

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Miriam Saage-Maaß

Dr. Miriam Saage-Maaß is a qualified lawyer and Legal Director at ECCHR. Miriam is one of the first employees of ECCHR, which was founded in 2008. Since then she has built up the Business and Human Rights Program of the organisation focussing on three thematic areas: companies in conflict and cooperation with repressive regimes, labour exploitation along global supply chains and destruction of ecosystems and livelihoods through corporate activity. She has personally litigated various cases against corporations relating to exploitation of workers in Bangladesh and Pakistan. In this area Miriam has developed the Ali Enterprises Litigation ([Ali Enterprises case](#)) in close cooperation with Pakistani trade unions, lawyers and the association of victims. This was the first civil compensation lawsuit in Germany concerning a case of labour rights in global supply chains. Furthermore, she is engaged in different criminal proceedings against high-ranking managers for their involvement in (international) crimes on topics like arms exports from Europe to Saudi Arabia. ([Arms Trade](#)) or export of surveillance technology to Turkey. Since 2020 Miriam has been developing the corporate accountability and climate justice work of ECCHR, building – among others – the first Swiss climate litigation against a corporation ([Holcim case](#)) and the first case of Indigenous Rights brought under the French Loi de Vigilance ([EDF case](#)).

Miriam regularly publishes articles and books on the subject of legal liability of corporations regarding human rights violations in global supply chains, and is internationally consulted as an expert in the topic of corporate responsibility and human rights. (see publications [here](#)) Organising symposia and [book publications](#) with different legal scholars, Miriam has been key in developing the academic legal debate on legislative reforms and supply chain legislations. She also represented ECCHR in the civil society coalition for a German supply chain law, where she has actively engaged in advocacy efforts for a German supply chain law as a legal expert. She co-published one of the first and most comprehensive [commentaries](#) on the German Supply Chain Act.

In October 2016, the Association of Democratic Lawyers (Vereinigung Demokratischer Juristinnen und Juristen – VDJ) in Germany awarded Saage-Maaß and ECCHR's General Secretary with the Hans Litten Prize. VDJ made the award in acknowledgment of Kaleck and Saage-Maaß's role in the strategic approach of ECCHR's work. She joined the Bonavero Institute's Advisory Board in 2018. Miriam is also in the Steering Committee of the Movement Law Lab and one of the initiators of the Transnational Legal Action Consortium. Miriam has teaching experience at Free University Berlin and currently teaches a course on Corporate Criminal Accountability at Humboldt University.

Professional Experience

Since 2022

Legal Director, ECCHR

2011-2022

Vice Legal Director & Program Director
Business and Human Rights, ECCHR

2009-2022	Program Director Business and Human Rights, ECCHR
2007	Founding employee of the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)

Education

2009	Bar Examen, Kammergericht Berlin (2. Staatsexamen)
2006	Dissertation in History of Law from Johann Wolfgang von Goethe University, Frankfurt Main
2004 – 2006	Doctoral Scholarship from Max-Planck-Institute for European Legal History
2003	Law Degree from Humboldt University (1. Staatsexamen)

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