



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
Diretta da Claudio Zanghì, Lina Panella, Carlo Curti Gialdino

EDITORIALE
SCIENTIFICA

THE HUMAN RIGHTS RESPONSIBILITY OF UNDERTAKINGS IN THE DOWNSTREAM VALUE CHAIN: RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND CRITICAL POINTS

While much attention has been given to business responsibility to respect human rights within their supply chain operations, practical guidance for business on how they can address human rights negative impacts connected to product misuse remains limited. This article – first of all – examines the international standards for responsible business conduct envisaged in different instruments adopted by the UN and the OECD and concludes that these guidelines are applicable also to the so called “downstream value chain”. Secondly, through the lens of a specific instance recently assessed by the UK National Contact Point it analyses how human rights due diligence should be applied where human rights violations might arise from product misuse, especially in high-risk situations such as conflict-affected areas.