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**STEERING COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
(CDDH)**

**DRAFT PROGRAMME OF THE
WORKSHOP**

**“IMPLEMENTING HUMAN RIGHTS
AND ENVIRONMENTAL
DUE DILIGENCE”**

**6 December 2022 - Strasbourg
Palais de l'Europe, Room 8**



09:30 – 10:00 Welcoming remarks by Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General, Human Rights and Rule of Law and Kristine Līcīš, Chair of CDDH

10:00 – 11:00 Session 1: States' positive obligations – the business dimension

Within their jurisdiction, member States have certain positive and procedural obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights, as applied and interpreted by the European Court of Human Rights, to protect individuals against human rights abuses by business enterprises. The European Social Charter and its Additional Protocol for a system of collective complaints also afford protection against business-related human rights abuses. This session will cover the main developments in the case law of the Court and the monitoring mechanism of the European Social Charter as well as challenges in the execution of its judgments involving action by business enterprises.

Moderators: **Babette Koopman**, Government Agent before the European Court of Human Rights, Netherlands.

Speakers: **Karin Lukas**, President of the European Committee of Social Rights; **Inna Smirnova**, Lawyer of the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights; **Matteo Fiori**, Lawyer, Department for the Execution of Judgments, **Maria Ievdokymova**, Council of Europe consultant (30 min).

Q&A, discussion: 30 min

11:00 – 11.15 Break

11:15 – 12:30 Session 2: Towards a corporate duty of care regarding human rights and the environment

Member States which have enacted mandatory due diligence legislation will be invited to share their experiences and lessons learnt in designing and implementing it. How do they support and accompany corporations' adherence to the mandatory system? Which intervention areas, instruments or targeted actors? What are the requirements of the EU's draft directive regarding corporations' duties to respect human rights and environment? How are corporations preparing to implement it?

Moderator: **Chiara Macchi**, Assistant Professor of Law, Wageningen University, Netherlands.

Speakers: **Gilles Bon-Maury**, Permanent Secretary of the CSR platform, France Strategy; **Joseph Fitzmaurice**, representative of United Kingdom Home Office; **Geraint Davies**, member of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development of the Parliamentary Assembly; **Elke Winter-Mes**, DG Justice and Consumers, Corporate Governance Unit; **Giorgia Miccoli**, Project Manager of EU Affairs, CSR Europe; **Christopher Patz**, Policy Officer, European Coalition for Corporate Justice (30 min).

Q&A, discussion: 45 min

14:30 – 15:45 Session 3: Supporting businesses to deliver on their human rights responsibilities – Council of Europe projects

Business representatives in the finance sector will share existing practices and assessment methodologies on their compliance with human rights standards. They will be asked to reflect on how current practice could be improved and synchronised across the field – is it possible for business to transform costs and contingencies attached to their human rights responsibilities into investment?

Moderator: **Tigran Karapetyan**, Head of Division, Transversal Challenges and Multilateral Projects, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DG-I), Council of Europe.

Speakers: **Tevel Dekel**, Environmental Department Director on behalf of Ivri Verbin, CEO Corporate Responsibility, Grant Thornton International; **Barbara Linder**, Senior Manager, Business Advisory Services, OeEB Austria; **Claire Methven O'Brien**, Danish Human Rights Institute (30 min).

Q&A, discussion: 45 min

15:45 – 16:00 Break

16:00 – 17:15 Session 4: Reviewing the implementation of Council of Europe due diligence standards

The CDDH's [review](#) of implementation of [CM/Rec\(2016\)3](#) in 2021 highlighted the need for higher engagement by member States in providing information. As member States transition into a mandatory human rights and environmental legal regime how should the CDDH engage in its next review? What will be its scope and method? How will it ensure a meaningful participation of stakeholders? What are their expectations?

Moderator: **Nicola Wenzel**, CDDH Rapporteur on Human Rights and Business.

Speakers: **Steven Smit**, Policy Advisor and Stakeholder Manager Responsible Business Conduct, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands; **Rachel Widdis**, Article One Advisors; **Eva Zabey**, Executive Director, Business for Nature; **Elin Wrzoncki**, ENNHRI representative, Department Director Human Rights and Business, Danish Institute for Human Rights (30 min).

Q&A, discussion: 45 min

17:15 – 17:30 Conclusions by Kristine Līcis, Chair of CDDH