

International Conference on Human Rights in Tourism 28th June 2017, Frankfurt

ROUNDTABLE
Human Rights
in Tourism

Speaker

11:00 – 11:30: National and international developments and trends around the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

Deniz Utlu, German Institute for Human Rights

Deniz Utlu is Policy Adviser for Business and Human Rights in the International Human Rights Policy department of the German Institute for Human Rights, Germany's National Human Rights Institution. His work at the Institute focuses on impacts and risks of economic and business activity and policy on society, especially concerning extractive industries, export promotion and economic policy such as austerity. Before joining the Institute he was Lecturer in Economics at the Berlin School of Economics and Law (HWR) and an academic staff member at the Berlin Migrant Qualification Network (BQN). He regularly publishes political essays in German newspapers, such as FAZ and Tagesspiegel.



11:30 – 12:45: Working conditions and human rights along the supply chain – the hospitality sector

Lucie Servoz, International Labour Organization

Lucie Servoz is the Hotels, Catering and Tourism Specialist at the International Labour Office's Sectoral Policies Department since 2016. Prior to this position, she contributed from 2009 to 2013 to the Sectoral Activities Department's work on the tourism sector. In 2012, she acted as the focal point for sectoral activities at the ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean and between 2013 and 2016 she worked for the International Commission of Jurists. She holds a Master's Degree in International and European Law from the University Paris-Ouest and an L.L.M in Private International Law from the University of Potsdam.



Sotiris Milonas, Travelife

Sotiris Milonas is a lead auditor for Travelife since 2011 with auditing experience since 2004. Since 2016 he has been appointed as Travelife representative for Greece. Sotiris has audited hotels in many countries including Sri Lanka, Maldives, Cyprus, Mauritius, Greece etc. and has a rich field experience. His initial studies were carried out in Civil Engineering and proceeded acquiring an MBA Sustainability – CSR – Health & Safety Advisor, Strategist.



Kevin Curran, Unite the Union

Kevin Curran is the Chair of the London Central Hotel Workers' branch of Unite the Union. His experience of trade union organising spans nearly 40 years since he started work as a welder. He has held positions at every level in the labour movement, from Shop Steward to General Secretary.

Former posts held include international coordinator for the Geneva-based global union federation the IUF and General Secretary of the UK union the GMB. He is also an activist and campaigns for the living wage and collective bargaining rights for the low-paid workers in the city. He has written a research paper for the ILO which examined the impact that changes in the global hotel chains are having on HR practice in the sector. He divides his time between voluntary activism and his work as a tree surgeon.



Massimo Frattini, International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF)

Massimo Frattini is Coordinator for the Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism sectors at the IUF Secretariat in Geneva.

Mr. Frattini became union member of the Italian General Confederation of Labour (Filcams-Cgil) in 1996. He became a full-time officer in 2001, organizing the hotel and tour-operator sector in Milan. In 2010, Mr. Frattini was offered the position as a national officer at the Filcams-Cgil national headquarter in Rome. He dealt with companies in the hotel industry at national level, including bargaining collective agreements. Mr. Frattini joined the IUF in 2012. Based in Geneva, Switzerland, the IUF is an international trade union federation composed of 429 trade unions in 128 countries representing over 10 million workers in IUF sectors.



Nicolas Perin, International Tourism Partnership

Nicolas Perin has worked on corporate social responsibility since 2009, advising companies and policy makers.

On graduating Paris Dauphine University he joined Unisfera, aiding the implementation of Rio Conventions with UN agencies, then focused on low carbon and responsible business strategies for the private sector as a national coordinator for APCC, and head of CSR department for A2DM. Nicolas is ITP's Programme Manager since January 2016.



15:00 – 16:45: Human Rights Impact Assessments

Philipp Bleckmann, Global Compact Network Germany

Philipp Bleckmann is manager for human rights and business at the secretariat of the German Global Compact Network.

Before assuming that position, he has worked for the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) in Cambodia and in headquarter in Eschborn on topics like human rights, civil society engagement and change management. He holds a Master's degree in sinology, law and political science from Free University Berlin.



Matthias Leisinger, Global Compact Network Germany

Matthias Leisinger is a specialist in responsible tourism and Corporate Responsibility (CR) with 14 years of experience in the private sector. Currently is working part-time as Head of CR for Kuoni Switzerland and is working as a freelance consultant.

During his time as VP Corporate Responsibility at Swiss travel company Kuoni, he gained first-hand experience in implementing the UN Guiding Principles within a corporate environment. He carried out human rights risk evaluations as part of the enterprise risk management system, conducted impact assessments, embedded human rights criteria in key business decision-making processes and conducted training to raise awareness of human rights risks. Representing the company at local and international conferences and guest lecturer at universities was also part of the portfolio. Matthias contributed to many publications including the UNICEF Child Rights and Business Principles toolkit. He designed, implemented and advised numerous projects in responsible tourism development, including sustainable destination management, capacity building for hotels and product development and marketing. He holds a Master of Arts in Geography, History and Political science from the Zurich University and a MBA in sustainability management from the Centre for Sustainability Management of the University of Lüneburg.



Beth Verhey, Unicef

Ms. Beth Linnea Verhey is Senior Advisor, Children's Rights and Business with UNICEF's Private Sector Engagement team, based in Geneva Switzerland. In this capacity Ms Verhey leads and provides technical guidance on children's rights in a range of business sustainability work-streams, including developing due diligence tools, strategic business and human rights partnerships and a particular focus on the Travel and Tourism sector.



Prior to this, Ms Verhey has more than 25 years of experience in social development with UNICEF, other agencies in the United Nations and leading children's rights organizations, in particular leading work in the areas of child protection, multi-dimensional child poverty, public finance and social protection in New York headquarters and country offices in Africa and Asia. Beth started her career in the private sector, moving on to early work in micro-finance. Ms Verhey has a Master's degree in international development policy from Oxford University.

16:45 – 17:30: Outlook Speech: Grievance Mechanisms – Experience from other sectors

Tulika Bansal, Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR)

Tulika Bansal works as Senior Adviser at the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR). During the past 6 years, she has provided expert advice on human rights due diligence to leading multinational companies in various sectors including the food and beverage, extractives and tourism sectors. She has led and carried out numerous country-level human rights impact assessments (HRIA) globally.



She has been involved in the development of impact assessment methodologies, including DIHR's HRIA Guidance and Toolbox, and an approach to collaborative HRIAs. Together with UNICEF she developed the 'Children's Rights in Impact Assessments' Tool.

Geographical areas of expertise include responsible business in Burma/Myanmar and India. Tulika previously worked as a researcher on labor rights for the Dutch Trade Union Confederation (FNV Mondiaal) in the Netherlands and as a researcher and trainer for an NGO based in Chiang Mai, Thailand focusing on the human rights impacts of large-scale investment projects in Myanmar. In India, she worked with Cividep, a Bangalore based NGO working on corporate accountability, where she focused on labour rights in the Indian garment sector. In addition, she worked for the World Food Programme in Madagascar. Tulika is a guest lecturer on Children's Rights and Business at the Youth Law department of Leiden University, the Netherlands. Tulika holds a LLM in Public International Law from Leiden University, the Netherlands. She is a native Dutch speaker and fluent in English and Hindi.