



**Le Laboratoire « Économie, Management et Développement des Organisations »
en collaboration avec**

**L'équipe de recherche interdisciplinaire de droit privé (FSJES de Kénitra),
Le Laboratoire de Recherche en Sciences de Gestion des Organisations, (ENCGK)
Le Laboratoire Géosciences des Ressources Naturelles (FS, Kenitra)
Environnement, Sociétés, Territoires (FLSH, Kénitra)
Et l'Institut des Etudes Africaines, Université Med V, Rabat
Le Centre de Recherche en Environnement, Sécurité Humaine et Gouvernance (CERES)
L'équipe de recherche sur le droit de l'Environnement et le développement durable
(FSJES - Rabat Suissi)**

Organizes the first International Symposium under the theme:

**BUSINESSES AND THE ENVIRONMENT: WHAT IMPACT
DOES RELOCATION HAVE ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES?**

Kenitra on 22 & 23 December 2017

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For the Liberals, the desire for profit and competition has always been the best fuels in markets and economic development at the global level. Under market pressure and under the injunction of international institutions, integration into the global economy leads to a leveling of private and public management.

The economic and social development, technical progress, changes in both domestic and international trade and the liberalization of capital markets have led to the transformation and multiplication of the needs of all economic agents (need for increased investment, production and Storage for future consumption, creation of new consumption habits, etc.).

Nevertheless, this liberalization currently requires both a convergence of economic policies and an adaptation, in terms of regulations, even disposed to ensure sustainable development and preserve the specificity of the localities.

There is no doubt that companies seek to maximize shareholder profit, while countries adopt "liberal" economic policies aimed at reducing government intervention and opening up national space to international competition. Though, this openness always puts companies in front of accusations and conflicts, which leads us to cross-analyzes around complex links. On the one hand, firms are legitimately seeking a trade-off between costs and benefits, and on the other hand, policy-makers need to learn about the extent of trade-offs between economic, social and environmental objectives.

Admitting that globalization is the extension of the market economy to all production and trade in goods and services on an international scale, it accelerates the spread of the market sphere, focused on competition and profit to the detriment of all human activity.

It brings about a new international division of labor and opens up new fields of activity. It thus imposes a process of continuous redeployment that requires adaptation and reactivity.

However, the emergence of environmental and climatic risks in recent decades and the need to manage them urgently without compromising economic and social development choices have been the subject of intensive research in several disciplines (ecology, economics, law, Agronomy, etc.). In this context, the relationship between the company and the environment has aroused the interest of researchers for various reasons.

First, the company is an entity whose processes of production, distribution and marketing can degrade ecological balance and overexploit renewable and non-renewable natural resources. Secondly, the company has the capacity to innovate, which can be largely mobilized to promote environmental and social sustainability. Thus, the company can permanently ensure its performance (financial, environmental and social) once it has chosen to embrace sustainability in its overall strategy.

In this spirit, and coming out of the classical debate that opposes "economic growth" and "environment preservation", this symposium aims at questioning the dynamics existing between enterprise and environment in their territorial, political and economic, legal, social dimensions, etc. More specifically, the emphasis will be on movements stimulated by relocations to developing countries.

However, the disparity in environmental regulations between the countries of the North and the countries of the South is likely to favor certain relocations. In particular, the OECD noted the case of the tannery sector (source of highly polluting discharges), which was largely relocated to the countries of the South.

Some authors such as Mabey and McNally consider, for example, that the lack of air quality regulations has strongly encouraged the production of solvents in Mexico. For Leonard, the production of dangerous chemicals, banned or heavily regulated in the United States (such as pesticides), had grown strongly in Mexico. The same author indicates that Mexican workers are exposed to certain harmful chemicals, such as asbestos fibers, to which American workers are no longer exposed.

¹N. Mabey et R. Mc Nally, 1999, *Foreign Direct Investment and the Environment: from Pollution Haven to Sustainable Development*, WWF, UK.

²H.J. Leonard, *Pollution and the Struggle for the World Product*, 1988, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

The environmental law as an instrument for the regulation of human activities is called upon to play a decisive role in reconciling economic interests, the preservation and enhancement of the environment with a view to sustainable development. In this context, civil society in general and environmental protection associations in particular are, together with the public authorities, the safeguards for responsible and sustainable investment. In this sense, both civilian, criminal and administrative judges could monitor the government, businesses and individuals' compliance with their recently constitutionalized environmental obligations. In addition, it should be made clear that out-of-pocket investment flows can, in certain cases, lead to disputes that confront the realization of investment with environmental legal protectionism.

An assessment of the existing legal arrangements and an assessment of their content would be an essential step towards responsible relocation to developing countries.

This symposium will constitute a real forum for the scientific and professional community to discuss, to be close to each other and to exchange ideas about our phenomenon, by outlining new ways of research and reflection on the following research axes:

• **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES AND PARTICIPATION ARRANGEMENTS:**

A 1- Economic aspects:

1. Risk prevention in the age of the information society (intangible society);
2. The business as a risk and nuisance factor;
3. Environment: public actors and society;
4. Entrepreneurial logics and the environment;
5. The environment: a new market, a new logic;
6. Industrial relocation / Pollution relocation;
7. International trade and economic and environmental integration;
8. Relocation and territorial attractiveness.

A 2 - Legal aspects:

1. Environmental standards according to competitiveness and attractiveness concerns in developing countries;
2. How effective is the existing right (s) for relocation?
3. Can we strive towards the universality of environmental standards between the countries of the North and those of the South?
4. What adaptations of legal norms to current and future contexts?
5. Relocation and treatment of waste;
6. Offshoring and guiding principles in environmental law (precautionary principle, principle of prevention, paying polluter principle, etc.);
7. Responsibilities (civil liability, criminal liability, environmental liability, corporate social responsibility, etc.);
8. Settlement of disputes between the company and the host country for offshore investment.

A 3 - Geo-resources: legislation, economy and valuation:

1. Strategies and laws relating to the management of natural resources;
2. Management of water resources in the industrial and agricultural sectors in Morocco;
3. Morocco's mining strategy;
4. Importance of mineral resources in economic development;
5. Quarrying industry in Morocco;
6. Safety at geo-resource sites;
7. Environmental impact assessment and rehabilitation of mineral deposits;
8. Human resources management during operation and after the closure of mining deposits;
9. Valuation of mining heritage in Morocco;

• EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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• PARTICIPATION ARRANGEMENTS:

Submitted Papers should be in the following format:

- Writing languages: Arabic, French or English;
- Word format, Font: Times New Roman, size 12;
- 2.5 cm margins on all four ribs, Interlining 1.5;
- The text of the communication contains a maximum of 15 pages, including the
- Bibliography and appendices ...;
- The first cover sheet includes: the title, the name (s) of the author (s), their duties, their coordinates;
- Summary and keywords in English and French;
- **The final and complete version of the communication must be sent before October 22, 2017 by e-mail to:**

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- **The best papers will be published in proceedings of the symposium.**

• IMPORTANT DEADLINES:

- **09 October 2017:** Submission of abstract
- **22 October 2017:** Deadline for sending the final and complete version of the communication
- **30 October 2017:** Scientific Committee Notification decision
- **02 November 2017:** Deadline for sending selected papers