



**Corporate Social Responsibility as a tool to enhance the fight
against HIV/AIDS.**

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Dedication

To my mother- who always has faith in me and taught me to never give up.

To my father, my muse- who inspires me from above.

To my brothers- who give me strength.

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Abstract:

The question as to what extent Corporate Social Responsibility can contribute to the fight against HIV/AIDS touches upon many interesting questions. The rights of HIV positive people find their basis in the right to health. When assessing the difficulties for States to realise the right to health, issues such as the impact of patents on access to medicine are important. This matter simultaneously demonstrates a first link between the fight against HIV/AIDS and the private sector. The adverse social and economic consequences of HIV/AIDS provides the reader with an idea of the impact it has on the lives of persons living with HIV/AIDS, their loved ones, the community but also on national economy and the functioning of the private sector. The question arises whether corporations have a moral or legal duty to contribute to the fight against HIV/AIDS and the realisation of human rights in general. This dissertation underscores the fact that corporations share a responsibility towards society. The social contribution required from corporations, provided it remains economically viable, should in the future be embedded in a legally binding framework on Corporate Responsibility and human rights.

Acronyms

ARV treatment	Antiretroviral treatment
CEO	Chief executive officer
Commission	Commission on Human Rights
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
ESC Committee	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural rights
FP	Enterprises' financial performance
GsK	GlaxosmithKlein
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic and Social Rights
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPL	Intellectual Property Law
LDC	Least developed country
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NGO	Nongovernmental organisation
Ruggie Framework	“Protect, Respect and Remedy” framework
SABCOHA	South African Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS
SP	Enterprises' social performance
Special Representative	Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises
TAC	Treatment Action Campaign

Trips Agreement	Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
WHO	World Health Organisation
WTO	World Trade Organisation

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