Welcome to the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights: What Lawyers Should Know. Here you will find some background information, relevant links and a roadmap of the Webcast, which will go live at 12 noon, June 6, 2012.

**Background:**

The UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights urge businesses of all types to "protect, respect and remedy" human rights violations related to their business practices. In their capacity as business advisors, lawyers should be familiar with these Principles and their implications for business clients. Indeed, when the ABA House of Delegates endorsed the Principles in February 2012, the report accompanying the Resolution explicitly noted the intersection of lawyers’ ethical obligation to render “candid advice” under ABA Model Rule 2.1 and the applicable human rights standards for businesses.

Lawyers should also confront the implications of the Principles for their own organizations, which are businesses within the scope of the Principles. The issues raised by the Principles are both practical and ethical, as the Principles interact with professional ethics standards with implications for law firm management and decisionmaking.

This panel will explore all of these aspects of the Guiding Principles, and will look forward to next steps as the ABA and other civil society groups move to implement the Principles.

**Relevant Links:**


**Roadmap for June 6:**

**Date/Time:** June 6, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Northeastern University School of Law, 400 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA

**Remote Access:** Web streamed live; powerpoint and other materials available on web

**Sponsors:** Northeastern Law School Program on Human Rights and the Global Economy, American Bar Association Center for Human Rights, Columbia Human Rights Institute

**Speakers:**

- **Welcome**
  Emily Spieler, Dean, Northeastern University School of Law

- **Introduction**
  Michael Greco, K&L Gates; Chair, ABA Center for Human Rights (via video)

- **Moderator**
  Chris Jochnick, Director, Private Sector Department, Oxfam America

- **Panelists**
  John F. Sherman III, General Counsel, Shift; Senior Fellow, Corporate Social Responsibility Initiative, Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government, Harvard Kennedy School; former Deputy General Counsel, National Grid

  Sarah Altschuller, Associate, Foley Hoag, LLP, member of Corporate Social Responsibility practice group

  Martha F. Davis, Professor, Northeastern University School of Law, author of “Human Rights and the Model Rules of Professional Conduct”
Speaker Bios:

**Sarah Altschuller** has been a member of Foley Hoag’s Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) practice since 2003. In this role, she advises multinational companies regarding the development and implementation of CSR strategies, policies, and procedures, as well as compliance with emerging legal and regulatory requirements. Sarah provides counsel regarding engagements with socially responsible investors, government policymakers, local communities, non-governmental organizations, and other key stakeholders. She also conducts site-level human rights and labor rights impact assessments, as well as due diligence efforts.

Sarah is a leading contributor to the firm's Corporate Social Responsibility and the Law blog.

Sarah’s in-depth practical experience includes post-law school studies at North South University in Dhaka, Bangladesh (2002–2003), where she conducted research on working conditions in the garment sector. Before entering law school Sarah conducted social research on publicly-traded domestic and international companies at KLD Research & Analytics, a socially responsible investment firm, currently part of MSCI, Inc.

**Martha F. Davis** teaches Constitutional Law, Professional Responsibility and Women’s Rights Lawyering at Northeastern University School of Law in Boston, Massachusetts, where she is also a faculty director for the law school’s Program on Human Rights and the Global Economy. Professor Davis has written widely on women’s rights, state constitutions, and human rights. She co-edited the award-winning *Bringing Human Rights Home*, a three-volume work chronicling the U.S. human rights movement, and authored the prize-winning book *Brutal Need: Lawyers and the Welfare Rights Movement, 1960-1973*. Professor Davis has testified before Congress and state legislatures, has appeared on national TV and radio, and is a frequent blogger and op-ed author on issues relating to women, human rights and welfare. An experienced litigator, she argued the equal protection case *Nguyen v. INS* before the U.S. Supreme Court. Prior to joining Northeastern, she was as the Vice President and Legal Director of the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund. Professor Davis chairs the board of directors of the National Economic and Social Rights Initiative.

**Chris Jochnick** is the Director of the Private Sector Department at Oxfam America and co-coordinator of the Private Sector Team of Oxfam International. Mr. Jochnick co-founded and led two human rights organizations, the Center for Economic and Social Rights (NY) and the Centro de Derechos Economicos y Sociales (Ecuador). He has worked for two decades on issues of human rights, development and corporate accountability, including seven years in Latin America supporting grassroots campaigns around trade, health and extractive industries. At Oxfam, he has initiated and managed adversarial campaigns and partnerships targeting Fortune 500 companies and has led on various standard setting initiatives with the United Nations and other global bodies. Prior to joining Oxfam, Mr. Jochnick worked as an attorney with the Wall Street law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton and Garrison, where he advised companies on environment and social liabilities. Mr. Jochnick is a graduate of Harvard Law School and a former fellow of the MacArthur Foundation and Echoing Green. He co-edited the book *Sovereign Debt at the Crossroads* (Oxford, 2007) and has published and lectured widely on issues of human rights, business and
development. He teaches a course on business and human rights at Harvard Law School and is a Senior Fellow at the University of Melbourne School of Law.

John F. Sherman III is General Counsel, Senior Advisor and Secretary at Shift, and a Senior Fellow at the Mossavar-Rahmani Center for Business and Government at the Harvard Kennedy School.
John was part of the central team advising Professor John Ruggie, the former UN Special Representative for Business and Human Rights from 2008-2011. Drawing on his legal and business experience, John concentrated on developing the integration of human rights due diligence into existing corporate governance, enterprise risk management, compliance and ethics, safety and environmental management, and dispute resolution systems. John retired in 2008 as Deputy General Counsel of National Grid, where he was in charge of litigation, environmental, and safety law in the US.

John is a member of the UN Global Compact Human Rights Working Group, an Executive Fellow at the Center for Business Ethics at Bentley University, and from 2008-2010, was co-chair of the Corporate Social Responsibility Committee of the International Bar Association. John is a graduate of Harvard Law School and Dartmouth College, and lives in Brookline, Massachusetts, USA.