

# Call for Abstracts

## Research Workshop on Business and Human Rights

*Jointly organized by the BHRights Initiative, IABS and the ESIL Interest Group on Business and Human Rights*

This interdisciplinary workshop aims to bring together scholars from diverse backgrounds (e.g., international business, legal, management, organization, philosophy, and political science) to share their current research on Business and Human Rights (BHR).

The 1.5-day workshop will take place at the University of Geneva (Switzerland) on November 23 and 24, 2019, just before the 2019 United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights.

The annual UN Forum on Business and Human Rights gathers BHR scholars from around the world, representing a diversity of academic approaches to BHR. Tapping into the presence of BHR scholars to present research and provide feedback on papers and draft journal manuscripts, the workshop will contribute to the ongoing evolution of a global academic interdisciplinary conversation on BHR and the development of BHR knowledge. It also offers a unique opportunity for scholars to engage across disciplines and receive responses to their research.

### Format

The primary objective of the workshop is to provide authors with as much constructive feedback as possible during the workshop. Each paper will be assigned a discussant who will present the paper to the group. The author is given an opportunity to add to the discussant's presentation afterwards and then the paper will be discussed by all the workshop participants.

### Timeline

|                        |                                               |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| July 1, 2019           | Deadline for abstract submission              |
| July 15, 2019          | Notification of acceptance                    |
| September 1, 2019      | Deadline for the full paper submission        |
| November 23 & 24, 2019 | Workshop at University of Geneva, Switzerland |

Those who are interested in presenting a paper should submit a **3000 word abstract** (all inclusive, double space, Times New Roman 12) by **July 1, 2019**. Abstracts may present ongoing or recently completed BHR-related research, or (preferably advanced) draft papers intended to be submitted to journals for publication to benefit from comments from the audience. Abstracts may address all topics related to BHR and should include the following information:

- Title
- Overall topic within BHR
- National, regional, transnational or global perspective addressed (please specify)
- Academic discipline(s) informing the presentation/paper
- Author's name, e-mail contact address, and affiliation
- Type: presentation of research (please indicate how advanced the research project is), or a draft paper (please indicate how advanced the paper will be at the time of the workshop)

- Research question and brief summary of key issue investigated, hypothesis (if any), method, and findings.

All proposals must be in English and be submitted to: [bhrgeneva@gmail.com](mailto:bhrgeneva@gmail.com).  
The full paper must not exceed 12,000 words (all inclusive).

Accepted authors will receive some contribution towards their travel expenses.

For further information, please contact the workshop chairs:

- IABs Contact: Judith Schrempf-Stirling, [judith.schrempf-stirling@unige.ch](mailto:judith.schrempf-stirling@unige.ch)
- BHRights Initiative / Centre for Business, Society and Global Challenges, Oxford Brookes Business School: Samentha Goethals, [s.goethals@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:s.goethals@brookes.ac.uk)
- ESIL Interest Group on Business and Human Rights: Mara Tignino: [mara.tignino@unige.ch](mailto:mara.tignino@unige.ch)

### **Co-organisers**

This interdisciplinary workshop is jointly organised by the BHRights Initiative (Copenhagen Business School), IABS, and the European Society of International Law Interest Group on Business and Human Rights (ESIL IG on Business and Human Rights).

**THE BHRIGHTS INITIATIVE** (or, short, ‘BHRights’) was created in 2014 as an interdisciplinary academic network on research and teaching of business and human rights (BHR). We are specialized in human rights, sustainability or CSR and between us represent a range of social science disciplines, including law, management and organizational studies, economics, and business ethics. The objective of BHRights is to foster interdisciplinary academic work in the field of Business & Human Rights, promote research and teaching as inherently interconnected, and advance human rights awareness and responsible practices among companies and other economic actors and their stakeholders in relation to business related human rights impact. <https://www.cbs.dk/en/research/departments-and-centres/department-of-management-society-and-communication/the-bhrights-initiative>

**The International Association for Business and Society (IABS)** is a learned society devoted to research and teaching about the relationships between business, government and society. IABS’s Research Domain covers the various aspects of the interface between management and the social political dynamics of the surrounding society. It includes, among others, research on corporate social responsibility and performance, emerging social issues for business, business ethics, environmental affairs, and business and government relations. IABS organizes Annual Conferences, which meet in countries around the globe. today IABS has over 300 members worldwide from over one hundred universities in more than twenty countries as well as members from various corporations and not-for-profit organizations. More information on IABS can be found here: <http://iabs.net>.

**The ESIL IG on Business and Human Rights** was created in 2011 to bring together academics, practitioners and ESIL members with an interest in this topic. The main aim of the Interest Group is to foster debate and collaboration among its members and to organise research workshops to discuss the fast developing advances concerning the dynamic between economic activities, the actors inhabiting this space and the enjoyment and fulfillment of human rights. Membership of the Interest Group is open to all the members of ESIL interested in the relationship between business and human rights, from a theoretical or practical

perspective. For further information about the activities of the Interest Group please see:  
<https://esil-sedi.eu/interest-groups/business-humanrights/>.

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