

Seminar series: Managing Political, Operational and Integrity risk in emerging markets

Concept

Emerging markets are increasingly important to European companies both as cost centres and drivers of revenue growth. However, expanding operations into emerging and frontier markets carries with it a complex and evolving set of security, political, social and reputational risks ranging from the threat of terrorism through to political instability, corruption, regulatory change, securing brand integrity and management of extended and often opaque supply chains.

This seminar series addresses these questions by inviting experts based in emerging markets and representatives of European companies working there to reflect on how external risks can best be mitigated.¹

Organisation

Two identical seminars will be arranged in two of Norway's most export oriented regions, Stavanger (Rogaland region) and Kristiansand (Agder region). The Kristiansand seminar will be streamed online in real time on the websites of the University of Agder, Control Risks and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The seminar series is financed by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and form part of the activities of the Ministry's Refleks programme.² Agder Research organises the seminar in partnership with the University of Agder, Control Risks and University of Stavanger.

Date and venue Kristiansand seminar

Date: Tuesday 11 June 2013

Venue: University of Agder, room A7 001

Time: 1300-1530 hrs

Date and venue Stavanger seminar

Date: Wednesday 12 June 2013

Venue: University of Stavanger

Time: 0830-1030 (TBC)

Tentative programme

1. Introduction

- How and when do social and political risks impact business performance in emerging markets? *Stina Torjesen, Associate Professor, University of Agder*

2. What political and operational risks are European companies facing in Brazil?

- Understanding social and political risks in Brazil: what role can companies play in addressing them? *Geert Aalbers, Director of Corporate Investigations Latin America and General Manager in Brazil, Control Risks*
- Operational risks: dealing with logistical challenges in the Brazilian market, *Presenter TBC*

3. How has the Corporate Social Responsibility agenda helped frame and address risks in Africa?

- Responses to social and political risks in Angola by Norwegian companies and the Norwegian government *Jon Vea, former Norwegian ambassador to Angola and Congo*

4. How to best capitalise on Asian opportunities while avoiding risks?

- Security challenges in relations between North and South Korea and between China and Japan: how grave are they and how might they shape business operations? *Professor Stein Tønnesson, leader of Uppsala University East Asian Peace programme/former director of PRIO*
- What can we learn from European investments in India: Telenor's experiences with operating in a challenging business environment, *Tom C. Varghese, Advisor Governmental relations at Telenor Group*
- Social risks in global supply chains: India as case *Rasmus Reinvang, Partner Vista Analyse*

5. Conclusion

- Key principles for effective mitigation of social, political and security risks in emerging markets *Stina Torjesen, Associate Professor, University of Agder*

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² <http://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dep/ud/kampanjer/refleks.html?id=474693>