

Corporate Social Responsibility, Private Law and Global Supply Chains (Corporations, Globalisation and the Law series)

Andreas Ruhmkorf

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'Rühmkorf's thought-provoking book has a powerful message: that we cannot rely on the discretion of business to promote CSR voluntarily. Through the devastating example of the Rana Plaza disaster, Rühmkorf shows that we must get beyond business rhetoric and develop a multidimensional approach to the regulation of global supply chains. Whilst recognising the existing limitations of private law, his book highlights the potential contribution of private law to the development and promotion of CSR. The task is not an easy one, but by adopting a pluralistic approach to corporate law and by employing contract law, consumer law and tort law more dynamically, English private law could fill many of the regulatory gaps. The message is urgent and strong. This is a must read book for anyone concerned with CSR, supply chains and the law.'

- Charlotte Villiers, University of Bristol, UK

'This book fills an important gap in discussions of international CSR standards. It is all very well to say that states must protect and companies should respect human rights, but when breaches of human rights do occur, it is remedies that matter. Rühmkorf explores the limits of private law avenues for seeking such remedies. In so doing, he provides a valuable understanding of obstacles to fuller realization of the three-pillared 'Protect, Respect and Remed'' Framework of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.'

- Alice de Jonge, Monash University, Australia

'This book, Corporate Social Responsibility, Private Law and Global Supply Chains by Dr. Andreas Rühmkorf, makes a considerable contribution to the literature on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). . . . I would recommend the book very strongly to all academics and postgraduate students interested in company and corporations law. The book is focused on an important aspect, CSR, in the wider debate and worldwide realisation that companies should move away from 'short-termism' and focus on long-term and sustainable growth and should be responsible citizens!'

- Jean J. du Plessis, Deakin Law School, Deakin University, Australia

Current debate surrounding social responsibility has neglected to fully comprehend the important role of national private law in achieving socially responsible conduct in business. This insightful book demonstrates how private law makes a significant contribution to the promotion of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and how it could be improved.

Based on the analysis of four substantive areas (company law/corporate governance, contract law, consumer law and tort law), this inclusive book covers a full range of issues that are important for CSR. These include directors duties, corporate reporting, the incorporation of CSR policies into the supply chain, consumer rights and the tortious liabilities of companies. The book discerns how national private law in the home state of multinational enterprises can legally affect their socially responsible conduct worldwide. Andreas Rühmkorf demonstrates that private law already promotes and, with certain amendments, could better promote CSR in the regulation of global supply chains. The book's findings are applied to the collapse of the Rana Plaza Building in Bangladesh, which offers a supportive empirical insight.

As an up-to-date and comprehensive survey of CSR and global supply chains, this work will benefit researchers and practitioners interested in the fields of CSR, private law, international law, political economy, international labor standards and sustainable supply chains.



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