

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13:15 – 14:15

Lunch Break

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14:15 – 15:45

**Open Parallel Session 4**

Room A:  
*Due Diligence I*

**Yingru Li:**  
*The role of National Human Rights  
Institutions in embedding human rights  
principles within corporations*

**Nora Wolters:**  
*The Business of Human Rights?  
Assessing the Roles of Service  
Providers in Business and Human  
Rights*

**Josef Baumüller:**  
*Sustainability Due Diligence: At the  
core of the new sustainability reporting  
requirements?*

Room B:  
*Environment*

**Heike Hennig-Schmidt:**  
*Can sanctions and international  
interaction improve cooperation,  
avert climate change and  
contribute to a healthy  
environment?*

**Maximilian Erdmann:**  
*Circular Responsibility Alliances:  
An ethical meta-framework for  
collaboration in the transition  
towards circular ecosystems*

**Lys Kulamadayil:**  
*From Riches to Resources – The  
Natural Environment of the Global  
South and the Prism of  
Development*

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15:45 – 16:00

Coffee Break

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16:00 – 16:30

Summary and farewell

Please see below for practical information!

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### CONFERENCE VENUE

#### Address:

Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften  
Markgrafenstraße 38  
10117 Berlin (Gendarmenmarkt)

Sessions will be held in the “Leibnitzsaal” (Room A) and in an adjoining room (Room B).



Source: Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften

#### Arrival:



Source: Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften

### **Directions to the Academy:**

#### *From the airport BER*

- FEX direction Berlin Hbf to Ostkreuz, change there to S3, S5, S7, S75, S9 to Alexanderplatz, change there to U2 direction Ruhleben to Hausvogteiplatz or U5 direction Hauptbahnhof to Museumsinsel, from there 700 m walk
- RE 8 direction Wittenberge/Wismar to Friedrichstraße, from there 1.2 km on foot  
S 9 direction Spandau to Alexanderplatz, change there to U2 direction Ruhleben to Hausvogteiplatz
- RB 23 direction Potsdam/Golm to Alexanderplatz, then change to U2 direction Ruhleben to Hausvogteiplatz

#### *From Berlin Central Station*

- U5 direction Hönow to Unter den Linden, from there 700 m on foot

#### *From station Berlin Ostbahnhof*

- S3, S5, S7, S75, S9 to Alexanderplatz, change there to U2 direction Ruhleben to Hausvogteiplatz

### **Parking around the academy:**

- Underground parking garage Friedrichstadt Passagen, Taubenstraße/Jägerstraße
- Underground parking garage Hotel Hilton, Mohrenstraße
- Underground parking garage Unter den Linden/Staatsoper, entrance Behrenstraße

## ACCOMODATION

For the conference participants, we have reserved a room contingent at nearby hotels.

Here you can now book a room referring to the conference.

1. **Living Hotel Berlin-Mitte:** 15 double rooms for single use at 99€ incl. breakfast per night - free cancellation up to 3 weeks before arrival!  
Link: [www.living-hotels.com/hotel-berlin-mitte](http://www.living-hotels.com/hotel-berlin-mitte)
2. **Motel One Berlin-Potsdamer Platz:** 10 single rooms - 11.-12.04.24 159€ (trade fair) incl. breakfast, 12.-13.04.24 99€ incl. breakfast - free cancellation up to 7 days before arrival  
Link: [www.motel-one.com/de/hotels/berlin/hotel-berlin-potsdamer-platz](http://www.motel-one.com/de/hotels/berlin/hotel-berlin-potsdamer-platz)
3. **Motel One Berlin-Spittelmarkt:** 10 single rooms - 11.-12.04.24 155€ (trade fair) incl. breakfast, 12.-13.04.24 95€ incl. breakfast - free cancellation up to 14 days before arrival  
Link: [www.motel-one.com/de/hotels/berlin/hotel-berlin-spittelmarkt](http://www.motel-one.com/de/hotels/berlin/hotel-berlin-spittelmarkt)



## IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. A **free registration as a listener** of the conference is possible under the link:

<https://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/veranstaltungen/business-human-rights-new-scientific-approaches-conference-call>

2. The organizers are unfortunately **unable to cover the costs of accommodation and evening events**.

3. Please check our **websites for updates**:

<https://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/veranstaltungen/detail/business-human-rights-new-scientific-approaches-conference-call>

<https://blogs.hrz.tu-freiberg.de/bhrconference2024/>