

CALL FOR PAPERS

III RESEARCH WORKSHOP ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

12 JUNE 2025 - UNIVERSITY OF VALENCIA

Renewable energy projects and mineral extraction, largely driven by transnational corporations within the context of the energy transition, entail significant impacts on human rights and the environment. The demand for critical minerals such as lithium, cobalt, and copper for the production of green technologies, along with the construction of infrastructure for renewable energy generation, has led to social and environmental conflicts, particularly in the Global South. In many cases, these activities are carried out without full respect for the rights of local communities, resulting in land dispossession, displacements, and violations of the rights of Indigenous peoples, including the lack of free, prior, and informed consultation and consent. Furthermore, extraction and construction projects often cause severe environmental degradation, including soil and water pollution, deforestation, and biodiversity loss, irreversibly affecting local ecosystems. As a result, the energy transition based on these extractivist models poses serious challenges to sustainability and justice, as it reproduces patterns of accumulation that prioritize the economic benefits of transnational corporations over the well-being of communities and the preservation of the environment.

This call for papers aims to analyze and critically reflect on the challenges and measures related to the prevention and remediation of the adverse impacts of business activities on human rights and the environment within the context of the energy transition. This Research Workshop provide a forum for junior and early-career researchers in the field of business and human rights. Selected papers may be published at the Spanish Journal of Business and Human Rights or as part of an edited book, both published by Editorial Colex.

This workshop is part of the **Conference: Challenges of the Energy Transition: Human Rights and Responsible Business Conduct**, which will take place on **June 12th and 13th, 2025** at the Universitat de València, and is developed within the framework of the R&D Project: 'Challenges of the European Energy Transition: Human Rights, Responsible Business Conduct, and Socio-Environmental Conflicts in the Global South' (ref: ICI023/23/000001), funded by the Catalan International Institute for Peace.

Proposal may address, inter alia, one the following **topics**:

- Corporate responsibility for the social and environmental impacts of the energy transition.
- Corporate human rights due diligence in renewable energy projects and mineral extraction.
- Remediation mechanisms for communities affected by energy projects in the context of the energy transition.
- The implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in the energy sector.
- Impacts of mineral extraction for renewable energy on human rights and the environment.
- Compliance with international human rights standards by corporations in the energy transition context.
- Exploitation of natural resources and human rights violations in the supply chain of renewable energy.
- Business sustainability and its link to human rights respect in the energy context.
- Prevention of social conflicts in communities affected by energy transition projects.

Additionally, proposals that address the general theme of business and human rights in a comprehensive manner will also be accepted.

SUBMISSION:

Proposals will be accepted in Spanish, English, and Portuguese, with a maximum length of 3,500 characters. They must be submitted before the specified date through the following form: <https://forms.gle/fAcSSNaB79jvvxzo6>.

For further information: tallereydh@gmail.com

We look forward to welcoming you in Valencia!

ORGANIZED BY:
DANIEL IGLESIAS MÁRQUEZ, UNIVERSITY OF LA LAGUNA
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IMPORTANT DATES



ORGANIZERS:

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Revista española DE EMPRESAS Y DERECHOS HUMANOS