

*European Masters Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation
Academic Year 2008/2009*

**BUSINESS IN DEVELOPMENT: DIMINISHING HUMAN RIGHTS?
MAKING THE CASE FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS BASED APPROACH TO
CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

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I would like to thank my supervisor, Dra. Cristina de la Cruz Ayuso, for her guidance and advice throughout the writing of this thesis.

I especially thank my family for their endless support and understanding.

Last but not least I would like to express my gratefulness to old as well as new friends for their encouragement, help and never-ending willingness to discuss everything and nothing.

ABSTRACT

This thesis takes as its point of departure the emergent opinion that the engagement of business is needed in order to reach development goals in the third world, and that corporate social responsibility (CSR) is increasingly viewed as the key for pushing this agenda forward.

In this respect it takes a critical stand towards CSR as a tool for development and further parts in the normative premise that if companies are to play a contributory role in human rights based development (HRBA), the framework with which companies participate in development, namely the CSR framework, must also be subjected to a rights based approach.

By developing a theoretical framework based on a differentiation between the human rights and business approach (HR&B) and the CSR approach, and by undertaking a human rights impact analysis of the CSR-activities of three prominent companies in the CSR field, the thesis identifies limitations as well as opportunities for the inclusion of business in development. The results of the analysis show that CSR-activities can have an adverse impact on the realisation of human rights. Thus, the thesis defends the idea that a more explicit development of the HR&B approach is needed in the CSR strategies promoted by transnational companies, more specifically in economic and social contexts of development. On the basis of this, it suggests for the development of a HRBA to CSR.

ACRONYMS

ACTA	Alien Tort Claims Act
AFM	Africa Fighting Malaria
AI	Amnesty International
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
EU	European Union
GRI	Global Reporting Initiative
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRBA	Human Rights Based Approach
HR&B	Human Rights and Business
HRW	Human Rights Watch
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
IGO	Inter-governmental Organisation
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
LDC	Least Developed Countries
MGD	Millennium Development Goal
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NACA	National Advisory Council on AIDS
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
NN	Novo Nordisk
NZOK	National Health Insurance Fund
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
P&G	Procter and Gamble
R&D	Research and Development
SPDC	Shell Petroleum and Development Company
SRSG	Special Representative of the Secretary-General
TRIPS	Trade Related Intellectual Property
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VF	Vestergaard Frandsen
WB	World Bank
WDF	World Diabetes Foundation
WHO	World Health Organisation
WTO	World Trade Organisation
WBCSD	World Business Council for Sustainable Development

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