

26th Session of the Human Rights Council
**Human Rights in International
Policy and Business Strategies**
A Child Rights Perspective

20 June 2014 3:00pm
Palais des Nations, Room XII
Geneva



**Università Commerciale
Luigi Bocconi**

CReSV

Center for Research on
Sustainability and Value



*Rappresentanza Permanente d'Italia
presso le Organizzazioni Internazionali
Ginevra*



The CReSV Center for Research on Sustainability and Value at Università Bocconi, the Italian Permanent Mission to the UN and other international organizations in Geneva, and UNICEF Italia have organized an interactive event on Business and Human Rights. The side event will contribute to the discussion about international policy and business practices with regard to children's rights.

The event aims to describe the approach of government institutions and multinational companies in trying to address today's challenging issues of sustainability and corporate responsibility. Participants will be asked to share best practices with regard to the implementation by companies of the international guidelines in their business processes, structure and strategies, and to contribute to discussions on how states and businesses can cooperate to promote, respect and support human rights and children's rights in their global operations, while simultaneously generating benefits for business (such as helping to develop the next generation of talent or achieving better risk management).

The impact of the business sector on children's rights has grown in the past few decades because of factors such as the globalized nature of economies and of business operations, and the ongoing trend of decentralization, outsourcing, and privatization of state functions. In 2012, UNICEF, Save the Children and the UN Global Compact released the Children's Rights and Business Principles. Developed with extensive consultation, the Principles provide a much needed framework for business action to respect and support children's rights.

The following year, the Committee on the Rights of the Child issued a General Comment on children and business, becoming the first human rights treaty body to address issues of business and human rights. The General Comment provides guidance for governments on their obligations and actions with regard to the impact of business activities and operations on children's rights arising from the CRC and its Optional Protocols.

Based upon the assumption that the social, political-institutional and economic variables are interdependent and influence each other directly more than in the past, this event aims to contribute to the discussion on the implications for a consequent business model and on the key role of governments and institutions.

3:00pm
Registration

3:15pm
Welcome Address

H.E. Maurizio Enrico Serra

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Italy to the UN and other international organizations in Geneva

3:25pm
**The New Scenario in Global Economy:
Policy and practices**

Francesco Perrini

Director, CReSV and SIF Chair of Social Entrepreneurship, Università Bocconi

3:35pm
**Child Lens: Children's rights and global
operations of business**

Subajini Jayasekaran

CSR Manager, UNICEF Geneva

Maria Pia Bianchetti

CSR Consultant, UNICEF Geneva

3:50pm
**Respecting and Supporting Children's
Rights in the Global Operations of
Business - Challenges and opportunities**

Moderator Francesco Perrini

Director, CReSV and SIF Chair of Social Entrepreneurship, Università Bocconi

Speakers

Hélène De Bock

Diplomat, Human Rights Desk, Federal Public Service for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Belgium

Benedetta Francesconi

Head of Industrial Policy for Made in Italy sectors, Italian Ministry of Economic Development

Iris Van der Veken

Manager Corporate Affairs Global, Rosy Blue

Sibylle Baumgartner

Project Manager Corporate Responsibility, Kuoni Group

5:00pm
General Conclusions

Davide Usai

Executive Director, UNICEF Italian Committee

For information
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Registration required at
www.unibocconi.it/eventi

If you wish to attend the event but do not have the accreditation to access the Palais des Nations in Geneva, please contact the Italian Mission at luisa.bronzini@esteri.it