

Handbook on Human Rights Impact Assessment

Edited by **Nora Götzmann**, The Danish Institute for Human Rights, Denmark

'Götzmann singlehandedly brings together an impressive array of high calibre authors to provide readers with a comprehensive Handbook on the topic of human rights impact assessment. With coverage across a variety of sectors, cases, issues, and dilemmas, the volume also offers insights and ideas for forging new pathways towards human rights enjoyment in a complex and contested world.'

– Deanna Kemp, Professor and Director, Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining, Sustainable Minerals Institute, The University of Queensland, Australia

'The global community today faces a number of challenges and opportunities that bring with them threats to human rights. From intensive infrastructure delivery to natural resource exploitation, from climate change to mass migration, human rights are closely intertwined with environmental and political concerns. This Handbook offers clear-headed, expert advice on how human rights cannot only be considered in these developments but how they can be placed at the centre. The Handbook details leading methods, asserts the importance of diverse perspectives, considers varied socio-cultural contexts, and argues strongly for an interlinkage between project-based assessments and the broader business and human rights sphere. In so doing, the contributors deliver an essential resource for impact assessment practitioners, corporate, civil society and government representatives seeking to improve the consideration and protection of human rights.'

– Sara Bice, President (2018-2019) International Association for Impact Assessment, Associate Professor, Crawford School of Public Policy, The Australian National University, Australia

'The duty to prepare human rights impact assessments has been, until now, honoured more in the breach than in the observance. This is due both to the lack of political will or good faith and to the complexity of the method. This impressive Handbook answers at least half of the equation: it shall now be for policy-makers and businesses to pick up the gauntlet.'

– Olivier De Schutter, former UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food (2008-2014) and Member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

'With a record number of shareholder resolutions filed on human rights due diligence in the 2019 proxy season, investors are increasingly asking companies to disclose how they identify and assess the real and potential adverse human rights impacts of their activities and business relationships. This Handbook provides valuable guidance for investors on a range of factors to consider when engaging companies on HRIAs, including how to ensure meaningful participation of rights-holders; relevant standards and frameworks to foster accountability; and what adequate disclosure of HRIA processes and findings should look like.'

– Paloma Muñoz Quick, Director, Investor Alliance for Human Rights

Human rights impact assessment (HRIA) has increasingly gained traction among state, business and civil society actors since the endorsement of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights by the Human Rights Council in 2011. This timely and insightful *Handbook* addresses HRIA in the context of business and human rights.

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