

HUMAN RIGHTS IN BUSINESS

ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN THE EU FOR VICTIMS OF CORPORATE RELATED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE

Tuesday 23rd June 2015
Faculty Club
Warandalaan 3
5037 AB Tilburg
Tilburg Law School
The Netherlands



This project is funded by
the European Union

On Tuesday 23 June Tilburg University will be organizing a conference on access to justice in the EU for victims of corporate human rights abuse. The conference is part of the project 'Human Rights in Business' funded by the Civil Justice Programme of the European Union.

Victims of corporate related human rights abuse face countless legal and practical difficulties when seeking redress for the harm caused. The human rights harm often takes place in countries where access to justice is fraught with difficulties due to a lack of the rule of law, corruption or other problems. As a result victims are increasingly seeking redress elsewhere. The EU is home to a significant number of large multinational corporations. Recent years have witnessed a number of high profile cases brought in European countries against these European-based corporations for harm caused in third countries. However, the number of cases where plaintiffs have succeeded in suing a corporation for human rights abuse in third countries are few and far between.

The conference in Tilburg will bring together the litigators, policy-makers and scholars to discuss the obstacles that victims face when seeking redress in European courts. The first panel will consist of litigators that will provide insight into the obstacles preventing access to justice and exchange first-hand experiences. The second panel will approach the issue from the policy perspective. The EU is committed to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and has requested the Member States to draw up National Action Plans on how they are going to implement the UNGPs. Several EU Member States have, or are about to publish their National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. The conference will invite policy makers at the national and regional level to reflect upon the issue of access to justice.

Interested in attending?

Please register at: <http://humanrightsinbusiness.eu/project/training-sessions-registration/>

Questions: c.i.jacobs@tilburguniversity.edu

Where: Faculty Club, Warandalaan 3, 5037 AB, Tilburg

Participation is free!

ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN THE EU FOR VICTIMS OF CORPORATE RELATED HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE

9:00 – 9:30

Coffee/Tea, registration of participants

10:00 – 10:15

Welcome

Nicola Jägers, *Tilburg Law School*

Daniel Augenstein, *Tilburg Law School*

PANEL I

THE PERSPECTIVE OF LITIGATORS

10:15-11:15

Chair:

Liesbeth Enneking, *Utrecht University*

Speakers:

Richard Meeran, *Leighday*, United Kingdom

Channa Samkalden, *Prakkendoliviera*, the Netherlands

Remo Klinger, *Geulen & Klinger Rechtsanwälte*, Germany

Luca Saltalamacchia, *Studio Legale Saltalamacchia*, Italy

11:15-11:30

Break

11:30-12:30

Discussion

Discussant: Louise Vytopil, *Utrecht University*

Q&A and General Discussion

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch

PANEL II

THE PERSPECTIVE OF POLICYMAKERS

13:30 - 14:30

Chair:

Filip Gregor, *Frank Bold*

Speakers:

Alexandra Valkenburg, *Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands*

Matthias Kloth, *Council of Europe*

Claire Methven O'Brien, *Danish Human Rights Institute*

14:30-14:45

Break

14:45 – 15:45

Discussion

Discussant: Willem van Genugten, *Tilburg Law School*

Q&A and General Discussion

15:45

Closing

16:00

Drinks

HUMAN RIGHTS IN BUSINESS

We invite your continued participation and feedback.
Please visit us at www.HumanRightsinBusiness.EU or
via Twitter [@HumanBusinessEU](https://twitter.com/HumanBusinessEU)