WEBINARS PROGRAMME

CEE&CA Summer Academy on Human Rights and Business

27.10 - 06.12. 2022
The project benefits from a grant under the Active Citizens – Regional Fund from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, through EEA Grants.

For more information, please contact us at: ceeca_bhr@pihrb.org
ABOUT:

Join us for a series of four webinars¹ on Human Rights and Business, each dedicated to a specific issue, presented through the CEE & CA perspective.

The webinars are free of charge and are open to anyone who is interested in the topic and registers for the event. **ENGLISH – RUSSIAN SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION WILL BE PROVIDED.** All webinars will be held on zoom.

The link to the event will be provided only to the registered participants.

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**WEBINAR #1: 27TH OCTOBER 2022; 12.30 – 14.00 CET**

**TITLE:** Equality, Diversity & Inclusion – Challenges and How to Answer Them

**ZOOM platform:** The link to the event will be provided only to the registered participants. ([LINK TO REGISTRATION FORM](#))

**HOST:** Dr Olena Uvarova, Head of the International Lab on BHR at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

**SPEAKERS:**

- **Dr Khalida Azhigulova** | the UN and OSCE/ODIHR international consultant on promoting women's rights, Kazakhstan; *Sexual harassment at workplace in Kazakhstan as part of the systemic discrimination*

- **Iryna Fedorovych** | Director of the NGO Center "Social Action", Researcher and Trainer on Human Rights, Non-discrimination and Inclusion; *Corporate Equality Index in Ukraine as a BHR instrument*

*Panel Discussion about D&I and how to start it in the company - view from the author of the toolkit and a person who used it.*

**Sub-section moderator:** Beata Faracik | Co-founder and President of the Board at the Polish Institute for Human Rights and Business

- **Kamil Kuhr** | Associate Director, Learning Technology & Inclusion, AstraZeneca

- **Małgorzata Chrzanowska-Rokacz** | D&I and External Relations Expert, LPP S.A.

- **Anna Kompanek** | Director, Global Programs, Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE)

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¹ Webinars complement the CEE&CA Summer Academy on Human Rights and Business and directed to those participants of the Academy who wish to apply for a diploma.
Corporate actors play a very important role in advancing equal treatment, diversity, and inclusion for all groups in society, including indigenous communities, women, persons with disability, people of colour, religious minorities, and others. There is a growing request to seek to shape inclusive corporate cultures, business models and societies.

Business and Human Rights, on the one side, and diversity and inclusion, on the other, are closely interconnected but do not have the same agendas.

- What is the difference?
- What practical tools are proposed by each of them?
- How do they support each other?

The webinar will give us the floor to discuss these questions.

During the webinar we will also launch the English and the Russian version of our D&I Toolkit (so far available in Polish):

- Diversity and inclusive culture step-by-step. A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR ORGANIZATIONS
- Разнообразие и инклюзивная культура: “шаг за шагом”. ПРАКТИЧЕСКОЕ РУКОВОДСТВО ДЛЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЙ
- Różnorodność i kultura włączająca krok po kroku. PRZEWODNIK PRAKTYCZNY DLA ORGANIZACJI

WEBINAR #2: 8TH NOVEMBER 2022; 14.30 – 16.00 CET

TITLE: Ethical Principles of Business and NGO Cooperation

ZOOM platform: The link to the event will be provided only to the registered participants. (LINK TO REGISTRATION FORM)

HOST: Beata Faracik | Co-founder and President of the Board at the Polish Institute for Human Rights and Business

SPEAKERS:

Sævar Ari Finnbogason | Board Member, Alda - Association for Sustainable Democracy; the University of Iceland
Katarzyna Batko-Toluc | Vice President & Programme Director, Citizens Network Watchdog Poland
Maciej Nowicki | President of the Board, Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights

There is an increasing pressure on NGOs to diversify the sources of their funding and to take into account cooperation with business sector. At the same time, it is expected of NGOs to be transparent and to operate in a way that is consistent with their vision, mission (or purpose) and values.
• How can organizations prepare for such expectations?
• How can NGOs get equipped to effectively cooperate with business without losing their credibility or deviating from the rout.
• Do codes of conducts/ codes of ethics make sense? If so, in what situations?
• Is anything more valuable for cooperation than transparency?
• Who can we learn from?

The webinar will give us the space not only to get the answers to these questions but also to discuss other challenges and best practices in business-NGOs relationships.

The meeting will start off with the presentation on the conclusions and recommendations from the workshop for Icelandic non-governmental organisations that took place in Iceland (Reykjavik) on 29 June 2022 and was followed up by a webinar on 21 September 2022. We hope it to be a good base for our further discussions.

WEBINAR #3: 24TH NOVEMBER 2022; 14.30 – 16.00 CET

TITLE: Holding Corporations Accountable. Impact of Jurisprudence and Non-judicial Mechanisms

ZOOM platform: The link to the event will be provided only to the registered participants. (LINK TO REGISTRATION FORM)

HOST: Dr Olena Uvarova | Head of the International Lab on BHR at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

SPEAKERS:

Dr Ekaterina Aristova | Leverhulme Early Career Fellow | Bonavero Institute of Human Rights Faculty of Law | University of Oxford

Bartosz Kwiatkowski | Director of the Frank Bold Foundation

Dr Bohdan Karnaukh | The Department of Civil Law; Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

Ana Dangova Hug | Lawyer and co-founder of INTER PARTES, the leading law firm in North Macedonia

The Webinar will focus on judicial and non-judicial mechanisms and practices of their operation to establish liability of corporations for aiding and abetting human rights violations. A special emphasis will be placed on barriers to access to justice in different countries of the region in cases of business related human rights violations. It will also be discussed when a parent company can be held liable under the law of civil remedies for the wrongful acts and/or omissions of a subsidiary or independent contractor in a supply chain.
WEBINAR #4: 6TH DECEMBER 2022; 13.30 – 15.00 CET

TITLE: Children Rights and Business

ZOOM platform: The link to the event will be provided only to the registered participants. (LINK TO REGISTRATION FORM)

HOST: Dr Olena Uvarova | Head of the International Lab on BHR at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

SPEAKERS:

Gamze Erdem Türkelli | Assistant Professor, the Law and Development Research Group, University of Antwerp

Sigurveig Pórhallsdóttir | The Office of the Icelandic Ombudsman for Children

Olya Peneva | BA/LLB, GDip, MA Business & Human Rights Specialist | Manager ESG Help Desk Sofia University

Children are one of the vulnerable groups in societies of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. All children, no matter where they live and no matter their circumstances, have the right to be protected, nurtured, and free from violence, abuse, neglect, maltreatment, and exploitation, as the Convention on the Rights of the Child sets out.

Businesses affect children’s rights in several dimensions.

- First, corporations are employers of parents and caregivers, thereby determining their working conditions.
- Second, they create general socio-economic conditions in the environments where they operate.
- Third, businesses provide formal and informal resources for the upbringing and development of children.
- Fourth, corporations may positively or negatively affect the socio-economic conditions of employees and broader society.

As for the normative framework for children’s rights, companies need to consider the Convention on the Rights of the Child as part of the international framework in which they operate.

All these dimensions will be discussed during the webinar. We will also overview the Child Rights and Business Principles developed by UNICEF to root the UNGPs in the specific sensitivities related to children’s rights and the impacts of business operations.

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For more information about webinars, please visit PIHRB social media:

- FB: https://www.facebook.com/events/491165813025702?ref=newsfeed
  and
- LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/events/equality-diversity-inclusion-ch6985545871178256385/about/

The webinars are part of a project **Lighthouse-keepers: Business and Human Rights Cooperation Network** led by the Polish Institute for Human Rights and Business (PIHRB) in partnership with the Ukrainian Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University (Ukrainian: Національний юридичний університет імені Ярослава Мудрого), the Icelandic Association for Sustainable Democracy – Alda (Icelandic: Alda – félag um sjálfbæðni og líðræði), the Icelandic Ombudsman for Children (Icelandic: Umboðsmaður barna).

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