

Social Research Call

Title:

Enacting Responsible Behaviors In
The Wake Of Human Rights
Allegations In Supply Chains



Acronym: SCResponse

Project leader: Annachiara Longoni

Host organisation: Ramon Llull University – ESADE Business School

Main purpose of the project: The aim of the SCResponse project is to understand whether firms facing allegations of human rights violations connected to their operations and supply chains take action in relation to how they manage their supply chains to improve working conditions and what actions they take.

Design/methodology/approach: We will collect data from the Business and Human Rights Resource Center (BHRRC) database regarding allegations of human rights violation against European and US firms issued from 2010 to 2022. We will then combine such data with other secondary data sources on supply chain responses and country regulations.

Potential results: The SCResponse project will allow to understand to what extent firms take responsible actions to counterbalance human rights violations in their supply chains, such as monitoring suppliers or investing in better working conditions. We will also identify what mechanisms can support such actions in relation to country legislations.

Social relevance of the research: Understanding firms' irresponsible behaviors and their associated reactions will contribute to a rigorous and nuanced discussion on the human rights due diligence regulation developing in Spain and Europe. Specifically, evidence regarding the effects of different regulations can help to identify what might better fits specific country's needs and specificities.

Originality/value of the project (50 words max.): Discussions by researchers and regulators on human rights violations often overlooked they could come from the pressure on supply chains to compete on low costs. This project will provide guidance to reduce the occurrence of such violations by taking a multi-disciplinary perspective on human resource, policy-making, and supply chain aspects.