

# NEW TECHNOLOGY AND LAW WORKSHOP ITM & GEDAI

January 16th - 19th, 2019

ITM - Leonardo-Campus 9  
Münster University/Germany

Further information:  
[www.gedai.com.br](http://www.gedai.com.br)



The guarantee of Human  
Rights in the face of  
business and  
Big Data through the use of  
decentralized technologies  
such as blockchain



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# Business x HR x blockchain

- Business and Human Rights: origins
- Business and Human Rights: developments
- Business and Human Rights: *status quo*

# Bangladesh example

- RMG industry
  - More than 80% of the country's exports
  - Over 23% of its GDP
- Jobs
- Lift out of extreme poverty
  - 70's: poverty rate - 70% to 40%; life expectancy; literacy; per capita food intake
- Empowerment of women

- What was/is the problem?
  - 1. Public governance issues:
    - State's weak institutions
    - State's administrative capacities
  - 2. Indirect sourcing\*\* specific case
- What has been done?
  - Alliance for Workplace Safety
  - Accord on Fire and Building Safety
  - Private governance (Büthe, T., 2010)

# How can block chain help?



- Tuna Fish
- De Beers – tracks stones from the point they are mined right up to the point when they are sold to consumers

- “As companies continue to globalize their business models, corporate labor abuses aren’t just becoming harder to identify, they’re becoming harder to enforce. Faced with new vendors, in new industries, in new regions of the world, company executives simply cannot conduct the due diligence necessary to keep up with the pace.”
- Allison McGuire

- Answering 1<sup>st</sup> problem:
  - Network governance (Baccaro; Mele, 2010)
- Answering 2<sup>nd</sup> problem:
  - Decrease modern slavery
  - More transparency to the supply chain
  - Transparent control of outsourced contracts (Francisco, K; Swanson, D., 2018)



- “This is the age of empowered customers who demand more information about the products they purchase, including supply sources and complete manufacturing history. Meeting this requirement is often either too difficult, not cost effective, or even impossible given traditional supply chain information technology; however, blockchain contains the possibility of addressing this challenge. This new technology provides a level of supply chain transparency that allows supply chain managers to obtain the information consumers are demanding and thus contribute to their companies’ competitive advantages.” (Francisco;

Swanson, 2018)

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**Thank you!**



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