

Céline da Graça Pires

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Authorization for the processing of
personal data pursuant to EU
Regulation No. 679/2016 and
Legislative Decree No. 196/2003
as amended.



Professional experience

Founder and Business and Human Rights advisor | Céline da Graça Pires Consulting EI

Since 2023 till date

Supporting companies from diverse sectors to strengthen their human rights performance using the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights as the guiding North Star. Extensive experience engaging with affected stakeholders from around the globe, including migrant workers, Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and non-indigenous affected communities. Passionate about fieldwork, I have conducted human rights impact assessments (HRIAs) and led community engagement worldwide and, more recently, in Mozambique, Belize, Honduras, Colombia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Chile, Mexico, Argentina, and France within the extractives, renewable, agriculture and global logistics industries.

Research Associate & Lecturer | NOVA Centre on Business, Human Rights, and the Environment (Portugal) & Leuphana University of Lüneburg (Germany)

Since 2022 till date

Business and Human Rights Manager | Business for Social Responsibility – BSR (currently external)

2019 - 2024

Advising and training global leading companies to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and OECD Guidelines and align with human rights and environmental due diligence existing and upcoming legislations (e.g., Loi sur le Devoir de vigilance, CSDDD, CSRD). I have conducted dozens of human rights impact assessments, engaged with workers and local communities across Latin America and EMEA regions, including in conflict-affected areas, and developed related mitigation and remediation plans in consultation with affected stakeholders.

Freelance consultant in Business Ethics & Human rights

2017 – 2019

Advising companies across sectors on business and human rights-related issues as well as community engagement practices and Indigenous and Tribal Peoples' Human Rights issues (e.g., land rights, resettlement, consultation and FPIC).

Content & International Relations Director | World Forum for a Responsible Economy

Jan. – Jul. 2017

Led research and collaborations on women's empowerment and Human Rights issues at the international level.

Junior Lawyer | CorreaGubbins Law Firm – Mining and Environment Department, Santiago, Chile

Jul. – Dec. 2016

Advised investors and companies in all matters related to the implementation of mining projects: negotiations & mediations with public authorities, legal due diligence, Human Rights issues, and community engagement in line with OIT Convention N°169, Indigenous Peoples' Rights.

Junior Lawyer | Herbert Smith Freehills Law firm – Energy and Infrastructure Department, Paris, France

Feb. – June 2016

Advised companies on the development of international oil and gas and mining projects in Africa and LatAm regions with a special focus on Business and Human Rights issues, social license to operate, and community acceptance of projects.

Legal Counsel | EDF Energies Nouvelles

2014 – 2015

Partnerships and Corporate Department, Paris, France

Provided legal support for international business development activities in the LatAm region.

Language

ENGLISH – Fluent. Skills in legal English.

FRENCH – Native. Legal expertise.

PORTUGUESE – Native. Skills in legal Portuguese.

SPANISH – Native. Skills in legal Spanish

ITALIAN – Written and oral skills. Basic level.

Voluntary Work

OECD – Former member of the Steering Committee to organize the EUROPEAN SYMPOSIUM ON ETHICS AND GOVERNANCE in partnership with the OECD

ETHICS AND COMPLIANCE

Founding member of the French Circle of Jurists for Business Ethics (CJPEA)

Former Publication Manager of the French Revue Juridique de l'Ethique des Affaires (Anti-corruption and Compliance Newsletter)

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM TO PROMOTE ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY IN BRASILIAN FAVELAS

Spanish professor and Lecturer on Women's rights and Women Empowerment in the Favela da Rocinha (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2017)

June 17, 2025¹

Education and qualifications

Passed the Bar examination and graduated from the Paris Bar School – Ecole de Formation du Barreau (EFB) – Paris, France 2016-2017

Master's degree in Business and Energy Law 2012-2013
Graduated with Honors – Top of the year (Valedictorian)
University of Aix-Marseille, France

Sustainable Development, Human Rights issues in the energy sector, Anti-corruption Practices in the Energy sector, Legal and Regulatory Framework for the Energy sector, International Environmental law

Master's degree in Law and Business Ethics 2011 – 2012
Graduated with Honors – Top of the year (Valedictorian)
University of Cergy-Pontoise, France

Business & Human Rights, Sustainability risk management, Supply chain transparency, Compliance, Anti-corruption Practices, Responsible Investment, Financial transparency and reporting, Business Law, Corporate Governance, Audit, and Mediation

Master's degree in Corporate & Business Law 2010 – 2011
Graduated with Honors – Top of the year (Valedictorian)
University of Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, France
Business Law, Contract Law, International Comparative Law, Corporate Law, Criminal & Civil Law, Labor Law

Dual Degree in Civil and Criminal Comparative Law: French Law and Spanish Law practiced in Latin America 2007 – 2010
Graduated with Honors in French and Spanish
University of Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, France

Exchange year in Madrid – Spanish Civil Law and Commercial Law 2006 – 2007
University Complutense of Madrid in Spain & University of Paris 1 Panthéon – Sorbonne in France

Selected Publications

Commentary on Article 18 co-written with Dr. Claire Bright in "The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: A Commentary", edited by Barnali Choudhury, Elgar Commentaries, 2023

Strengthening Stakeholder Engagement in the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive co-written with Daniel Schönfelder, blog series for the NOVA Knowledge Centre for Business, Human Rights and the Environment website, 2023

The Future of Human Rights Due Diligence: Legislation and Regulation for a Level Playing Field, Blog in BSR Website, 2020

Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change: A Call For Action to Build Resilience Post-COVID, Blog in BSR Website, 2020

Respecting the Rights of Vulnerable Groups, Blog in BSR Website 2020, Blog

Public Speaking

Participation in the National Moot Competition. Finalist in 2007 in Civil law.

Participation in the Public Speaking Competition of the Lawyers School of Paris in 2016 (3rd rank).

Computer Skills

Proficiency in online legal research.

Proficient in MS Office Suite (Word, PowerPoint, Adobe suite) and Legal research

Hobbies

THEATRE

Member of a theatre company

READING

Portuguese, Brazilian and Spanish literature

SPORT

Trekking, Swimming and Tennis