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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

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Sign-up for the event:

**[adesioni.eventi@unimercatorum.it](mailto: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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

## PANEL IV

**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

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

LINDA LOREA, PAOLO BERNARDO, CAMILLA BENEVIDES, MYRIAM DE LUCIA