

Dissertations Summary  
**Understanding Human Rights Corporate Supply Chain Responsibility  
in Business and Human rights**

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## Abstract

Human rights are the cornerstone in defining the relationship between the state and its citizens, with the state as a duty-bearer and citizens as duty-holders. This relationship necessitates that the state protects the human rights of its citizens not only from its apparatus but also from third parties, notably companies and their expansive supply chains. The term "supply chain" encompasses the entire production process involving all companies that directly or indirectly bring a product to market. In human rights and business, the principal company must assume responsibility for upholding human rights standards throughout the supply chain. UN Resolutions reinforce this obligation, notably the UN Protect Respect and Remedy framework and its guiding principles, which mandate companies to assess and address human rights risks and impacts associated with their operations, including those of subsidiaries and suppliers. This dissertation aims to define each type of supply chain and offer illustrative examples to elucidate their characteristics. This study employs a normative legal research approach, drawing on secondary data from primary, secondary, and tertiary legal materials. The research methodology involves a combination of library research and qualitative analysis. Building upon Article 13 of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the study delineates three distinct forms of supply chains: those directly causing harm to human rights, those contributing to harm through another entity, and those neither causing nor contributing to harm.

Keywords: Business and Human Rights, Supply Chain in Business and Human Rights, Corporation responsibility in human rights, Human Rights.

## 1.1 Introductions

The imposition of human rights responsibility on corporations has become a topic that is still debated but is gradually being accepted. One of the things stipulated in the UN Protect, Respect, and Remedy Framework and its Guiding Principle<sup>1</sup> is the regulation that fulfills corporations' obligations to their supply chains. This obligation is outlined in Principle 13 of the UNGPs, which states that corporations are responsible for their operations and the operations of their supply chains.<sup>2</sup> For example, what was happening in the Rana Plaza building in the Savar District of Dhaka, Bangladesh, on April 23 when the building collapsed and killed and injured over 1,100 workers.<sup>3</sup> The Rana Plaza factory is part of the ready-made garment sector, which produces clothing for major companies. This accident occurs due to poor infrastructure, which can be prevented if the leading company requires the supplier company to have good infrastructure.<sup>4</sup> Another notable example is Foxconn Group, Apple's primary supplier for designing and distributing electronic components and assemblies. It is known as Hon Hai in Taiwan, an electronic manufacturing service (EMS). Foxconn employees experience lack of adequate facilities for workers, like the lack of availability of clean water, unsanitary and unsafe environmental conditions, less medical care, inadequate wages, and many more, which make Foxconn experience the problem of suicide cases that occurred in its workforce.<sup>5</sup> Another example is the fire at a garment factory (Tazeen Fashion) in the Ashulia district on the outskirts of Dhaka, Bangladesh. If garment companies such as H&M, Zara, and others had conducted due diligence on this company, the fire could have been prevented, and 117 people would not have lost their lives.<sup>6</sup>

To prevent such occurrences, the corporation must uphold human rights. It is important to protect and fulfill people's human rights. Therefore, before entering into any supply chain agreements, the company should first conduct due diligence to determine whether its activities have the potential to infringe upon people's human rights. A corporate supply chain is a process by which a corporation obtains goods or services from another company to produce its own goods or services. For example, KFC is responsible for the chicken cattle company, where KFC takes the

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<sup>1</sup> This rule is the legal umbrella of the human rights and business regime (BHR)

<sup>2</sup> Article 13 UNGPs. The responsibility to respect human rights requires that business enterprises: (a) Avoid causing or contributing to adverse human rights impacts through their activities and address such impacts when they occur; (b) Seek to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their operations, products, or services by their business relationships, even if they have not contributed to those impacts.

<sup>3</sup> ILO Info story, The Rana Plaza Disaster Ten Years on: What has changed, <https://webapps.ilo.org/infostories/en-GB/Stories/Country-Focus/rana-plaza>, accessed on August 26, 2024

<sup>4</sup> Jimmy Donaghey and Juliane Reinecke, "When Industrial Democracy Meets Corporate Social Responsibility — A Comparison of the Bangladesh Accord and Alliance as Responses to the Rana Plaza Disaster," *British Journal of Industrial Relations* 56, no. 1 (2017): 1–29, <https://doi.org/10.1111/bjir.12242>.

<sup>5</sup> Barbara Demkck and David Sarno, China Labor Bulletin, <https://clb.org.hk/en/content/latest-news-reports-foxconn-suicides>, access July 27, 2004

<sup>6</sup> CNN World, at least 117 Killed in fire at Bangladeshi Clothing Factory, [https://edition.cnn.com/2012/11/25/world/asia/bangladesh-factory-fire/?hpt=hp\\_t](https://edition.cnn.com/2012/11/25/world/asia/bangladesh-factory-fire/?hpt=hp_t), Access April 25, 2025

chicken that it will sell in its company. A simple example and explanation of how corporate responsibility throughout its supply chain is in the illustration below:

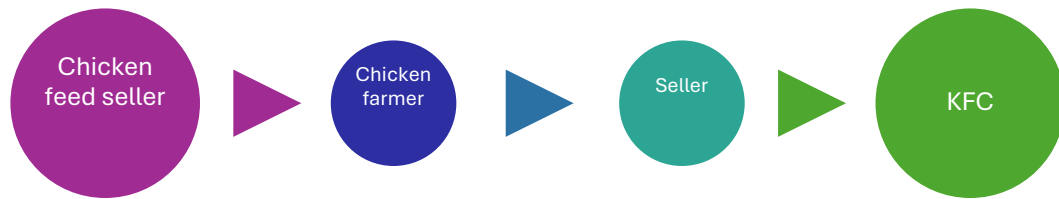


Figure 1

As a corporation, KFC has a duty until its last supply chain. In this picture is a chicken feed seller. If the chicken feed seller harms people's human rights (whether in their labor, environment, or other aspects), KFC has a responsibility to address it. This obligation was written in principle 13 of UNGPs.

The responsibility to respect human rights requires that business enterprises (a) avoid causing or contributing to adverse human rights impacts through their activities and address such impacts when they occur. (b) seek to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their operation, products, or services by their business relationship, even if they have not contributed to those impacts.

Hence, human rights corporation obligations are not only on the corporation itself but also on other companies that have a direct or indirect relationship with it and are part of the production process of goods; in such cases, the company is responsible for all those companies. For example, what Sony Company is doing in Malaysia. Sony plastic component factory supply chain in Malaysia,<sup>7</sup> Kawaguchi manufacturing.<sup>8</sup>

Kawaguchi company has been accused of various forced labor practices, initially brought to light by workers who went on strike to demand months of unpaid salary. Sony Group Corporation has conducted an on-site audit of the Malaysian factory that supplies plastic components for its electronic products.<sup>9</sup> The audit revealed that the contractor had violated its supply chain code of conduct following previous allegations of forced labor practices raised by activists and workers.<sup>10</sup> Sony stated that the company has implemented strict supply chain rules, which require suppliers

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<sup>7</sup> MalayMail, Sony Admit own audit found probable labor code violation by Malaysian contractor, [https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2024/10/18/sony-admits-own-audit-found-probable-labour-code-violation-by-malaysian-contractor/154022#google\\_vignette](https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2024/10/18/sony-admits-own-audit-found-probable-labour-code-violation-by-malaysian-contractor/154022#google_vignette), accessed on October 18, 2024.

<sup>8</sup> The electronics giant is one of three prominent Japanese firms that source plastic components from Kawaguchi Manufacturing Sdn Bhd, a company based in Klang.

<sup>9</sup> Business and Human Rights Resources Center, Sony Admits own audit Found Probable labor code violation by Malaysia Contractor, <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/latest-news/sony-admits-own-audit-found-probable-labour-code-violation-by-malaysian-contractor/> accessed on October 18, 2024

<sup>10</sup> Business and Human Rights Resources Center, Update: Sony disclosure re-allegation of Labor Rights abuse of Bangladeshi worker at Malaysian supplier, <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/latest-news/update-sony-disclosure-re-allegations-of-labour-rights-abuse-of-bangladeshi-workers-at-malaysian-supplier/> Accessed October 18, 2024

to respect the human rights of their workers. Regarding this case, Sony has "requested" Kawaguchi to immediately implement "corrective measures" and keep monitoring the company.

This dissertation aims to examine the protection of human rights in business activities, focusing on the obligation of business actors to ensure that their business activities do not infringe upon the rights of their workers, the surrounding community, or the environment in which the company operates. The primary legal foundation for this study is the minimum standard of human rights protection as outlined in various human rights conventions. Moreover, this dissertation wants to discuss where is corporation responsibility in human rights on what is the difference between state responsibility in human rights and corporation responsibility in human rights, and what is meant by corporate obligations to the supply chain and then provide examples of the forms of supply chains that are found, such as companies, and how they are included in the categories of supply chains found

## **1.2 Research question**

In shaping the research analysis, this dissertation will answer the two questions below:

- 1.2.1 To what extent state and corporate responsibility in business and human rights regimes?
- 1.2.2 In what forms is corporate human rights responsibility throughout its supply chain?

## **1.3 Hypothesis**

Human rights are recognized as the state-to-citizen relationship, where the state is a duty bearer, and the citizen is the duty holder. Moreover, the state is responsible for protecting citizens' human rights from its apparatus and third parties, such as corporations or business actors. The Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights were developed to clarify the different roles and responsibilities that States and companies have in addressing the business impact on human rights. In this dissertation, the author aims to examine the responsibilities of states and corporations in protecting citizens' human rights from the adverse impacts of business activities.

Furthermore, Article 13 of the UNGP states.

"The responsibility to respect human rights requires that business enterprises Avoid causing or contributing to adverse human rights impacts through their activities and address such impacts when they occur; seek to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their operations, product or services by their business relationship, even if they do not contribute to these impacts." From this principle, the writer found there are at least three from of the supply chain, according to article 13 UNGPS, which are causing human rights harms directly, contributing to human rights harm through another entity, neither causing nor contributing to human rights harm; hence, the writer wants to define each type and give an example regarding these three types of the supply chain.

## 1.4 Research Methodology

### 1.4.1 Applied Methodology

The research methodology employed in this article encompasses both social-legal and doctrinal legal research, supplemented by a mixed-method approach to ensure a comprehensive investigation into state and corporate human rights responsibility. The doctrinal research methodology employed in this study is sometimes referred to as the black-letter approach.<sup>11</sup> The black-letter approach is a research methodology that seeks to provide detailed raw material.<sup>12</sup> This Methodology primarily comprises primary written sources; thus, this dissertation will focus on analyzing the UN's Guiding Principles on business and human rights and how they are applied in human rights regimes among states and corporations as duty holders in the context of human rights and business. Not only that, but also international human rights conventions such as the International Convention on Economic, social, and Cultural Rights. And resolutions or decisions from international and regional organizations, such as the European Union (EU) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Moreover, to make this study more straightforward, the author also examines regulations on human rights and business under international and non-governmental organizations, such as the OECD Guidance for Multinational Enterprises, the OECD Due Diligence for Responsible Business Conduct, the Tripartite Declarations of Principles Concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, and the Ten Principles of the Global Compact.

The social-legal research aspect involves an in-depth analysis of the social, political, and economic contexts surrounding corporate behavior and its implications for human rights. Social legal research entails examining relevant literature, reports, case studies, and other empirical data to understand the broader societal impact of corporate actions on human rights.

Combining social-legal research, doctrinal legal research, and a mixed-method approach ensures a holistic examination of corporate human rights violations and remedies, contributing to a deeper understanding of the complex interplay between law, society, and corporate behavior.

### 1.2.2 Research Approach

This dissertation uses normative and descriptive approaches. The Descriptive approaches are applied to analyze the theory of natural law and its application in rules and regulations, examining how states and corporations, as duty holders of human rights, fulfill their obligations to the human rights of their people. Moreover, the normative approach applied in the study when interpreting the rule and concept of legal theory. Furthermore, to get a comprehensive conclusion about the legal theory, this study will use the case-based approach, meaning the cases

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<sup>11</sup> Tom R. Tyler, "Methodology in Legal Research," *Utrecht Law Review* 13, no. 3 (2017): 38–42, <https://doi.org/10.1177/0963721410397271>.

<sup>12</sup> Lord Goff, "Judge, Jurist and Legislature," *The Denning Law Journal* 2, no. 1 (2012): 79–95, <https://doi.org/10.5750/dlj.v2i1.160>. In Michael Salter and Julie Mason, *Writing Law Dissertations, an Introduction, and guide to conduct of legal research*, Pearson Education Limited, Edinburgh, 2007 p. 69

related to the application of the (theory) are to be compiled and analyzed to achieve substantial parameters and limitations of the theory.

### 1.2.3 Legal Material

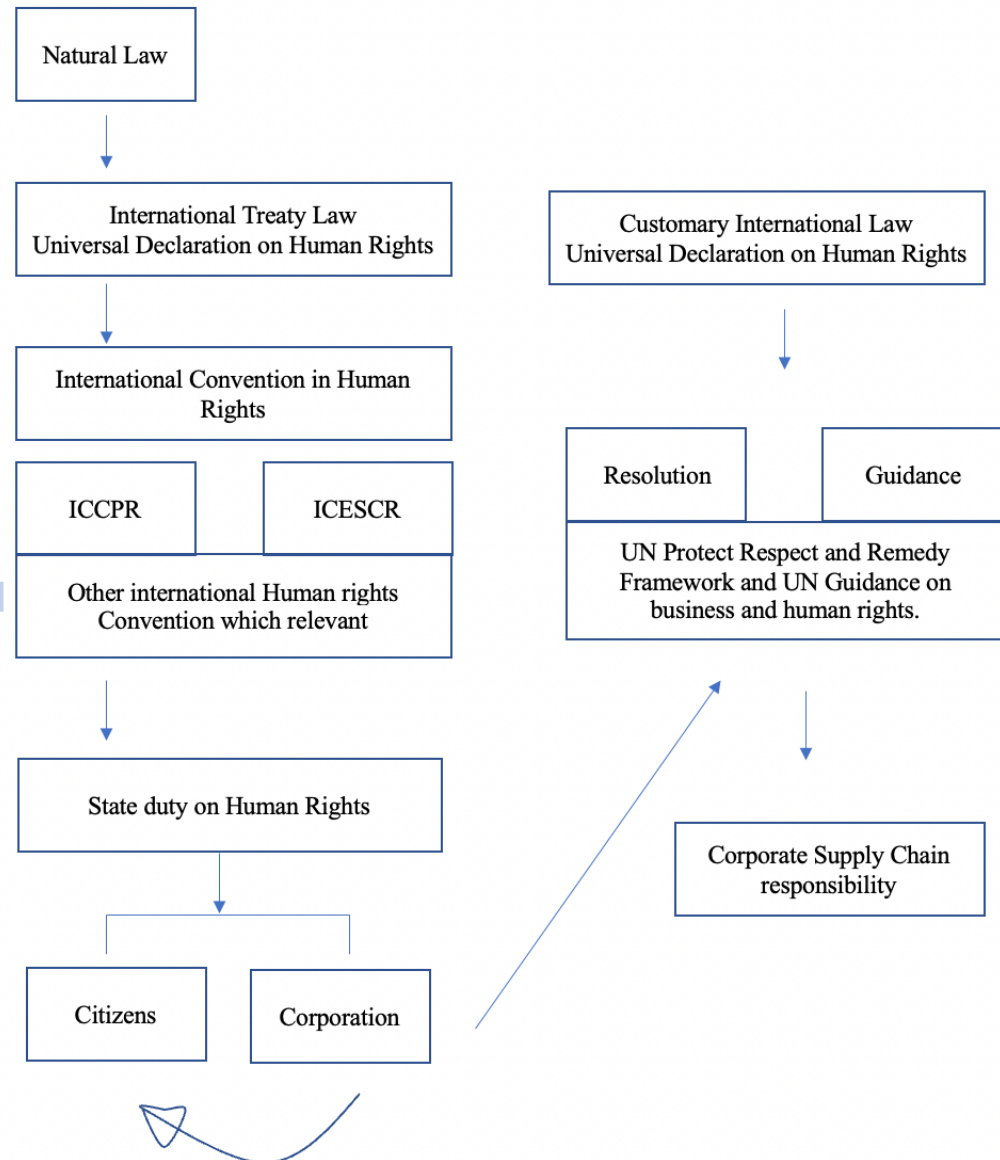
The source of this study consists of primary and secondary legal sources. This study will utilize library research to collect all relevant materials for observation and analysis in response to each problem formulation. The secondary legal research consists of secondary primary legal research, secondary secondary legal research, and secondary tertiary legal research. Secondary Legal Research refers to analyzing, commenting, or interpreting primary legal sources such as statutes, regulations, and case law. In business and human rights, secondary legal research involves utilizing scholarly articles, books, legal commentaries, reports, and guidelines to comprehend and interpret the primary legal sources that govern corporate responsibilities and human rights standards.

**Primary Legal Sources in Business and Human Rights:** Primary legal sources are the foundational legal materials that establish binding obligations or standards. In the area of business and human rights, these sources include International Treaties and Conventions. Key international legal instruments include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), and various conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO). These documents set the fundamental human rights standards businesses must respect. **National Laws and Regulations:** Domestic laws enforce business and human rights standards. These include labor laws, environmental regulations, anti-corruption statutes, and human rights legislation that directly regulate corporate behavior. **Soft Law Instruments:** While not legally binding, soft law instruments such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises provide necessary standards and frameworks that guide businesses in respecting human rights. **Judicial Decisions:** Case law interprets and applies business and human rights laws, including decisions from national courts and international tribunals. For instance, court rulings on corporate liability for human rights abuses offer critical legal interpretations of how businesses should conduct themselves.

The secondary primary legal research source has been derived from rules and regulations used in this research, including conventions, Resolutions, guidance, national law, and all relevant rules and regulations regarding the protection of human rights from business activities.

Secondary legal sources analyze, explain, and critique primary legal sources. In the context of business and human rights, these sources include scholarly articles and journals. Legal scholars and experts publish articles in academic journals that analyze business and human rights issues. Thus, secondary legal research is derived from books, articles, papers, and reports on human rights and business-related topics. The last source is secondary or tertiary legal research, originating from a dictionary, encyclopedia, or other similar sources.

## 1.5 The fundamental Theory of Human Rights Emphasizes the State and Corporation's Protection of Human Rights.



The fundamental theory of human rights protection is in natural law. People possess human rights because these rights are inherently just and fundamental to their humanity. Moreover, scholars also view that human rights are part of moral rights. Furthermore, the application of theory can reveal the source of international law, as outlined in Article 38, paragraph 1, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice. The treaty law, especially on the Bill of Human Rights, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), and the two major human rights conventions, the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

(ICESCR) and other human rights conventions and according to human rights conventions state have a responsibility to ensure protection of human rights for their citizen.

On the other hand, customary international law precludes human rights protections related to business activities. This line is outlined in the UN Framework for Protect, Respect, and Remedy and its guidance, which affirms that corporations have responsibilities for human rights, including throughout their supply chain. The supply chain principle is written in principle 13 of UNGPs, which says, "The responsibility to respect human rights requires that business enterprises Avoid causing or contributing to adverse human rights impacts through their activities and address such impacts when they occur; seek to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their operations, product or services by their business relationship, even if they do not contribute to these impacts."

## 1.6 Discussion and Findings

### 1.6.1 State responsibility and corporate responsibility in human rights

Business and human rights regulations are an essential aspect of ensuring that corporations operate in a socially responsible manner. While the government is crucial in setting regulatory standards, international organizations play a vital role in regulating business and human rights. The United Nations has been at the forefront of this effort, with the guiding principle on Business and Human Rights providing a framework for responsible business practice. As mentioned in the introduction, the UN Framework protects, respects, and remedies, and its guiding principles have three pillars, namely the responsibility of the state to protect human rights, the responsibility of companies to respect human rights, and the obligation of states and corporations to protect them with a remedy when human rights are violated. So, states and corporations have their obligations, and this guiding also emphasizes that there is no desire from the guiding principle to make new international rules in human rights. It affirms that obligations to protect human rights are states' obligations.

Pillar one, the UN Framework protects, respects, and remedies states that:

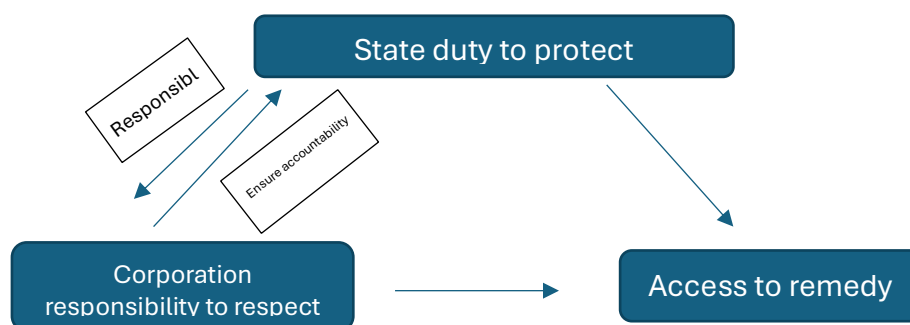


Figure: Represent of the UN Protect Respect and Remedy framework for corporations

The figure appears to represent the "Protect, Respect, and Remedy" Framework, a part of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). This framework outlines the roles of states and corporations in protecting human rights and providing access to remedies. Here is

a holistic interpretation of the diagram based on the three key pillars: State Duty to Protect emphasizes the responsibility of the state to protect individuals from human rights abuses by third parties, including businesses. States must establish regulations, policies, and enforcement mechanisms to prevent human rights violations related to corporations. Legal and Policy Frameworks include implementing laws that protect against corporate abuses and holding businesses accountable when violations occur. Corporate Responsibility to Respect. The role of corporations is to respect human rights independently. Corporate responsibility means businesses should avoid infringing on human rights and take proactive measures to prevent and address any human rights impacts caused by their operations.

To ensure the most effective implementation of human rights obligations, the UN Framework and its guiding principles recommend that businesses incorporate these obligations into their company policies and practices. Human rights obligations include adopting principles as the minimum standards for their codes of conduct or internal rules of operation and establishing mechanisms to hold the company accountable for these standards. Moreover, UNGP principle 4 (four) also mentions that states should take additional steps to protect against human rights abuses by business enterprises that are owned or controlled by the state or receive assistance from the state. As mentioned above, the first pillar is the state's duty to protect. Pillar Two is a corporate responsibility to respect, and Pillar Three is access to remedy.

The right to an effective remedy for victims of human rights abuses perpetrated by companies remains weak in international law. Several substantive and procedural-legal issues prevent victims from seeking redress in national and international courts.<sup>13</sup> The responsibility for ensuring access to remedies for victims of business-related human rights abuses is shared between states and corporations. States must provide effective judicial and non-judicial mechanisms for redress, while corporations must establish accessible grievance mechanisms and cooperate with national and international processes for accountability. Despite progress, challenges such as judicial barriers, corporate resistance, and cross-border legal complexities hinder victims' access to remedies. Both states and businesses must collaborate to overcome these challenges, ensuring that those harmed by business activities can seek justice and obtain appropriate remedies.

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<sup>13</sup> Jernej Letnar Čerňič, "Moving Towards Protecting Human Rights in Global Business Supply Chains," *Boston University International Law Journal* 36, no. 2 (2018): 101–16.

### 1.6.2 The Forms of Corporate Human Rights Responsibility throughout its Supply Chain

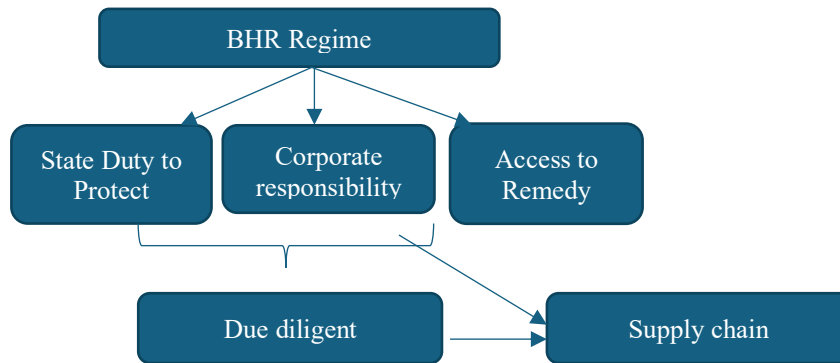


Figure 14: The form of corporate human rights responsibility throughout its supply chain.

Generally, international human rights treaties do not impose direct legal obligations on business enterprises. Still, the United Nations Guiding Principles set the baseline responsibility of all enterprises as respect for human rights. National law has established the framework for legal liability and the enforcement of infringement in accordance with international human rights standards. Business enterprises can affect the human rights of their employees, customers, and workers in the supply chain around their operations. As stated in Principle 13 UNGPs, the responsibility to respect human rights requires that business enterprises: (a) Avoid causing or contributing to adverse human rights impacts through their activities and address such impacts when they occur; (b) Seek to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their operations, products or services by their business relationships, even if they have not contributed to those impacts.

Moreover, Chapter II (General Policies) of the OECD guidance on RBC states that enterprises should seek to prevent or mitigate the impact where they have not contributed to it, even if the impact is nevertheless linked to their operations, products, or services through a business relationship. From this statement, the OECD imposes a corporate obligation on its supply chain, so even if a company does not cause harm, it still has a responsibility if its suppliers or contractors (in their supply chain) cause harm. Chapter IV (Human rights) also adds that a company must avoid or cause adverse human rights impacts, dress such impacts when they occur, and seek to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their business operations, products, or services by a business relationship, even if they have not contributed to those impact.

Furthermore, Paragraphs 8 and 9 of the ILO Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprise said that even if companies work through subcontractors, they should promote respect for labor rights throughout the supply chain. Paragraphs 42 to 45 also discuss the supply chain, which states that the enterprise should take steps to ensure that subcontractors and Suppliers also respect fundamental labor standards.

From principle 13 UNGPs, OECD Guidance, and ILO MNE Declaration, a business can be involved in its supply chain in three ways:

- (i) It is causing adverse human rights impacts through its activities.
- (ii) It contributes to adverse human rights impacts through its actions, either directly or indirectly, through another entity, such as a government, business, or other organization.
- (iii) Neither causing nor contributing to the harmful effects but still being indirectly involved in impacts directly linked to its operations, products, or services because of relationships with business partners, entities in the value chain, or any other nonstate or state entity directly related to its business operations, products, or services.

#### *1.6.2.1 Causing adverse human rights impacts through corporation activities.*

Causing adverse human rights impacts through corporation activities means that the corporation's supply chain activities are causing harm to human rights. States must ensure that businesses within their jurisdiction do not violate human rights, either at home or abroad, by adhering to the principles outlined in the UN Protect, Respect, and Remedy Framework and its accompanying guidance. This principle states that the state and corporations are responsible for upholding human rights.<sup>14</sup>

#### *1.6.2.2 Contributing to human rights harms either directly or through another entity*

Contribute can be defined as giving to achieve or provide something; thus, contributing to human rights harm means giving or acting in a way that results in the violation of one's human rights. In this type, the company's human rights violations are in its supply chain. As mentioned above, a supply chain is an integrated process in which various businesses collaborate to acquire raw materials, convert these raw materials into specific final products, and deliver them; thus, the product reaches the retailer and consumer.<sup>15</sup> For example, KFC is their supplier of chicken feet. The electronic company is one of their suppliers of raw materials, among others. Contributing to human rights harms means that a company or entity plays a role in causing or facilitating violations, either directly through its actions or indirectly through its relationships with other entities, such as suppliers, business partners, or governments. This contribution might not be the primary cause of the harm, but the company's involvement enables, exacerbates, or perpetuates the human rights violation.

Contribution to human rights harm through association with another entity, as outlined in UNGPs, "...contributing to adverse human rights impact through their activities or contribute ...". This situation refers to situations where a company's actions, products, or services facilitate, exacerbate, or incentivize human

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<sup>14</sup> Jernej Letnar Čerňič, "Institutional Actors As International Law-Makers in Business and Human Rights: The United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and Beyond," *Pravni Zapisi* 12, no. 2 (2021): 594–617, <https://doi.org/10.5937/pravzap0-35034>. accessed March 20 March 20 2024

<sup>15</sup> Benita M. Beamon, "Supply Chain Design and Analysis: Models and Methods," *Int. J. Production Economics* 55 (2006): 281–294, <https://doi.org/10.1109/LEOS.2006.278761>.

rights abuses committed by another party. This form of contribution does not require the company to engage in the harmful act directly but indicates that the company's involvement supports or influences the act in some way. Contribution to human rights harm occurs when a company's actions or business relationships enable, facilitate, or exacerbate human rights violations committed by another party, such as a partner or a governmental body. The company's involvement or encouragement increases the likelihood or severity of the harm. For example, transportation company and financial company.

*1.6.3 Neither causing nor contributing to human rights harm.*

Non-causation and non-contribution to human rights harm within the context of UNGPs refer to a scenario where a company is neither directly causing human rights violations through its activities nor contributing to violations through its relationships with other entities. However, the company may still be connected to the harm through its products, services, or business relationships and is responsible for addressing these impacts. Non-causation and non-contribution occur when a company's operations, products, or services are linked to a human rights violation. However, the company has not directly caused or contributed to the harm.

"Neither Causing nor Contributing to Human Rights Harm" refers to a situation where a company or entity is not directly responsible for, nor does it contribute to, human rights violations. However, this does not entirely absolve the company of its responsibilities. Here is a breakdown of what this entails: Not Causing Harm happens when the company's activities, operations, or decisions are not the direct source of the harm. There is no causal link between the company's actions and the human rights violation. For example, a company does not employ forced labor or engage in activities that directly lead to such abuses. Not Contributing to Harm means the company does not play a role in enabling, facilitating, or exacerbating the harm. It does not have a relationship with third parties, which might lead to a situation where its involvement indirectly contributes to human rights abuses.

Based on the explanation this is the table explaining the three types of supply chain

	Causing	Contributing	neither causing nor contributing
Definition	A situation where a company is part of the parent company	A situation where the parent company makes cooperation in making goods or services.	A situation where the parent company introduced their product to the market.
Relation to Parent company	direct	Indirect	No relationship
Example	Supplier, sub-contractor, Branches	Financial institutions Transportation company	Advertising company, Auditing firm

## 1.7 Conclusion

Based on the results of the discussion of the formulation of the problem, conclusions can be drawn from the dissertation, namely:

- 1.7.1 The state has an obligation under international law to safeguard its citizens within its territory and jurisdiction from human rights abuses, both by itself and by third parties. UNGPs stated that state and corporate responsibility in business and human rights is a human rights responsibility shared by both the state and corporations. Although the obligations of the two are different, Where the state must protect, the corporation has the responsibility to respect. Moreover, states and corporations are responsible for creating remedy mechanisms when human rights violations occur. In BHR, the state's responsibility is to provide clear rules and regulations through its laws and policies, ensuring that corporations do not harm people's human rights while conducting their business activities. The state also has to enforce laws that are aimed at or have the effect of, requiring business enterprises to respect human rights and periodically assess the adequacy of such laws and address any gaps and ensure that other laws and policies governing business enterprises' creations and ongoing operations, such as corporate law, do not constrain but enable business respect for human rights, provide practical guidance to business enterprises on respecting human rights throughout their operations, encourage and, where appropriate, require business enterprises to communicate how they address their human rights impact. Meanwhile, the corporation's responsibility is to respect all rules and regulations provided by the state and to uphold the minimum human rights provisions outlined in the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, also known as the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, or the Human Rights Convention. Furthermore, the corporation also has an obligation to conduct due diligence, namely assessing the business before starting and examining the supply chain before collaboration, to ensure that the supply chain does not violate human rights in its business activities.
- 1.7.2 Based on principle 13 of UNGPs, this research found that corporate human rights responsibility throughout its supply chain has 3 (three) forms, which are direct causation, contribution, and neither causing nor contributing to human rights harm. First, human rights violations can occur when a company's activities lead to adverse human rights outcomes, even if the supplier is responsible for them. Direct causation occurs when there is a clear and immediate link between a company's operations, products, or services and the negative impact on human rights. Their supplier and subcontractor can create a form of human rights violation within the company, such as unsafe working conditions, forced labor, low wages, and environmental damage, among others. Second, contributes to human rights harm. A company indirectly contributes to rights violations through its business relationships or partnerships, not by direct actions but by facilitating or exacerbating harm. For instance, sourcing from a supplier that exploits workers or providing financial services to entities engaged in

human rights abuses without due diligence falls under this category. Examples are financial institutions and logistics and transportation providers. Lastly, neither causing nor contributing to human rights harm, this scenario describes a situation where a company is neither directly causing nor contributing to rights abuses but is indirectly connected to them through its operations or business relationships. In such cases, the company should use its influence to prevent or mitigate human rights impacts. Examples include advertising companies and auditing companies.



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Subject: PhD Publication List

Candidate: Rehulina Rehulina  
Doctoral School: Géza Marton Doctoral School of Legal Studies  
MTMT ID: 10079915

### List of publications related to the dissertation

#### Articles, studies (5)

- Rehulina, R.:** Global South Perspective on Human Rights Aspect of Corporate Supply Chain: Experience and lesson From Indonesia.  
In: Ünnepi kötet Professor Dr. Lamm Vanda születésnapjára. Szerk.: Siska Katalin, DE-ÁJK, Debrecen, 59-72, 2025. ISBN: 9789634906964
- Rehulina, R.:** The Protection of Individuals from Business Activities as a Constitutional Guarantee of Human Rights.  
*Public Goods & Governance.* 9 (1), 64-74, 2024. EISSN: 2498-6453.  
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.21868/PGnG.2024.1.2>  
Level of HAS Committee on Legal and Political Sciences: C
- Rehulina, R.:** Business and Human Rights for International Regional Organization: study European Union.  
In: Towards the future: Symposium. Ed.: Katalin Siska, Debrecen, Magyarország : Debreceni Egyetem, Állam- és Jogtudományi Kar, Debrecen, 130-140, 2023. ISBN: 9789634905363
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**By the directives of HAS Committee on Legal and Political Sciences:**  
**Publications in periodicals level „C”: 1, related to the dissertation: 1.**  
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