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**JM CHAIR S.E.E.D.
SUSTAINABILITY, ETHICS,
ESG AND DILIGENCE:
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
EUROPEAN DIRECTIVES**

**DUE DILIGENCE IN
EUROPE AND BEYOND:
PRACTICES, LIABILITY,
AND LEGAL
DEVELOPMENTS**



2–3 July 2026

Universitas Mercatorum

Piazza Mattei, 10 – Rome

 zoom

Sign-up for the event:

adesioni.eventi@unimercatorum.it

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The seminar aims to examine due diligence practices and regulatory frameworks in both European Union and non-EU jurisdictions, considering developments before and after the adoption of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD).

Particular attention will be paid to national experiences that introduced due diligence obligations prior to the CSDDD, including not only regulations expressly designed to impose corporate due diligence requirements, but also legal instruments that pursue similar objectives indirectly, such as legislation addressing labour exploitation, gang-mastering, forced labour, occupational health and safety in procurement chains, and related forms of corporate accountability.

THURSDAY, 2nd JULY 2026

h. 15:00 **INSTITUTIONAL GREETINGS**

Giovanni Cannata

Rector Universitas Mercatorum, Italy

OPENING REMARKS

Marco Mocella

Project Coordinator Universitas Mercatorum, Italy

MODERATOR

Aurora Cavallo

*Universitas Mercatorum, Italy
PhD Sustainability and ESG Agenda
Coordinator*

KEYNOTE SPEECHES

Bas Rombouts

*Project member Tilburg University,
Netherlands*

***Dutch approaches to due diligence
and responsible business conduct in
international and European
perspective***

Luca Nogler

Trento University, Italy

***Preventing human rights abuses in
supply chains: duty of care or due
diligence?***

Alberto Pizzoferrato

Alma Mater Studiorum, Bologna University

***The due diligence approach of
Italian multinationals***

Rafael Encinas De Muñagorri

Nantes University, France

***Ten years of French experience
about penalties and civil liability
since 2017 legislation of due
diligence***

DEBATE

FRIDAY, 3rd JULY 2026

PANEL I

GENERAL ISSUES OF THE CSDDD

MODERATOR

Martina Bassotti

Universitas Mercatorum, Italy

10:00 – 10:15

Thomas Papadopoulos

University of Cyprus, Cyprus

Directors' duties and corporate sustainability due diligence in Cyprus company law: modernizing fiduciary duties under common law

10:15 – 10:30

Maria Giovannone

Roma Tre University, Italy

Labour rights as human rights: the remedial and preventive approaches set out in European Directive 2024/1760

10:30 – 10:45

Maria Laura Santonicola

Roma Tre University, Italy

Veronica Verzulli

Roma Tre University, Italy

New Regulatory Techniques to Protect Human Rights: the "Participatory" Risk-Based Approach Starting with the EWCs' Role

10:45 – 11:00

Camilla M. S. Benevides

Universitas Mercatorum, Italy

The Concept of "Worker" in Directive (EU) 2024/1760: Legal Ambiguities and Emerging Challenges

11:00 – 11:15

Alexia Bizi Oliveira

Cláudio Iannotti da Rocha, Federal University of Espírito Santo (UFES), Brazil

The Application of the Cross-cutting Process in the Agreement between Meta and the Labor Public Prosecutor's office in Case of Digital Child Labor

11:15 – 11:30

Parveen Morris

University of Manchester, UK

CSDDD: Access to effective remedies for victims of labour rights violations in supply chains

11:30 – 11:45

Q&A SESSION

PANEL II

THE OMNIBUS REFORM AND THE FUTURE OF DUE DILIGENCE

MODERATOR

Maria Rosaria Barbato

Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil

11:45 – 12:00

Paola Dassisti

Trento University, Italy

Corporate due diligence and supply-chains after the EU Omnibus Package: the reshaping of sustainable corporate governance

12:00 – 12:15

Myriam De Lucia

Federico II University, Italy

Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence between regulatory simplification and worker protection: the (reduced) role of responsible disengagement

12:15 – 12:30

Antonio Capasso

Universitas Mercatorum, Italy

Breach of Supply Chain Due Diligence Obligations: Civil and Administrative Liability and Transposition into Italian Law

12:30 – 12:45

Daniele Allega

Universitas Mercatorum, Italy

Due Diligence as Contestable Infrastructure: Monitoring Supply Chains, Liability, and Redress under the Post-Omnibus CSDDD

12:45 – 13:00

Pia De Petris

University of Milan, Italy

Due Diligence and protection of working conditions in traditional and emerging supply chains in the light of the "Omnibus simplification package"

13:00 – 13:15

Q&A SESSION

FRIDAY, 3rd JULY 2026

PANEL III

CASE STUDIES IN CORPORATE DUE DILIGENCE AND SUPPLY CHAIN LIABILITY

MODERATOR

Sara Addamo

Universitas Mercatorum, Italy

14:30 – 14:45

Burak Sönmez

Tekirdağ Namık Kemal University, Turkey

Enforcing Freedom of Association Beyond Borders: Transnational Corporate Liability for Union Busting in Türkiye

14:45 – 15:00

Antony Zhilkin

HSE University, Russian Federation

Post-Omnibus CSDDD and Fragmented Supply Chains: Lessons from Egypt's Jasmine Case

15:00 – 15:15

Michele Corgatelli

University of Glasgow, UK

The first ten years of the UK Modern Slavery Act: lessons from (and for?) the EU Sustainability Due Diligence framework

15:15 – 15:30

Sabbir Hossain

Bangladesh

From Due Diligence to Living Wages: The ACT Model Beyond EU Supply Chain Regulation

15:30 – 15:45

Chuying Huang

Institute for Labour Law, KU Leuven

Implementing the CSDDD in China: Labour-Related Due Diligence in Battery Supply Chains

15:45 – 16:00

DISCUSSION AND Q&A

16:00 – 16:15

GENERAL DISCUSSION

16:30 – 16:45

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD CEREMONY

CHAIR

Marco Mocella

Universitas Mercatorum, Italy

17:00 – 17:30

CLOSING ADDRESS BY THE GUEST OF HONOUR

Raffaele Sabato

Judge at the European Court of Human Rights

Environment and climate change in the case-law of the ECtHR

17:30 – 17:45

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Francesco Santoni

Professor Emeritus University of Naples Federico II, Italy

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

MARCO MOCELLA, ELENA SYCHENKO, SARA ADDAMO, VALENTINA ANIBALLI, MARTINA BASSOTTI

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