



Business and Human Rights in Contracts: From Models to Practice

Date: November 25

Time: Welcome & Coffee at 8:15 AM; Workshop runs from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM followed by breakfast (all times in CEST)

Location: Lenz & Staehelin, Route de Chêne 30, 1208 Geneva, Switzerland

Registration: <https://bhrlaGenevaBar.eventbrite.co.uk>

The Business and Human Rights Lawyers Association (BHRLA), in collaboration with Lenz & Staehelin, Lalive, and the Geneva Bar Association, invites you to join expert legal practitioners in the field of business and human rights. These facilitated discussions will explore contracting mechanisms that support business in meeting their responsibility to respect human rights.

The workshop will explain key contractual mechanisms to manage human rights risks in supply chains, outline ways to align effective human rights risk management with mitigation of legal risk to your business, and address practical and legal issues, including counterparty resistance, high risk contexts and organisational capacity.

Moderators:

- **Valérie Menoud (panel)**, Partner, Co-Head of Investigations, Head of ESG, Lenz & Staehelin

Dr. Valérie Menoud is a partner and a leading practitioner in the firm's Banking and Finance group. She co-leads the Investigations practice and heads the ESG practice in Geneva. Valérie specializes in banking, financial services, and corporate law, with deep experience in regulatory enforcement cases, regulatory licensing, compliance, governance, and contractual matters. She is also highly skilled in incident management, assisting clients in navigating complex, high-stakes situations with clarity and precision. Her practice includes advising on sanctions compliance as well as business and human rights matters, such as sustainability reporting and supply chain due diligence. Valérie regularly speaks at professional conferences and has contributed to numerous academic publications on banking, financial, and corporate law.

<https://www.lenzstaehelin.com/people-across-the-firm/people-detail/valerie-menoud/>

- **Daniel Lucien Bühr (Q&A)**, Partner, Lalive

Dr. Daniel Lucien Bühr specializes in corporate governance, regulatory compliance and risk management, white collar crime, principally focusing on board oversight, investigations, sustainability due diligence and reporting. He also advises and represents clients in commercial litigation. Recognized as a “standout investigations lawyer celebrated for his expertise across corporate and regulatory compliance as well as risk management matters” (Lexology Index, Switzerland, Investigations, Recommended, 2025), Daniel Lucien Bühr is widely regarded as a leading authority in the field. <https://www.lalive.law/daniel-lucien-buhr/>

Panelists:

- **Martijn Scheltema**, Partner, Pels Rijcken and Co-Chair, BHRLA (beginning January 2025)

Martijn Scheltema joined Pels Rijcken in 1997 as a Supreme Court litigator. He handles cases in the area of private law in relation to the public sector, and expropriation. In addition, he handles cases concerning national and international commercial disputes regarding, inter alia, the annulment of arbitral awards and execution of arbitral awards and other judgments. Outside the Supreme Court practice, he also works on cases involving business human rights, climate change and Sustainable Development Goals. A unique aspect of this business human rights practice involves human rights and artificial intelligence.

<https://pelsrijcken.nl/en/people/martijn-scheltema>

- **Antony Crockett**, Partner, Herbert Smith Freehills and Co-Chair, BHRLA (beginning January 2025)

Antony specialises in public international law and complex cross-border dispute resolution. He leads our global Business and Human Rights practice and is a member of the firm's ESG leadership group. Antony has extensive experience advising governments, international organisations and private sector clients in the area of public international law, including in relation to investment treaty arbitration, State and diplomatic immunity, sanctions and embargoes, recognition of States and governments, treaty law, human rights and international economic law. <https://www.herbertsmithfreehills.com/our-people/a/antony-crockett>

- **Dr. Annette Schüller**, Board Member, International Legal, Risk, Governance, Ethics & Compliance Executive

Dr. Annette Schüller brings extensive experience in compliance, governance and international law. From 2010 to 2023 she worked as Corporate Compliance Officer at Givaudan and set up the ethics & compliance function and programme at Givaudan, including the anti-corruption and data protection programmes in particular. In addition, she created the enterprise risk management function at Givaudan and served as the Board secretary. Annette is a regular speaker and contributor on compliance topics in Switzerland and internationally, including the co-authorship on the chapter on compliance risk assessment for the Swiss Handbuch Corporate Compliance (2022). <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-annette-m-sch%C3%BCller/>

- **James Thorne**, Associate General Counsel, Associated British Foods

James Thorne has served as Associate General Counsel at Associated British Foods plc since June 2013, focusing on sustainability and ESG legal matters globally, after previously acting as principal commercial lawyer for several grocery businesses within ABF. With prior experience including Senior Litigation Counsel at Tesco from 2012 to 2013 and Senior Associate in the Dispute Resolution, Environment, Products, and Regulatory team at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer from 2003 to 2013, James has extensive legal compliance experience in both private practice and in-house roles. <https://www.linkedin.com/in/james-thorne-25ab0b/>

The Business & Human Rights Lawyers Association (BHRLA) is a global platform that inspires and advances business and human rights leadership, learning, collaboration and practices in commercial legal practice. More information is available [here](#).

The Business and Human Rights Lawyers Association privacy policy can be found [here](#).