



## Ordine internazionale e diritti umani

International Legal Order and Human Rights  
Ordenamiento Jurídico Internacional y Derechos Humanos  
Ordre juridique international et Droits de l'Homme

### **CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT TREATIES: TOWARDS DIRECT OBLIGATIONS FOR INVESTORS?**

The panorama of recent treaties for the promotion and protection of investments (IIAs, International Investment Agreements) is witnessing the inclusion of specific Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) clauses, in the attempt to regulate the behavior of foreign investors in the host State. The inclusion of such compliance clauses responds to the need to better balance the prerogatives of investors with those of the host State, redressing the asymmetric nature of investor-State arbitration. As the investor enjoys under the IIAs a number of rights, both substantive and procedural, including the right to sue directly the host State, it could also be subject to obligations. The CSR clauses could provide the content for these new obligations: a path that would transform voluntary rules of conduct into binding ones, striving to contribute to the sustainable development of the host States.