

Final Report Of My 8 Weeks Stay At The European University Institute, Florence, Italy.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND INTERNATIONAL LAW; Case study: Antwerp Diamond Industry.

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PURPOSE OF VISIT

The main purpose of my research stay at the European University Institute (EUI) Florence, was to use its law library, to enable me beef up my doctorate thesis titled ‘**CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND INTERNATIONAL LAW; Case study: Antwerp Diamond Industry.**’

During my stay, I focused on key principles of international law and how international law currently deals with corporate responsibility. There is currently a huge debate as to how private actors differ from States and the consequences this difference bears on the nature of their responsibility in international legal system.

I used the 8 weeks stay at the EUI as a stock taking exercise through which I had the unique opportunity to share my knowledge and evaluate the current stance of my doctorate thesis, which I have been writing for the past two years in this area of international law.

WORK DESCRIPTION CARRIED OUT DURING STAY

1. My stay at the EUI started effectively on the 1st of September 2011 and ran till 31st October 2011. The first 4 weeks were mostly concentrated in the use of library. I Utilised most of this time in accessing books and online articles available at the



institutes library. It helped me to update my chapters as well as missing footnotes. It equally exposed me to a lot of material which is lacking at my home university.

2. During the last 3 weeks, I actively participated in activities in the form of research seminars organised by the Law department. I took part in three such seminars organised by Prof. Martin Scheinin titled ‘Advanced Course on the Law of Treaties - Sources and Interpretation in International Law.’

<This advanced course was focused on the law of treaties as a branch of public international law. The course equally considered the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (VCLT) as a frame of reference for the discussions during these seminars>

3. I used part of my time at the institute to create both formal and informal contacts with some of the well known scholars who are attached to the institute. I had several guidance meetings with Prof. Martin Scheinin, who was my supervisor during my stay at the EUI. This was particularly important for me as it provided me with an opportunity to have another perception of my whole doctorate research. I equally had a fruitful working relation with other PhD students carrying on research in different areas of law at the EUI. I look forward to exploit these contacts, both for my current research and for a future professionalism.

THE MAIN RESULTS OBTAINED

The main result I obtained is the completion of the draft of the second part of my research on ‘Multinational Corporations and International Law.’ I carried out extensive research on the different conceptions of personality and subjectivity in international law. I equally exploited how complicity in international criminal law could be used in attributing responsibility and subsequent accountability to corporations. These two areas cover the core of my research on the different



approaches, being advanced as a way of imposing international legal accountability on corporations as non-state actors.

**PROJECTED PUBLICATIONS/ARTICLES RESULTING OR TO RESULT
FROM THE GRANT**

As of now there is no immediate publication yet. The draft chapters completed during my visit still demand further expansion and clarifications. In this regard, I look forward to advancing the two main chapters on corporate personality and complicity in international law, to seek for publication in the near future.

