



ASSER INSTITUTE

Centre for International & European Law

DOING BUSINESS **RIGHT** WINTER ACADEMY **THE UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE**

28 JANUARY - 1 FEBRUARY 2019

The Winter Academy is an educational programme dedicated to the growing field of business and human rights.

After the adoption of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in 2011, a flurry of initiatives by international organisations, national governments, corporations and civil society organisations have seen the light. New national laws are being adopted, new corporate codes are being drafted, and a new international treaty is being negotiated to define and regulate the responsibilities of businesses for human rights. Our Winter Academy will equip a new generation of lawyers with the necessary theoretical and practical skills to navigate and actively engage with these transformations, be it as a lawyer, NGO activist, corporate adviser, government official or researcher.

A hands-on comprehensive programme

The Winter Academy will feature high level academic lecturers who are currently shaping the scholarly debates on business and human rights and practitioners with a hands-on experience in the field. Participants will acquire a well-rounded understanding of soft and hard, legal and non-legal accountability mechanisms, and numerous interactive sessions that provide the opportunity to apply theoretical insights to various concrete case studies.

The Winter Academy 2019 covers the following key issues:

- The theoretical and historical roots of the UN Guiding Principles
- The various implementations of the UN Guiding Principles at a national and transnational level
- The practical functioning of the responsibility of corporations to conduct human rights due diligence
- The effect of the UN Guiding Principles on the accessibility of remedies in business and human rights cases
- The need for a binding treaty on business and human rights to complement the UN Guiding Principles

Registration

Registration for this programme is now open! Visit www.asser.nl or [click here](#) to learn more.

PROGRAMME

DOING BUSINESS RIGHT BEYOND THE STATE: FOUNDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD

Monday 28 January 2019

- 9:30 - 10:00** Welcome and introduction - Antoine Duval (Asser Institute)
- 10:00 - 12:30** The UN Guiding Principles: A theoretical perspective - Karin Buhmann (Copenhagen Business School)
- 12:30 - 13:30** Lunch
- 13:30 - 17:00** The road to and from the UN Guiding Principles - Nadia Bernaz (Wageningen University)

THE UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES IN (NATIONAL) ACTION

Tuesday 29 January 2019

- 9:00 - 10:30** Introduction: Implementing the UN Guiding Principles within the state - Antoine Duval (Asser Institute)
- 11:00 - 12:30** The Australian/UK model: A modern slavery act - Shamistha Selvaratnam (Asser Institute)
- 12:30 - 13:30** Lunch
- 13:30 - 15:00** The Dutch model: Multi-stakeholder sectoral implementation of the UN Guiding Principles - Jef Wintermans (Dutch Social Economic Council - SER) TBC
- 15:30 - 17:00** The French model: Binding due diligence - Elsa Savourey (Herbert Smith Freehills)

THE UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES IN (TRANSNATIONAL) ACTION

Wednesday 30 January 2019

- 9:00 - 10:30** Introduction: Implementing the UN Guiding Principles beyond the state - Antoine Duval (Asser Institute)
- 11:00 - 12:30** Translating the UN Guiding Principles into transnational rules: The OECD Guidelines on multinational enterprises - OECD
- 12:30 - 13:30** Lunch
- 13:30 - 15:00** Embedding the UN Guiding Principles into transnational corporations - TBC

THE UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND ACCESS TO REMEDY

Thursday 31 January 2019

- 9:00 - 10:30** Introduction: The UN Guiding Principles and access to remedy - Antoine Duval (Asser Institute)
- 11:00 - 12:30** The (in)effectiveness of existing soft remedies: The OECD National Contact Points - Marian Ingrams (OECD Watch)
- 12:30 - 13:30** Lunch
- 13:30 - 15:00** Access to remedy in action: The Business and human rights advocacy - TBC
- 15:30 - 17:00** The future of access to remedy: Business and human rights arbitration? - Jan Eijsbouts (Maastricht University) and Judith Levine (Permanent Court of Arbitration)

TOWARDS A BINDING TREATY : HARDENING THE UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Friday 1 February 2019

- 9:30 - 12:30** Workshop with academic experts and civil society organisations on the UN negotiations for a binding treaty
- 13:30 - 15:00** Group discussion on the binding treaty - Moderated by Antoine Duval (Asser Institute)
- 15:00 - 17:00** Closing reception

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS



Antoine Duval (Asser Institute) is a Senior Researcher at the Asser Institute, where he coordinates the Doing Business Right project.



Elsa Savourey (Herbert Smith Freehills) is a lawyer and the firm-wide coordinator of the Global Business and Human Rights Practice of Herbert Smith Freehills. In this capacity, she advised French transnational corporations on the implementation of the recently adopted French Corporate Duty of Vigilance Law.



Jan Eijbouts (Maastricht University) is Professor of Corporate Social Responsibility at Maastricht University and the former General Counsel of Akzo Nobel. He is project leader of the Business and Human Rights International Arbitration project.



Judith Levine (Permanent Court of Arbitration) is Senior Legal Counsel at the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague. She recently published 'Business and Human Rights: A "New Frontier" for International Arbitration?'.



Karin Buhmann (Copenhagen Business School) is Professor of Business & Human Rights at Copenhagen Business School. She recently published 'Changing Sustainability Norms through Communication Processes: The Emergence of the Business and Human Rights Regime as Transnational Law' and 'Power, Procedure, Participation and Legitimacy in Global Sustainability Norms: A Theory of Collaborative Regulation'.



Marian Ingrams (OECD Watch) coordinates the strategic and logistical activities of the OECD Watch network, advises complaints and appeals filed through National Contact Points. She also coordinates the strategic and logistical activities of the OECD Watch network, advises complaints and appeals filed through National Contact Points.



Nadia Bernaz (Wageningen University) is Associate Professor at Wageningen University. She recently published 'Business and Human Rights: History, Law and Policy'.



Shamistha Selvaratnam (Asser Institute) is a junior researcher at the Asser Institute, where she contributes to the Doing Business Right project. Before that she worked as a business and human rights solicitor at Allens Linklaters in Australia where she specialised in promoting business respect for human rights through engagement with policy, law and practice.