



The Columbia Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum

Business and human rights education is a key challenge for promoting and implementing the UN Guiding Principles worldwide. “Business and human rights” has emerged as distinct field of study and practice over the past decade, accelerated by the adoption of the UN Guiding Principles, and the efforts of companies to integrate human rights considerations with their operations. Demand for education on business and human rights is growing rapidly, yet individuals teaching business and human rights face a number of common challenges.

The *Columbia Teaching Business and Human Rights Forum* is a platform for collaboration among individuals teaching business and human rights worldwide. The Forum includes more than 150 individuals teaching business and human rights at 100 institutions in twenty-five countries on five continents.

The *Forum* began as a workshop in May 2011 that convened 20 professors to share syllabi and teaching strategies. An *Online Teaching Forum* was created to foster collaboration and grow the network, and a second workshop was held in May 2012. Thirty-five individuals participated in the third annual workshop on May 30-31, 2013. (Discussion Summaries of the *Forum Workshops* are available via the [Business and Human Rights Resource Centre](#).)

The *Forum* gives participants a means to share teaching strategies and resources, including ways to teach the UN Guiding Principles and to promote “business and human rights” courses and curricula at academic institutions. There are currently over thirty course syllabi available to participants in a password-protected syllabi bank. Participation in the *Forum* is open to any individual teaching, or preparing to teach, the subject in some form, irrespective of faculty, institution or location.

To learn more about the *Online Forum*, the annual *Workshop*, or to join this growing global network of teachers, please contact:

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