



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE and CONSUMERS

Directorate A: Civil and Commercial justice
Unit A.3: Company law

Head of Unit

Brussels,
JUST/UnitA3/JGM/cp (2019)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Subject: Study for the European Commission on due diligence requirements through the supply chain.

The European Commission - Directorate General Justice and Consumers - has entrusted the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (BIICL), leading a research consortium in partnership with Civic Consulting and LSE Consulting, to carry out an external study the above-mentioned topic.

This study aims to provide a detailed examination of the existing regulation and proposals for due diligence in the supply chain in the area of human rights, environment and governance. The study will address the state of play and how it could be improved as regards human rights abuses, including on rights of the child, and sustainability, including on the one hand environmental sustainability and fighting climate change, and on the other hand sustainable corporate governance in a broad sense.

The output from this study will help the Commission in assessing a range of options regarding due diligence through the supply chain and their likely impacts. It will do so by considering various models of due diligence requirements as they are already contained in existing or proposed regulatory and industry mechanisms, as well as current business practices to implement human rights and environmental due diligence.

The contractor's work will include consultations with the relevant stakeholders at the European and national level. It is, of course, essential that as many views and data as possible are included to get a comprehensive assessment. I would therefore be grateful for your cooperation should a representative of the contractor seek your or your organisation's opinion or information in relation to the study.

Yours sincerely,

Maija LAURILA
(e-signed)