HUMR 5133 Business and Human Rights

Mid-term Paper, 21-27 September 2018

Please choose and discuss one on of the following two questions:

Question 1

What are the legal expectations of corporations in international human rights law and how do they relate to State responsibility? Explain doctrinal and practical challenges by making reference to case law.

Question 2

The UN Guiding Principles (UNGP) on business and human rights refer to "due diligence".

a) Describe and discuss the concept of human rights due diligence. In your discussion, you should reflect on how one may ensure that business due diligence related to human rights has impact on the operation of a company (internal and external impact).

b) Imagine that you are designing human rights due diligence analysis for a TNC establishing its production factory in country X. Make an outline of the analysis (its main components) with comments. The company should be from a particular production sector (e.g. agriculture, extractive industries, garment industries etc.), and the due diligence analysis should identify and discuss possible human rights challenges facing the company.

Please answer both a) and b).

Comments to the questions: Please note that a Mid-term paper, in addition to "checking" your knowledge and understanding at this point in the course, is a learning exercise. You are encouraged to pay attention to the formalities of writing an academic paper, e.g. having and introduction, a main body (with some, but not many subtitles according to the structure) and a summing up/conclusion. Be careful to make accurate referencing, and apply the reference style that you are supposed to follow in writing an MA thesis (check the Course website). If you have questions – please discuss (if possible) with co-students. In addition, I am available for answering questions you may have on "formalities and practicalities", Monday 17 of September from 13:30-14:00 at the third floor in Cort Adlers gate 30.