**Too Big to Convict? Corporate Criminal Liability – Challenges and Solutions**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Dated: 17 December 2021**

**Abstracts due: No later than 13:00 (BST) on 11th February 2022 (link below)**

**Conference: 7 June 2022 10:00-16:30 (BST) (online)**

Background

Traditionally the legislator attempted to assimilate legal persons to humans for the purpose of criminal liability. The result is an anthropomorphic model of criminal liability which is not always capable of properly criminalising and punishing corporate misbehaviour, especially when large and dispersed entities are involved.[[1]](#footnote-1) In the absence of such prosecutions, the trust of the public in law and in business is likely to be eroded.[[2]](#footnote-2)

This international and inter-institutional conference hosted by University of Derby in partnership with UWE, University of Portsmouth, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and London Centre for Commercial and Financial Law, aims to explore the models used by different jurisdictions to address the criminal liability of corporations, and to assess the challenges associated with these models. This conference will explore national, international and regional law, policy and/or soft law, looking at the scope for change and reform.

To encourage worldwide participation of academics, research and PhD students, early researchers, practitioners and law enforcement agencies, and to ensure the event is accessible to all irrespective of means and location, the event will run *virtually*, attendance will be *free* and the conference will be *recorded*.

Submission

If you're interested in delivering a paper, please submit your abstract and details using the online form accessible using the link below, before 13:00 (BST) on 11 February 2022:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc2RgGR-q_faKsVcgMkPnvEwm48JYmw4qKiFVjnEgi7QtmdUA/viewform?usp=sf_link>

If you experience problems with the form, please email your abstract (including your first and family name (and those of co-authors), along with your email address and your institutional affiliation) to [m.meiselles@derby.ac.uk](mailto:m.meiselles@derby.ac.uk)

**Topics:**  
  
Topics include but not limited to:

* The features of Corporate Criminal Liability (CCL)
* The evolution of CCL
* CCL from a comparative perspective
* CCL in our day and age
* CCL in practice
* CCL in future
* CCL and technology
* CCL and competition law
* CCL and international and regional criminal courts and tribunals
* What are the knowledge gaps requiring more research and technology development?
* What are the challenges in this field?
* What should be the expected concrete outcomes and recommendations that should result from this conference?
* Who are the key partners, stakeholders and communities that should be involved in exploring the reform of CCL?
* How can corporate crime and white-collar crime be embedded in educational programmes?

**Decision timetable**

Decisions on the acceptance of paper proposals and the invitation to present at the conference will be communicated by **mid-March**.

**Special issue**

We hope to produce a special issue for the Journal of Business Law. Presenters and guests at the conference are invited to submit papers linked to the theme of the conference with the aim of publishing for this special issue. *If there are sufficient contributions of suitable quality, then the selected papers may be included in a special issue of the Journal of Business Law.*

Authors will not pay for the publication.

Full paper submission is **by 9 Sept 2022** to Michala Meiselles (m.meiselles@derby.ac.uk).

**Date and Venue**

The conference will be held online on 7 **June 2022** hosted by University of Derby in partnership with UWE, University of Portsmouth, Universita Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and London Centre for Commercial and Financial Law.

9 Jan 2022

**Conference committee**

Professor Nicholas Ryder (UWE)

Professor Flora Huang (Derby University)

Professor Gerhard Kemp (Derby University)

Dr Maren Heidemann (London Centre for Commercial and Financial Law)

Dr Branislav Hock (Portsmouth University)

Dr Penny Giosa (Portsmouth University)

Dr Ariana Visconti (*Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore)*

Dr Taiwo Oriola (Derby University)

Ms Michala Meiselles (Derby University)

Ms Demelza Hall (UWE)

*With financial support of the Society of Legal Scholars*



1. https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-seek-views-on-corporate-criminal-liability/ (accessed 22 June 2021). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/law-commission-seek-views-on-corporate-criminal-liability/ (accessed 22 June 2021). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)