



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE

GENEVA SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
AND MANAGEMENT

GENEVA CENTER
FOR **BUSINESS**
& **HUMAN**
RIGHTS

Striving for Impact

The Geneva Center for Business and Human Rights

Impact report 2019 – 2021



The mission of the Geneva Center for Business and Human Rights (GCBHR) is to **educate future business leaders** and to **support companies** in developing business models that **align profits and human rights principles**.

Striving for Impact

The Geneva Center
for Business
and Human Rights

Impact report 2019 – 2021

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ABOUT THE GCBHR AND THIS REPORT

The GCBHR is committed to conducting research that matters. This report is an attempt to capture the impact of our work after the first two years.

We strive to improve the lives of workers and communities where companies operate. We do this through conducting research that highlights how to advance human rights in corporate practice. First and foremost, we want our research to transform corporate conduct. But we also address policymakers, our colleagues in academia, and the interested public, especially consumers and investors.

Since the GCBHR's founding in November 2019, our work has expanded into six distinct but interrelated focus areas on human rights in different industries and business education:

- **Agriculture**
- **Business Education**
- **Extractives**
- **Fashion**
- **Finance**
- **Security**

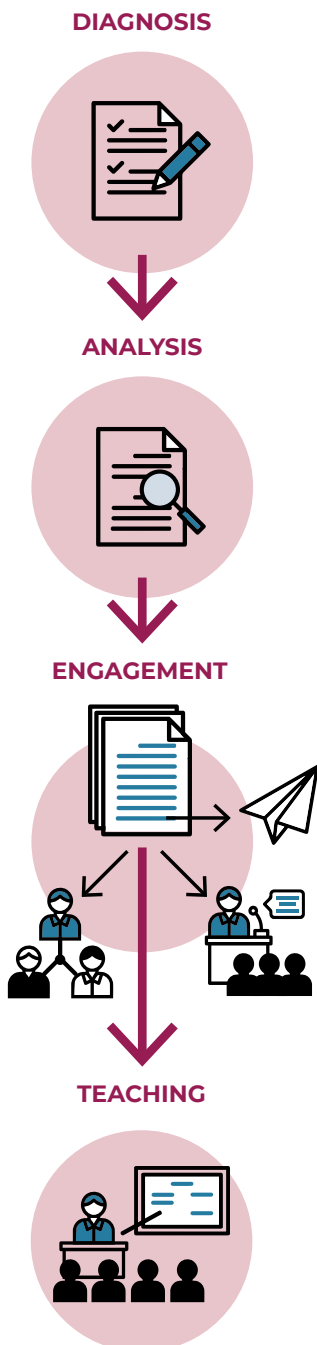
We select our focus areas based on our expertise, the needs and interests of business, and the issue maturity of specific human rights challenges. We aim to make timely contributions to pressing human rights challenges in different industries.

This report outlines the GCBHR's activities around research (incl. diagnosis and analysis), engagement, and teaching. All three areas intersect and feed into each other.

In the final section of this report, we use the illustration of our project in the extractive industries to illustrate how we design a research methodology that maximizes impact.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Our research methodology consists of four main phases:



Diagnosis

The diagnostic phase begins with a research question driven by a pressing business and human rights (BHR) challenge in practice. In this step, we examine how core operations of companies in specific industries affect human rights.

We identify initial interview partners and conduct desk research, gathering all relevant information from academic articles and media coverage to civil society reports. This comprehensive review allows us to fully understand the challenge, establish the status quo in the industry, and map all relevant stakeholder perspectives.

Analysis

The analytical phase ideally entails independent field research, which includes interviews and/or surveys with people affected by the business or industry examined in our research. The goal of this phase is to identify possible solutions and analyze how they can be scaled and replicated. Based on the information we obtain in the first two phases, we draft and publish a research report that concludes with clear recommendations for companies and policymakers. Our reports are written in accessible language and address a broad audience.

Engagement

We consider the publication of our research report as the end of the beginning. In this phase, we develop an advocacy strategy to ensure the uptake of our recommendations. We work with key stakeholders that are able to implement or relay the key findings from our work. This phase involves building and maintaining partnerships, engaging with a range of companies or company coalitions, raising awareness by publishing our work in the media in various forms (op-eds, blogs, interviews, etc.), and actively participating in events and multi-stakeholder initiatives.

Teaching

To train the next generation of leaders, we bring our research insights back into teaching. In this phase, we develop teaching tools to better prepare future managers for BHR challenges. We share these tools as open source (case studies, microsimulations, etc.) and distribute new tools in our network of business schools (Principles for Responsible Management Education, Global Business School Network for Business and Human Rights Impact Community). We also often invite stakeholders we have involved in our research to our BHR classes to present students with different perspectives and the opportunity to directly engage with industry players.

RESEARCH

Research is the foundation of all our work. We conduct research to identify and analyze human rights challenges in business. Based on our analysis, we develop solutions to advance human rights in corporate practice.

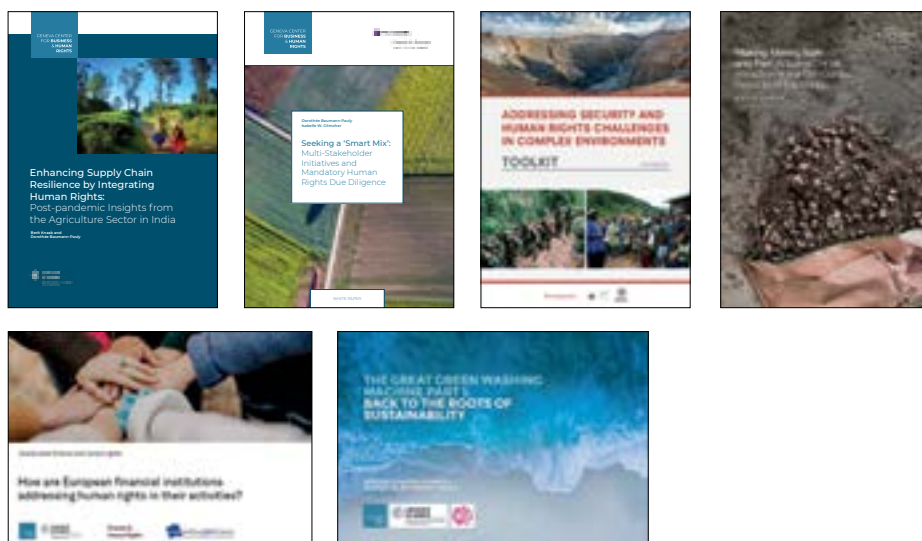
We also help build bridges between the academic BHR discourse and practice. We are encouraging BHR scholarship and academic writing to become more accessible to a wider audience.

RESEARCH REPORTS

We publish research reports that provide key insights into business models and how they affect human rights. These reports provide clear recommendations to businesses and policymakers on how to address human rights challenges.

6
Research reports

9
articles
25
media mentions



- Forthcoming Knaak, B., Baumann-Pauly, D., *Enhancing Supply Chain Resilience by Integrating Human Rights: Post-pandemic Insights from the Agriculture Sector in India.*
- Oct. 2021 Baumann-Pauly, D., Glimcher, I., *Seeking a 'Smart' Mix – Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives and Mandatory Human Rights Due Diligence.*
4 articles, 1 media mention
- Sep. 2021 Bates Kassatly, V., Baumann-Pauly, D., *The Great GreenWashing Machine – Back To The Roots of Sustainability.*
20 media mentions reaching over 120 million people
- Nov. 2020 Barral Diego, C., Trabelsi, L., Baumann-Pauly, D., Muller, C., Löning, M., Treinen, C., Much, L., *How are European Financial Institutions Addressing Human Rights in their Activities?*, Luxembourg for Finance.
2 articles

- Nov. 2020 Baumann-Pauly, D., Posner, M., LeClair, D., *The Case for Business and Human Rights in Business Education – A Tool Kit*.
- Sep. 2020 Baumann-Pauly, D., *Making Mining Safe and Fair: Artisanal Cobalt Extraction in the Democratic Republic of the Congo*. World Economic Forum, White Paper.
3 articles, 1 media mention

BOOK CHAPTERS

Publications in academic volumes facilitate our engagement with academic audiences and help bridge the gap between BHR in academia and practice.

- Forthcoming Baumann-Pauly, D., Trabelsi, L., *Article 30 – The Role of Collaborative Initiatives in Respecting Human Rights*, in Choudhury, B. (Ed.): *Commentary on the UNGPs*. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.
- Forthcoming Baumann-Pauly, D., Posner, M., *Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives – More Important Now Than Ever*, in Ewing, A. (Ed.): *Teaching Business and Human Rights*. Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd.
- Sep. 2021 Baumann-Pauly, D., Trabelsi, L., *The Business Case for Human Rights – Irrelevant or Indispensable?*, in Stein, M., Bantekas, I. (Eds): *The Cambridge Companion to Business & Human Rights Law*. Cambridge University Press: 115-144.
- Jul. 2019 Baumann-Pauly, D., Saxena, S. B., *Off the Radar – Subcontracting in Bangladesh's RMG Industry*, in Saxena, S. B. (Ed.): *Labor, Global Supply Chains, and the Garment Industry in South Asia – Bangladesh after Rana Plaza*. Routledge: 45-61.

WORKING PAPERS

Working papers capture our work in progress for academic audiences. Publication times are long in academia and working papers allow us to share our evolving work faster.

- Jan. 2021 Baumann-Pauly, D., Trabelsi, L., *Complementing Mandatory Human Rights Due Diligence: Using Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives to Define Human Rights Standards*. Social Science Research Network (SSRN).
- Sep. 2019 Baumann-Pauly, D., Cremer Iyi, S., *How New Business Models Can Address Human Rights Risks in the Cobalt Supply Chain*. Social Science Research Network (SSRN).

DISCUSSION PAPERS

Discussion papers are briefings targeted at a non-academic audience. They present our research insights and novel ideas to spark debate.

- May 2021 Knaak, B., Baumann-Pauly, D., *Issue Brief: COVID-19 in India – Recommendations for 'Urgent Action Human Rights Due Diligence' for Lead Firms Sourcing Agricultural Goods*.
- Jan. 2020 Posner, M., Baumann-Pauly, D., *Discussion Paper – Global Battery Alliance*.

ENGAGEMENT

The GCBHR collaborates with a range of academic and non-academic organizations to advance its mission. The below partnerships are fundamental to the success of the GCBHR's work.

- The GCBHR works in close partnership with the NYU Stern Center for Business and Human Rights, where Professor Dorothee Baumann-Pauly acts as research director.
- Collaborations with key actors in International Geneva include the World Economic Forum, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, the International Chamber of Commerce, the International Labour Organization, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance and Sustainable Finance Geneva.
- Other collaborations with, for example, Luxembourg for Finance, the Global Business School Network and the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights help advance specific projects.

— Claude Voillat, ICRC

“We need bridges to connect International Geneva with the academic, business and financial worlds. The GCBHR embodies these bridges and has started establishing these connections. If it were not here, we should urgently invent the GCBHR.”

MEDIA

The GCBHR team engages with media to provide thought leadership and to advocate for our research findings with key stakeholders.

Since the launch of the GCBHR, we have been featured regularly as authors or experts in leading Swiss and international media outlets.

OP-EDS & MEDIA COMMENTARY

Based on our knowledge and research insights, we author opinion pieces and commentaries on topics relating to our focus areas to convey our work to a larger audience including business executives.

12
Op-Eds &
commentaries

75 k+
readers



- Sep. 2021 *Urgent Action is Needed to Protect Congolese Cobalt Miners*, Serra Cremer Iyi and Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, I by IMD Magazine.
Accessible to over 143,000 subscribers
- Jun. 2021 *Looking Back to Move Forward: Two Decades of Advancing Company Guidance on How to Operate in Complex Environments*, Nelleke van Amstel and Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, Business and Human Rights Journal's Blog.
- Jun. 2021 *Cobalt Must Be Included in Swiss Responsible Business Legislation*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly and Serra Cremer Iyi, Swissinfo.
Over 2,100 readers and 3 republications
- Mar. 2021 *Traders' Unique Role in Business and Human Rights*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly and Serra Cremer Iyi, Commodities.
- Mar. 2021 *Trade, Business and Human Rights: Why this Time It's Different*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, Trade Splaining Podcast.
- Jan. 2021 *Ethnic Conflict Could Unravel Ethiopia's Valuable Garment Industry*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, The Conversation.
Over 10,000 readers and 5 republications
- Nov. 2020 *As Cobalt Demand Booms, Companies Must Do More to Protect Congolese Miners*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly and Serra Cremer Iyi, The Conversation.
Over 12,000 readers and 7 republications
- Oct. 2020 *Why Cobalt Mining in the DRC Needs Urgent Attention*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, Council on Foreign Relations' blog.
Over 50,000 readers, 1 republication, 1 media mention
- Oct. 2020 *Multinationales responsables : un débat émotionnel qui omet l'essentiel*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly and Sarah Dekkiche, Le Temps.
Accessible to over 105,000 subscribers

- Sep. 2020 *Cobalt Can Be Sourced Responsibly, and It's Time to Act*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, Swissinfo.
Over 1,400 readers, 1 media mention
- Jun. 2020 *Économie et droits humains : coup d'accélérateur européen*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly and Sarah Dekkiche, Le Temps.
Accessible to over 105,000 subscribers
- May 2020 *Reopening Factories Safely Is the Next Challenge – Here's How Fashion Brands Can Help*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly and Natasja Sheriff, Just Style.
Top 20 comment articles on Just Style in 2020

SELECTED MEDIA MENTIONS & EXPERT INTERVIEWS

Our publications are regularly referenced in print and visual media and we are interviewed as experts on BHR-related topics.



- Dec. 2021 *Business and Human Rights: Looking Ahead to the Challenges of 2022*, Michael Posner, Forbes.
- Dec. 2021 *NYU Stern's Center for Business & Human Rights: A First for B-Schools Around the World*, Michael Posner, Poets & Quants.
- Sep. 2021 CNN International, Interview with Livia Firth where the broadcaster cited the GCBHR and the white paper *The Great Greenwashing Machine*.
- Oct. 2021 *Fashion's Achilles Heel? Greenwashing*, Jasmin Malik Chua, Sourcing Journal.
- Oct. 2021 *Teaching ESG, Not as Easy as ABC*, Kasmira Jefford, Geneva Solutions.
- Sep. 2021 *Commodity Giants Race to Clean Up Mineral Supply Chains Amid Green Energy Boom*, Jessica Davis Plüss, Swissinfo.
- Aug. 2021 *Human Rights Climb the Business School Curriculum*, Andrew Jack, Financial Times.
- Aug. 2021 *Human Rights Is Gaining Greater Prominence in MBA Programs*, Seb Murray, Find MBA.
- Jun. 2021 *Direitos humanos e meio ambiente são dois lados da mesma moeda ESG*, Haroldo Rodrigues, Forbes Brazil.
- May 2021 *Artisanal Cobalt Mining in the DRC: Steps Already in Play*, Laura Cornish, Mining Review Africa.

- May 2021 *Une « grande réinitialisation » des écoles de commerce*, Sarah Dekkiche, Le Temps' blog.
- May 2021 *Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cobalt and Artisanal Mining*, University of Helsinki.
- May 2021 *What Is the Role for Voluntary Business and Human Rights Initiatives as the Conversation About Legislation Heats Up?*, Triponel Consulting.
- May 2021 *Baumann-Pauly: 'Human Rights and Climate Change Are Two Sides of the Same Coin'*, Kasmira Jefford, Geneva Solutions.
- Mar. 2021 *The Swiss Textile Machinery Industry Has a China Dilemma*, Jessica Davis Plüss and Pauline Turuban, Swissinfo.
- Feb. 2021 *Du cobalt responsable pour une transition verte durable* (PDF), Lauren Hostettler, Entreprise Romande.
- Feb.2021 *L'Éthiopie, ce lion africain déclassé*, Simon Petite, Le Temps.
- Dec. 2020 *Dans les mines de cobalt de Kolwezi*, Anton Vos, UNIGE – Campus.
- Nov. 2020 *Intégrer les droits humains dans les études commerciales : guide pratique*, Alexandra Charvet, Le Journal de l'UNIGE.
- Nov. 2020 *Favorables à l'initiative, ils en pointent les limites*, Pierre-Alexandre Sallier, Tribune de Genève.
- Nov. 2020 *Est-ce que les grandes entreprises devront répondre devant la justice civile suisse des agissements commis à l'étranger ?*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, RTS – TTC.
Over 220,000 views
- Oct. 2020 *Rendite mit Menschenrechten - Finanzmarkt sieht sich höheren Zielen verpflichtet*, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung.
Over 960,000 readers per issue
- Oct. 2020 *Concilier profits et droits humains*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, RTS – Geopolitis.
Over 230,000 views
- Oct. 2020 *How Tesla Should Combat Child Labor In The Democratic Republic Of The Congo*, Michael Posner, Forbes.
- Oct. 2020 *Droits humains : une régulation inévitable ?*, Myret Zaki, Bilan.
- Sep. 2020 *Concilier mines artisanales et droits humains, c'est possible*, Anton Vos, Le Journal de l'UNIGE.
- Jun. 2020 *Sustainability Is Bound to Become a Full Part of Business*, Myret Zaki, The Market – NZZ.
- Apr. 2020 *Après le "greenwashing", place au "coronawashing"*, Courrier International.
- Mar. 2020 *Doit-on craindre un « coronawashing » ?*, Julie Eigenmann and Rachel Richerich, Le Temps.
- Mar. 2020 *Companies Still Can't Stop Labor Abuses at Chinese Factories*, Marc Bain, Quartz.

- Jan. 2020 *Sensibiliser les futurs dirigeants aux droits humains*, Fabio Bonavita, GHI.
- Dec. 2019 *Genève se dote d'un nouveau centre de promotion de l'éthique*, Roland Rossier, Tribune de Genève.
- Dec. 2019 *À Genève, un nouveau centre pour aider les entreprises à respecter les droits humains*, Jessica Davis Plüss, Swissinfo.
- Dec. 2019 *On peut faire du profit tout en respectant les droits humains*, UNIGE – Campus.
- Nov. 2019 *Following Stern's Lead, University of Geneva Opens Center for Business and Human Rights*, Rocio Fabbro, Washington Square News.
- Nov. 2019 *Launch of Geneva Center for Business and Human Rights*, Mirage News.
- Nov. 2019 *Comment faire du profit en respectant les droits de l'homme*, UNIGE – Campus.
- Nov. 2019 *Inauguration du Geneva Center for Business and Human Rights*, MyScience.
- Nov. 2019 *Geneva Launches First Center for Business and Human Rights in Europe*, Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, CNN Money.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The GCBHR sends out three newsletters per year to its **1,000+ subscribers**. These newsletters provide a summary of our highlights from our focus areas and serve as a tool for fundraising.

The LinkedIn page of the GCBHR has **over 1,300 followers** and receives **around 12,000 post impressions every month**.

The personal Twitter account of Professor Dorothée Baumann-Pauly, which has **over 3,000 followers** and a strong engagement level, serves as a platform for sharing BHR-related insights and the GCBHR's work.

In December 2021, the Centre for Business, Organisations and Society (CBOS) at the University of Bath selected Professor Dorothée Baumann-Pauly in its ThinklistImpact which focuses on academics who have had influence or impact on practice.

“The Young Researchers Summit has provided an annual, international, and interdisciplinary platform, which could probably serve as “the end of the beginning” and inspire many more insightful dialogues and innovative contributions in the field of BHR.”

ROLES AND POSITIONS

Professor Dorothée Baumann-Pauly supports the Geneva School of Economics and Management (GSEM), the University of Geneva (UNIGE) and the broader BHR field through service roles inside and outside academia.



EDITORIAL SERVICE

- Since Aug. 2021 Co-editor of the practice section of the Journal of Business Ethics.
- Since 2016 Member of the editorial board of the Business and Human Rights Journal.

SERVICE AT UNIGE

- Since Feb. 2020 Member of the Scientific Committee of the Human Rights Week (Semaine des Droits Humains).
- Nov. 2021 Moderator at the Annual Master Class with Martin Ennals Foundation at GSEM.
- Since Apr. 2021 GSEM delegate for Scholars at Risk.
- Since May 2020 Member of the Scientific Committee of the Master of Science in Responsible Management at GSEM.

OTHER ENGAGEMENT

- Since Nov. 2017 Co-founder and co-lead of the Global Business School Network for Business and Human Rights Impact Community (GBSN for BHR).
- Jan. 2018 – Jan. 2020 Advisory board member of the Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum.
- Since Jan. 2019 Co-lead of the Business and Human Rights Pillar of the Wharton Zicklin Center for Business Ethics Research.
- Since Jul. 2021 Member of the Swiss National Action Plan Committee for Business and Human Rights.
- Since Aug. 2021 Co-lead of the Principles for Responsible Management Education's Working Group on Business and Human Rights (PRME).
- Since Aug. 2021 International Gender Champion.

EVENTS

19
Events
organized

in 2
years
time

Since its founding, the GCBHR has organized or co-organized 19 events and actively contributed to over 50 events with business and academia.

The GCBHR team is regularly invited as keynote speakers at major business meetings such as *economiesuisse*, Responsible Business Initiative and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, and academic platforms such as the Oxford University R:ETRO Seminar Series.

EVENTS ORGANIZED

- Dec. 2021 *Business and Human Rights: A scholarly contribution to the 'decade of action'*, Online.
- Nov. 2021 *Workshop With Uma Mishra-Newbery – Building on Scholarship: Ideas for Developing Engaged Scholarship and Advocacy Based on Research for Business and Human Rights*, Geneva & Online.
- Nov. 2021 *Building Bridges – Beyond Green: Integrating Human Rights in the Sustainable Finance Agenda*, Geneva.
- Nov. 2021 *Master Class With The Venerable Luon Sovath – Social Media: A Double-Edged Sword In Human Rights Defence*, Geneva.
- Nov. 2021 *Annual Meeting of the Global Business School Network for Business and Human Rights Impact Community*, Online.
- Sep. 2021 *Business and Human Rights Young Researchers Summit*, Geneva & Online.
- Aug. 2021 *Online Business Roundtable on Corporate Responses to COVID-19 in India*, Online.
- May 2021 *Human Rights in the Finance Industry*, Online.
- Apr. 2021 *The Role of Voluntary, Collaborative Human Rights Due Diligence Initiatives*, Geneva & Online.
- Mar. 2021 *Re-Launch of the PRME Working Group on Business and Human Rights*, Online.
- Jan. 2021 *UNIGE Philanthropy Lunch – How Can Philanthropy Support Companies to Advance Human Rights*, Online.
- Dec. 2020 *Implementing Human Rights Due Diligence in Global Supply Chains*, Geneva & Online.
- Nov. 2020 *Annual Meeting of the Global Business School Network for Business and Human Rights Impact Community*, Online.
- Oct. 2020 *Implementing Human Rights Due Diligence in Times of Changing Expectations*, Geneva & Online.

- Apr. 2020 *Business and Human Rights Young Researchers Summit*, Online.
- Mar. 2020 *Online Technologies and Respect for Human Rights in Conflict and High-Risk Areas*, Online.
- Dec. 2019 *Human Rights in the Finance Industry*, Geneva.
- Nov. 2019 *Annual meeting of the Global Business School Network for Business and Human Rights Impact Community*, Geneva.
- Nov. 2019 *Expert Panel on Modern Slavery and book launch*, Geneva.

FEATURED EVENTS

- Nov. 2021 19th Swiss Geoscience Meeting, *The Human Cost of Green – Cobalt Mining. The case of the DRC*, Geneva.
- Sep. 2021 Économiesuisse – Journée de l'économie, *Roundtable on Sustainable Finance: Opportunities and Risks for the Economy*, Basel.
- Jun. 2021 UN Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum, Asia-Pacific, *Reimagining Business School Education With Responsible Management and Human Rights*, Online.
- Apr. 2021 RBA European Conference, *Collaborative Partnerships for Effective Due Diligence: Turning Learnings Into Policy*, Online.
- Mar. 2021 Global Business School Network, *Human Rights in Business: Practical Challenges of Conducting Research With Impact*, Online.
- Feb. 2021 UNIGE Spring Semester Opening Lecture, *The Challenge of Human Rights in Business*, Geneva & Online.
- Oct. 2020 Sustainable Finance Forum 2020, *Human Rights in Financial Services*, Online.
- Oct. 2020 LuxFLAG Sustainable Finance Investment Week, *The S in ESG: Measuring the Impacts of Social Investments*, Hosted by LIST, Online.
- Jun. 2020 R:ETRO Seminars - Reputation: Ethics, Trust, and Relationships at Oxford, *Beyond COVID-19: the Case for Human Rights in Business*, Online.
- Jun. 2020 Rotary Club Geneva, *Post COVID-19: Managing Business Sustainability with Human Rights*, Geneva.
- May 2020 John D. Gerhart Center Webinar Series – The Aftermath of the COVID: The New Social Impact Ecosystem, *Post-COVID-19: Managing Business Sustainability with Human Rights*, Online.
- Nov. 2019 Annual Meeting of the Global Business School Network for Business and Human Rights Impact Community, *Measuring the Impact of Business Schools*, Geneva.
- Jun. 2019 GSEM Alumni Association – Masterclass Series, *Innovating Business Models – Respecting Human Rights in a Globalized Economy*, Geneva.

TEACHING

The education of future managers is part of the GCBHR's core mission. Through research, teaching, and establishing networks of business scholars, we advance our human rights agenda and prepare the next generation of graduates to manage human rights challenges in corporate practice.

We translate our research insights from each focus area into innovative teaching tools. These tools include case studies, microsimulations, a BHR Clinic and other projects with the Geneva School of Economics and Management (GSEM) students.

We use these tools in our own teaching at GSEM, but they are also available as open sources.

— Nicola Akerele, student

"I very much enjoyed Professor Baumann-Pauly's class on Business and Human Rights. It allowed me to discover the world of responsible management, which is a topic that was only mentioned in passing in my other courses, and I have now decided that I want to explore it further. The class provides a good introduction to the management of BHR issues as well as the complexities that come with it. The microsimulation on sourcing cobalt from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) that we did was a great innovative experience that allowed us to tackle a real BHR challenge. We were fully immersed which helped identify the intricacies of BHR and highlighted skills that I believe will be important in my future career."

— BHR Clinic student team

"The Business and Human Rights Clinic has been a very positive experience and a great opportunity to challenge ourselves. We have learned about the importance of human rights in a business context, by analysing the most pressing human rights issues that companies are facing. [...] We appreciate the responsibility that has been given to us to provide the company with practical recommendations and solutions. Thanks to these collaborations with industry experts, we have acquired new skills that advance our academic and professional careers. Hence the relevance of having a BHR Clinic in a business school."

COURSES

We teach “Business and Human Rights” in GSEM’s bachelor’s, master’s and commodity trading programs. **Over 300 students have enrolled in these classes since the fall of 2019.**

We speaks as guest lecturers at other academic institutions around the globe.

CASE STUDIES

We published two teaching case studies based on research conducted on responsible sourcing practices of Decathlon and responsible lending practices by ABN AMRO.



- Nov. 2021 Trabelsi, L., Baumann-Pauly, D., *Financing Commodities and Human Rights: The Case of ABN AMRO in the Palm Oil Sector.*
- Nov. 2020 Baumann-Pauly, D., Massa, L., Sheriff, N., *Manufacturing in Ethiopia: Decathlon's Partnership Model.* Social Science Research Network (SSRN).

INNOVATIVE TEACHING PROJECTS

Launch of the BHR Clinic, the first clinical education focused on BHR at a business school. The objective of the Clinic is to equip students with practical management skills necessary to effectively address real human rights challenges in the business context.

Development of a microsimulation, an immersive teaching approach based on our findings from the extractives focus areas. Our microsimulation assesses students’ responsible leadership skills and it was acknowledged by GSEM as a pedagogical innovation project and awarded a grant in 2021.

Offering of institutional projects to GSEM students: the BHR Library and two projects in connection with the GCBHR’s human rights in finance focus areas.

ILLUSTRATION: Striving for impact in the extractives focus area

Capturing research impact requires more than reporting on activities and counting publications and citations. The below chronology and narrative of our research strategy, methodology, and some outcomes of our work on responsible cobalt sourcing from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) offer a more comprehensive account for how we strive for research impact.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT

- Diagnosis**
- Conducted desk research. (Jun. 2019 – Jun. 2020)
 - Held preliminary interviews with key stakeholders. (Jun. 2019 – Jun. 2020)
 - Compiled resources for the Cobalt Knowledge Hub. (Since Jun. 2019)
 - Presented a research paper at BHR Scholars Conference in Essex, UK to generate academic interest for the intersection of human rights and climate change. (Sep. 2019)
- Analysis**
- Collaborated with the NYU Stern Center for Business and Human Rights to expand our expertise and to facilitate reach to US government entities and US companies. (Since Jun. 2019)
 - Undertook independent field research in the DRC which was supported by key actors in the cobalt supply chain and established relationships with local stakeholders. (Fall 2019)
 - Engaged with the World Economic Forum (WEF) through the dissemination of a discussion paper at the 2020 Annual Meeting to ensure that our research findings reach target audiences, including key businesses across the battery supply chain. (Jan. 2020)
 - Co-initiated the Cobalt Action Partnership (CAP) as a sub-initiative of the Global Battery Alliance and focused the CAP agenda on artisanally mined cobalt from the DRC. (Mar. 2020)
 - Actively participated in weekly CAP calls to align key stakeholders and advocated for the development of common standards, metrics, and means of evaluation for cobalt sourcing from artisanal mines in the DRC. (Since Mar. 2020)
 - Published research in WEF White Paper series after extensive review process by 12 stakeholders from civil society, academia, and business. (Sep. 2020)

- Engagement**
- Held regular meetings with key companies and key stakeholders in Europe and the US. (Since Jun. 2019)
 - Appeared regularly as expert in media, webinars, research seminars and hackathons. (Since Sep. 2019)
 - Drafted independent articles and interviews based on cobalt expertise to be published as part of the human rights reports of Trafigura and Audi. (Since Sep. 2019)
 - Published five op-eds (in The Conversation, Council on Foreign Relations, Swissinfo, and Forbes) to activate further companies to join CAP and to raise awareness for the GCBHR's research and advocacy agenda. (Since Oct. 2020)
 - Supported the development of in-country initiative of the Enterprise General du Cobalt (EGC), a state-owned entity to oversee all artisanal cobalt mining in the DRC, which released its responsible sourcing standard to be applied to all artisanal cobalt mines and which was modelled after the pilot project studied in our research. (Mar. 2021)
 - Chaired the EGC session at the OECD Responsible Minerals Meeting. (Apr. 2021)
 - Contributed to the Swiss consultation process for the Swiss Responsible Business Initiative Counterproposal. (Jun.. 2021)
 - Spoke at the DRC Mining Week in a session focusing on best practices for ensuring transparency in the DRC's mining sector. (Jun. 2021)
 - Wrote a feature article for I by IMD, a business magazine with a global readership of corporate executives and reach to top companies. (Sep. 2021)
 - Spoke as keynote panelist at the Swiss Geoscience Meeting to connect human rights with climate and discussed the topic of just energy transitions following COP26. (Nov. 2021)

- Teaching**
- Invited as guest lecturer to share our insights on responsible cobalt sourcing. (Since Fall 2019)
 - Integrated our cobalt research in our BHR courses at the GSEM, including by inviting guest speakers from industry. (Since Spring 2020)
 - Organized a seminar with the Global Business School Network on research impact based on the GCBHR's extractives focus area for an academic audience and offered insights into our impact-focused research methodology. (Mar. 2021)
 - Developed a microsimulation for teaching, derived from observations in the DRC and used by over 1,000 students in Colombia, Switzerland and the US. (Oct. 2020 – Oct. 2021)

— Myret Zaki,
Advisory Council

“Putting human rights at the heart of business practices – that’s the great mission pursued by the GCBHR since 2 years now, which I am very proud to support. Dorothee and the GCBHR team have done an outstanding job at UNIGE, combining great academic skill with strong values to place this research field at the top of the agenda for corporations and International Geneva: congratulations!.”

— Crispin Conroy, ICC

“The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) congratulates the Geneva Centre for Business and Human Rights (GCBHR) on the occasion of its 2nd Anniversary. As the first Human Rights Center at a business school in Europe, GCBHR is playing a critical and uncompromising leadership role in enabling companies to discuss major human rights challenges, and to identify business models that can ensure the respect for human rights. ICC has been proud to partner with GCBHR – along with the World Business Council for Sustainable Development – in a series of “safe space” discussions with leading businesses and other stakeholders. And we look forward to continuing – and developing further – this fruitful collaboration in the years to come..”

Cover photo:
Jimmy Chang (<https://unsplash.com/photos/NP8gd2KUnfw>)

Design:
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