

# Special Track EBEN AC 2014

## CSR, Business Ethics and the Law

### – European Perspectives

The emerging world-wide juridification of CSR and business ethics offers an opportunity to analyse normative implications and to go beyond the idea that 'CSR is voluntary' and that business ethics are 'beyond the law'.

The aim of this special track is to rethink critically the establishment and implementation of legal, hybrid and extra-legal norm systems that address business enterprises' ethical and social responsibilities. A special focus will be laid on European initiatives.

We would like to investigate how these norm systems are made, how they are implemented and if and how they influence the behaviour of people working for business enterprises. We also are interested in research that justifies or questions the democratic legitimacy of such norm systems.

As this track is intended to foster interdisciplinary work, we seek research from various academic disciplines and approaches. Empirical and theoretical papers are equally welcome. The subject range is broad. We invite papers that pertain to norm systems in which businesses are not solely addressees of norms but also actively engaged in norm implementation, for example:

- systems established according to the United Nations' Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights (UN Principles or 'Ruggie Principles') and the OECD Guidelines for multinational enterprises
- the evolution of normative guidance for Due Diligence related to business impact on society and the implementation of such Due Diligence
- initiatives to address workplace safety and labour conditions in developing countries (Pact versus Alliance in Bangladesh for example)
- best practices regarding internal reporting (or whistleblowing) processes
- the use of corporate compliance systems for law enforcement purposes
- standard setting through the use of labels
- regulation of behaviour through insurance systems
- regulation of business conduct through governmental policy, Action Plans, law or 'smart mix' regulation (reporting, incentives, etc.)

Note that papers submitted to this track are eligible for consideration of the conference's Journal Special Issue.

#### Organizers

Karin Buhmann  
Associate professor  
Department of Intercultural Communication and Management  
Copenhagen Business School  
Tel:+45 38154274  
Email: [kbu.ikl@cbs.dk](mailto:kbu.ikl@cbs.dk)

Björn FASTERLING  
Professor of Law  
Accounting, Law, Finance and Economics Department  
LegalEDHEC Research Centre  
EDHEC Business School  
Tél: + 33 (0)3 20 15 44 93  
Email: [bjorn.fasterling@edhec.edu](mailto:bjorn.fasterling@edhec.edu)

Submissions should be made directly to the organizers, not later than February 28th.