



DIE AKADEMIE
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31 March 2025
Code: CSDDD10

Where Experts Meet!

International Akademie Fresenius Conference

The new Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive

– challenges and solutions

15 and 16 May 2025
in Cologne

Highlights

- **Global Implications of the CSDDD:** Human rights and environmental risks in supply chains
- **Overview of the CSDDD Legal Framework:** Analysis of international legal foundations, key innovations, and compliance risks
- **SMEs and the CSDDD:** The Market Power Dilemma
- **Liability and Sanctions** under the CSDDD
- **Reputation and Communication:** Strategies for managing reputation while meeting CSDDD requirements
- **Supply chain risk management:** How to identify, assess and mitigate risks
- **Climate action** and sustainability
- **Contract and liability management** under the CSDDD
- **Stakeholder engagement** and risk management

Navigating the Future of Sustainable Business:
Gain expert insights on the global impact, legal framework, risk management, and compliance strategies of the CSDDD!



The Experts

Leonard Best Bayer | Ludovica Chiussi Curzi University of Bologna |
Marjan de Bock-Smit ImpactBuying | Leonie Evans Meisterernst law firm |
Johannes Frank Schoenherr Attorneys at Law | Franziska Humbert
Oxfam Germany | Harald Küppers GIZ German Agency for International
Cooperation | Michael Lendle AFC Consulting Group | Rosalynn
Lützenkirchen Meisterernst law firm | Léa Marion Léa Marion Avocat |
Andreas Meisterernst Meisterernst law firm | Franziska Oehm German
Institute for Human Rights | Dalinda Ramirez Espinosa Ramboll | Philipp
Schaber AFC Risk & Crisis Consult | Elena Todorova Schoenherr Attorneys
at Law | Stephan Tromp IFS Management | Theresa Usler AFC Risk &
Crisis Consult | Dominic Watkins DWF Law | Gregor Wolf Wholesale and
Foreign Trade Association Hamburg

INSTITUT
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SGS

Thursday, 15 May 2025

08:00 Registration and coffee

08:30 Welcome address by the Organisers and the Chairs

Core elements of the CSDDD

Chair: Leonie Evans, Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte law firm, Germany

08:45 Key Note: The CSDDD and its global implications

- The reality of human rights and environmental risks in global supply chains and principle responses from the CSDDD
- Effects of the CSDDD beyond Europe in global value chains
- The necessity of capacity building in transnational business activities with regards to human rights due diligence

Franziska Oehm, German Institute for Human Rights, Germany

09:15 The new legal frame – an overview

- The foundations of the CSDDD: The international legal framework on business and human rights
- Key innovations and compliance risks
- Ensuring coherence, avoiding dilution

Ludovica Chiussi Curzi, University of Bologna, Italy

09:50 SMEs under the CSDDD regulation – in the dilemma of market power

- Lessons learned from the implementation of the German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act (LkSG)
- Market power not legislator decides on obligation to apply or not

Gregor Wolf, Wholesale and Foreign Trade Association Hamburg, Germany

10:20 Panel discussion

10:40 Coffee break

11:10 The Cost of Non-Compliance: Liability and sanctions in the CSDDD Framework

- Civil liability for companies under the CSDDD
- Tougher Sanctions, Higher Stakes
- Expanded liability across the EU
- What it means for businesses – enhance supply chain oversight, strengthen compliance programs, and prepare for lawsuits

Léa Marion, Attorney, France

11:40 What does 'to prevent and mitigate potential adverse impacts' mean in practice?

- What actions do you need to take? Are contractual clauses enough?
- What does this mean for working with SMEs?
- A reflection on what the UK is doing in response to CSDDD

Dominic Watkins, DWF Law, United Kingdom

12:10 Panel discussion

12:30 Lunch break

Implementation by companies

Chair: Theresa Usler, AFC Risk & Crisis Consult, Germany

13:45 Reputation and communication

- Influence of market-relevant stakeholders
- ESG from risk prevention to value orientation
- Strategies and concepts for public relations

Michael Lendle, AFC Consulting Group, Germany

14:15 Human rights in global supply chains: Overcoming challenges and ensuring due diligences

- Principles of human rights and their relevance in global supply chains
- Due diligence requirements for companies to ensure human rights are respected throughout their supply chains
- The "Four-Step Management Process" – Bayer's approach to challenging requirements in the supply chain

Leonard Best, Bayer, Germany

14:45 IFS Supply Chain Solutions

- How to meet the requirements of CSRD, CSDDD, general product data, (green) claims, product integrity and other product specifications throughout the whole supply chain
- How to provide an answer to the question of whether a supply chain partner is able to identify and mitigate its risks in its own supply chain
- Protect your business: it must be in the self-interest of every company to know the risks in the upstream supply chain

Stephan Tromp, IFS Management, Germany

15:15 Panel Discussion

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 CSDDD Transition plan requirements – challenges and opportunities

- What to consider when implementing a transition plan
- How to integrate CSDDD requirements with current ESG/ sustainability strategies (e.g. CSRD, EU Taxonomy)
- Balancing compliance with overlapping frameworks

Dalinda Ramirez Espinosa, Ramboll, Germany

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Information available online at:
www.akademie-fresenius.com/3793

Friday, 16 May 2025

16:30 The imperative of human rights due diligence legislation

- Why stakeholders and affected people urgently need human rights due diligence legislation
- The added value of EU CSDDD: The scope of the value chain, stakeholder engagement, complaints mechanism and civil liability
- Human rights legislation works and is effective: Learnings from cases and the German Human Rights Due Diligence Supply Chain Act
- Businesses already implement human rights due diligence and will continue to do so, the UNGP will remain, whatever happens with national legislation

Franziska Humbert, Oxfam, Germany

17:00 Experiences from Germany

- Germany's existing Supply Chain Act (LkSG)
- Trickle-down-effect
- Lessons from recent supply chain controversies

Rosalynn Lützenkirchen, Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte law firm, Germany

17:30 Final discussion and end of the first conference day

18:45 Departure for the evening event



After the first conference day, you are most welcome to our evening event. We warmly invite you to take a short guided tour of the city with us, followed by an evening of great food and leisure time. Please join us to continue the day's interesting discussions in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere.

Practical challenges

Chairs:

Michael Lendle, AFC Consulting Group, Germany

Andreas Meisterernst, Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte law firm, Germany

09:00 Contract and civil liability management

- Contract design under the CSDDD
- Sustainability inquiries business partners
- Liability risks & solutions for prevention

Leonie Evans, Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte law firm, Germany

09:30 Multinational implementation

- Integrating due diligence into corporate policies and risk management systems
- Stakeholder engagement and risk assessment
- Public and private enforcement

Elena Todorova and **Johannes Frank**, Schoenherr Attorneys at Law, Bulgaria and Austria

10:00 Sector Dialogues: Setting standards for due diligence and implementing preventive and remediation projects

- Sector dialogues as part of the smart policy mix of the German Ministry of labour and Social Affairs (BMAS)
- Key products and results of the BMAS sector dialogues
- Transforming the BMAS sector dialogues and pilot projects in self-sustaining multi-stakeholder initiatives

Harald Küppers, GIZ German Agency for International Cooperation, Germany

10:30 Panel discussion

10:45 Coffee break

11:15 Stakeholder engagement and communication

- Requirements and involvement of NGOs and Co.
- Risk management to fulfil due diligence obligations
- Monitoring and control of suppliers

Philipp Schaber, AFC Risk & Crisis Consult, Germany

11:45 Fact-based risk management

- Without reliable insights about the reality in supply chain, risk management is impossible, and we need more trusted facts from suppliers deeper in our supply chains
- How to get the necessary data from suppliers where there is only an indirect trade relation?
- When data is collected, how to make sure that the collected facts are valid?

Marjan de Bock-Smit, impactBuying BV, The Netherlands

12:15 Bundling of tasks

- CSRD obligations, Omnibus
- Complaints management, Whistleblower Directive
- Cooperations, outsourcing

Andreas Meisterernst, Meisterernst Rechtsanwälte law firm, Germany

12:45 Panel discussion

13:00 Lunch and end of the conference

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Registration

By web www.akademie-fresenius.com/3793
By email registration@akademie-fresenius.com

Participation Fee:

€ 1,995.00 plus VAT

Representatives of an authority or a public university are eligible for a reduced fee of € 895.00 plus VAT per person (please provide evidence). The reduced fee cannot be combined with other rebates.

If you are unable to attend, you can order the event documentation for € 295.00 plus VAT.

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Do you have any questions?



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The Organisers

For 30 years, Akademie Fresenius has been your partner for practice-orientated training on all the latest topics surrounding the safety and quality of food, consumer goods and chemical products along the whole production chain. Our portfolio not only includes international conferences but also offers national trade meetings, intensive practical seminars and training in small work groups.

Our events are designed to promote an active exchange amongst our participants and offer the perfect platform for bringing the industry, the scientific sector, the authorities and the consulting field together. Excellent service, all-inclusive. Our wide-ranging advanced training opportunities contribute to giving our customers the competitive edge in all quality assurance, risk assessment, legal, production and technical questions.

Akademie Fresenius is a joint venture between Carl Remigius Fresenius Education Group, one of the largest private and independent education groups in Germany, and SGS Institut Fresenius, one of the leading German providers of chemical laboratory analysis.

You can find details on upcoming and new events at www.akademie-fresenius.com

Terms of Participation and Purchase: The registration fee includes the participation in the event, event documentation, and, in the case of on-site events, lunch, coffee breaks, beverages as well as the evening event. You will receive written confirmation of your registration. Upon receiving our invoice, please transfer the amount due without further deductions before the event begins. The price of the event documentation includes the login details for the secure download section of our webpage where you will find the presentations in a pdf format. The login details will be sent to you via email after the event and as soon as advance payment has been received.

Group Reductions: For joint bookings received from one company we grant a 15% discount from the third participant onwards.

Terms of Cancellation: For our on-site events, written cancellations or transfers will be accepted free of charge up to four weeks prior to the start of the event. After this date and up to a week prior to the start of the event we will reimburse 50% of the registration fee. We cannot, unfortunately, provide refunds for later cancellations. For our online events, cancellations or rebookings to another event will be accepted free of charge up to one week before the start of the event. In the event of later cancellations or non-login to the online event, no participation fees can be refunded. In this case, however, you will receive access to the documentation download after the event.

Who should attend this conference:

- ✓ Corporate Executives and Compliance Officers
- ✓ Risk and Supply Chain Managers
- ✓ Sustainability and ESG Professionals
- ✓ Regulatory Affairs and Public Policy Representatives
- ✓ SME Owners and Entrepreneurs
- ✓ Industry Associations and Trade Organisations
- ✓ NGOs and Human Rights Advocates
- ✓ Auditors and Certification Bodies
- ✓ Academics and Researchers
- ✓ Lawyers and Law Firms specialising in Business and Human Rights

Conference Venue

Leonardo Royal Hotel Köln – Am Stadtwald
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www.leonardo-hotels.de

We have reserved a limited number of rooms for our participants at reduced rates at the hotel. These rooms can be booked up to four weeks prior to the start of the event. Please book early and directly through the hotel quoting "Akademie Fresenius" as reference.

Please note that you can name a substitute participant free of charge at any time.

General Terms and Conditions: By registering, you agree to our General Terms and Conditions as well as to our Privacy Policy. You can find our GTC on the internet (www.akademie-fresenius.com/general-terms) or receive them on request.

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