Responsible Business

Wednesday 6 February 2019
08:30  Registration
09:00  Welcome and introduction
      Alex Edmans, Professor of Finance and Academic Director of the Centre for Corporate Governance, London Business School
      Ioannis Ioannou, Associate Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship, London Business School
09:25  Panel discussion – What is a responsible organisation?
      Chair: Paul Coombes, Chairman, Centre for Corporate Governance, London Business School
      Panel: Oonagh Harpur, Independent Non-Executive, KPMG UK LLP
             Catherine Howarth, CEO, ShareAction
             Julie Hudson, Managing Director and Global Head of Sustainable and Responsible Investment, UBS
             Georg Kell, Chairman, Arabesque
10:45  Break
11:15  Panel discussion – What is the case for and against responsibility?
      Chair: Henri Servaes, Professor of Finance, London Business School
      Panel: Olenka Kacperczyk, Associate Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship, London Business School
             Jesse Norman MP, Minister of State, Department for Transport
             Matt Peacock, Former Group Director of Corporate Affairs, Vodafone
             Daniel Summerfield, Head of Corporate Affairs, USS
12:30  Lunch
      Lunch keynote speaker: Lord Wei of Shoreditch
14:00  Panel discussion – How do we make it real?
      Chair: John Plender, Senior Editorial Writer and Columnist, Financial Times
      Panel: Hywel Ball, Assurance Managing Partner for the UK and Ireland and Head of UK Audit, EY
             Alan Knight OBE, Head of Sustainable Development, ArcelorMittal
             David Pyott CBE, Former Chairman and CEO, Allergan
             Andrea Sullivan, International Head of Environmental, Social and Governance, Bank of America Merrill Lynch
15:20  Break
15:50  Keynote and Q&A
      Keynote speaker: Michael Lewis, CEO, E.ON UK plc.
      In conversation with: Tom Gosling, Partner, PwC; Executive Fellow, London Business School
17:00  Summary and conclusion
17:10  Drinks reception
Alex Edmans
Professor of Finance and Academic Director of the Centre for Corporate Governance, London Business School

Alex Edmans is Professor of Finance at London Business School and Academic Director of the Centre for Corporate Governance. Alex has a BA from Oxford and a PhD from MIT and was previously a tenured professor at Wharton and an investment banker at Morgan Stanley.

Alex has spoken at the World Economic Forum in Davos, testified in the UK Parliament and given the TED talk ‘What to Trust in a Post-Truth World’ and the TEDx talk ‘The Social Responsibility of Business’. He is also Mercers’ School Memorial Professor of Business at Gresham College, where he is currently giving a lecture series on ‘How Business Can Better Serve Society’, and Managing Editor of the Review of Finance, the leading academic finance journal in Europe. He has appeared on Bloomberg, the BBC, CNBC, CNN, ESPN, ITV, Reuters, Sky News and Sky Sports, and written for the Financial Times, Harvard Business Review and the Wall Street Journal.

Ioannis Ioannou
Associate Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship, London Business School

Professor Ioannou is a strategy scholar whose research focuses on Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility. He aims to understand whether, how and the extent to which the modern business organisation contributes towards building a sustainable future. Ioannis graduated magna cum laude from Yale University, majoring in Economics and Mathematics, and holds a PhD in Business Economics from Harvard University and Harvard Business School.

He joined LBS in 2009 and is currently Associate Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship. Ioannis regularly publishes in top-tier peer-reviewed academic journals and his work is widely cited; he consistently ranks in the top 10% authors on the social science research network. Ioannis is also active on social media and a frequent contributor to articles in the popular press, including outlets such as the Financial Times, Bloomberg and The Guardian. In addition, he has been recognised by various rankings as one of the top social media influencers in the world on issues of responsible business and sustainability.

Paul Coombes
Chairman of the Centre for Corporate Governance, London Business School

Paul Coombes is Chairman of the Centre for Corporate Governance at London Business School and a Director of the Investor Forum. He is a former Director of McKinsey & Company where he worked for 27 years across a wide range of industries.

Paul was Head of McKinsey’s UK Insurance Practice and one of the worldwide leaders of the firm’s Financial Institutions Practice with international experience serving leading financial institutions in the United States, Japan, Continental Europe and Scandinavia. He also led the firm’s work in corporate governance, serving publicly quoted and private companies on issues of board effectiveness and corporate strategy.

More recently, he served as specialist adviser to the BEIS Select Committee Inquiry on corporate governance. He is also a member of the Financial Reporting Council’s Stakeholder Advisory Panel.
Hywel Ball
Assurance Managing Partner for the UK and Ireland and Head of UK Audit, EY

Hywel Ball has worked at EY for over 30 years, including 20 years as a Partner, providing services to clients across a range of sectors and many FTSE 100 companies. Before taking up his current role as Managing Partner for Assurance and Head of Audit for the UK, Mr Ball was the firm’s industry leader for the energy and utilities sector for Europe, the Middle East, India and Africa, and chairman of the firm in Scotland. He has been instrumental in developing EY’s work on long-term value – a new approach to help companies articulate the execution of their value-creation strategy for all stakeholders.

Tom Gosling
Partner, PwC; Executive Fellow, London Business School

Tom Gosling is an Executive Fellow in the Finance Department at London Business School, where he works in the Centre for Corporate Governance. He is also a member of the steering group of The Purposeful Company Taskforce. This group seeks to draw on the most rigorous evidence to identify policies to promote companies that create profit through pursuing a purpose that benefits society. At PwC, Tom Gosling is a Partner and the leader of the UK Reward Practice. He advises FTSE-100 and equivalent private and European companies on corporate governance, executive pay and stewardship.

Tom has also been responsible for PwC’s briefings and thought leadership on executive remuneration issues and is a regular media commentator in print, broadcast and social media. He engages extensively with regulators such as BEIS and the FRC on corporate governance and stewardship policy matters and has given evidence on multiple occasions to Parliamentary select committees. Tom has a PhD in Applied Mathematics and is a qualified actuary.

Oonagh Harpur
Independent Non-Executive, KPMG UK LLP

Oonagh has 30 years’ experience serving boards in the private, public and third sectors. Following a track record of achievement as a CEO over 14 years, Oonagh went on to develop her career as a senior board advisor and non-executive director. She has a reputation for building trust and integrity in boardrooms.

Over the last year, Oonagh’s roles have included Independent Non-Executive for KPMG UK LLP; Member of the Walgreens Boots Alliance Advisory Panel on Sustainability; Non-Executive Director for the Government Legal Department; and Senior Advisor to a number of financial and professional services firms’ boards, as well as to Tomorrow’s Company and Blueprint for Better Business.

In her TEDx talk ‘Love and Integrity in Business’, she tells her story of how she realised as a young CEO that how you do business is as important as the profit you make.
Catherine Howarth
Chief Executive, ShareAction

Catherine Howarth has been Chief Executive of ShareAction since 2008. ShareAction is a civil society organisation working across Europe to promote the highest standards of responsible investment in the interests of protecting retirement assets and mobilising capital for a swift and stable low-carbon transition. The organisation has staff in London and Brussels.

Catherine is a board member of the Scott Trust, owner of Guardian Media Group, serving on the trust’s investment committee. She also serves on HM Treasury’s Taskforce on Asset Management.

Catherine holds a first-class BA in Modern History from Oxford University and an MSc in Industrial Relations from the London School of Economics. In June 2011, Catherine was named a ‘Rising Star of Corporate Governance’ by Yale University’s Millstein Center. In 2013, Investment and Pensions Europe called her one of the ‘top 10 women in pensions’. Catherine was recognised by the World Economic Forum as a Young Global Leader in 2014.

Julie Hudson
Managing Director and Global Head of Sustainable and Responsible Investment, UBS

Julie Hudson CFA is Managing Director of UBS. On 28 February, she will reach her 25-year anniversary. She has headed up the Global ESG and Sustainability team in Equity Research since founding it at the end of 2004. Her publications include From Red to Green? How the Financial Credit Crunch Could Bankrupt the Environment (Earthscan, 2011) and Food Policy and the Environmental Credit Crunch: From Soup to Nuts (Routledge, 2013), both co-authored with UBS economist Paul Donovan.

In 2018, she attained her PhD in English and Comparative Literary Studies from Warwick University, where her ecocritical research question was: ‘The Environment on Stage: Scenery or Shapeshifter?’ She is a trustee of Cardboard Citizens (where theatre empowers people who are homeless or at risk of becoming so). Her Earthwatch expeditions include water in the Gobi Desert, climate change at the ‘Arctic’s edge’ (Churchill Northern Studies Centre and in Dechenla, NWT, Canada), sustainable coffee in Costa Rica and biodiversity in the Peruvian Amazon.

Olenka Kacperczyk
Associate Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship, London Business School

Aleksandra (Olenka) Kacperczyk’s research covers entrepreneurship, innovation, social responsibility, and mobility and labour markets. She has written papers on entrepreneurship versus intrapreneurship, the impact of stakeholder orientation on innovation and how trade secrets affect a firm’s value.

Away from her research, Aleksandra is Associate Editor of the Strategic Management Journal, an editorial board member of Administrative Science Quarterly and Editor of Organization Science.
Georg Kell
Chairman, Arabesque

Georg Kell is Chairman of Arabesque, an ESG Quant fund manager that uses self-learning quantitative models and big data to assess the performance and sustainability of globally listed companies.

He was founding Executive Director of the UN Global Compact (UNGC), which is the world’s largest voluntary corporate sustainability initiative, with over 9,000 corporate signatories from over 160 countries, and the foremost platform for the development, implementation and disclosure of responsible and sustainable corporate policies and practices.

Georg also oversaw the conception and launch of the UNGC’s sister initiatives: Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) and Sustainable Stock Exchanges (SSE).

Georg started his career as an engineering research fellow at the Fraunhofer Institute in Berlin and then worked as a financial analyst in various countries in Africa and Asia before joining the UN in 1987. He holds advanced degrees in economics and engineering from the Technical University of Berlin.

Alan Knight OBE
Head of Sustainable Development, ArcelorMittal

Dr Alan Knight has over 25 years’ experience of working with global companies and governments on sustainability. He joined ArcelorMittal in 2014 as their, General Manager for Sustainable Development, developing a sustainability framework ranging from products to process. He is Co-chairman of Responsible Steel and sits on the steering board of the Initiative for Responsible Mining. Alan created and chaired the Ebola Private Sector Mobilisation Group, a collaboration of over 100 companies coordinating the corporate response to Ebola in West Africa, for which he was made a Clinton Global Citizen honouree in 2015.

Before that, he was Sustainability Director for Business in the Community (BITC), where he oversaw all their corporate sustainability programmes. He advised the Virgin Group on sustainable development. Previously he has worked with global companies like B&Q, leading their entire corporate responsibility and sustainability programme for 10 years. He was instrumental in developing the Forest Stewardship Council. He held similar roles at Kingfisher and SABMiller. He was a commissioner with the Sustainable Development Commission and introduced the concept of ‘choice editing’ into the product policy debate. He is a Senior Associate of the Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership.

He was awarded an OBE in June 1998; in 2005, the US-based Rainforest Alliance presented him with a lifelong award; and in 2013, he was made an Honorary Fellow of the Society for the Environment.
Michael Lewis
CEO, E.ON UK plc.

Michael Lewis joined E.ON UK as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) after holding the role of CEO at E.ON Climate and Renewables. He has worked in the energy industry for 25 years.

Having joined Powergen in 1993, Michael originally worked in technical and environmental roles, before moving into corporate strategy and development. Following E.ON’s acquisition of Powergen, Michael moved to E.ON’s headquarters in Düsseldorf as Vice President Corporate Development.

In 2007 he was appointed as Managing Director for Europe on the Board of E.ON Climate and Renewables, before becoming CEO responsible for global wind-power development, construction and operations.

Michael is a Chartered Engineer (CEng) and a Fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (FIMechE).

Jesse Norman
Minister of State, Department for Transport

Jesse Norman is the MP for Hereford and South Herefordshire, and Minister of State for the Department for Transport.

He read Classics at Oxford and completed an MPhil and a PhD in Philosophy at University College London. Before entering politics, he ran an educational project working in Communist Eastern Europe and was a director at Barclays. He has been an Honorary Fellow at UCL, a Governor of the National Institute for Economic and Social Research, and a Visiting Fellow at All Souls, Oxford.

First elected to Parliament in 2010, he was a member of the Treasury Select Committee. In June 2015, he was elected Chair of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee. In 2016, he was appointed as Energy Minister at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, before moving to the Department for Transport in 2017.

Jesse was Spectator Parliamentarian of the Year 2012, the House Backbencher of the Year 2012 and Dod’s Rebel of the Year 2013.

He writes regularly in the national press. His books include Edmund Burke: Philosopher, Politician, Prophet and, most recently, Adam Smith: What He Thought, and Why it Matters.

Matt Peacock
Former Group Director of Corporate Affairs, Vodafone

Matt Peacock is an international business advisor, lecturer and writer. He is the former Group Director of Corporate Affairs at Vodafone, where he led the company’s global communications, sustainable business, human rights and corporate transparency programmes. He was also a founding influence behind the Better Business Blueprint social purpose movement.

He was previously Group Communications Director at the FTSE-100 global energy company BG Group (subsequently acquired by Shell) and Director of Communications at the UK communications regulator, Ofcom. Before entering corporate life, he was a staff reporter with The World at One on BBC Radio 4.
John Plender
Senior Editorial Writer and Columnist, Financial Times

John Plender has been a senior editorial writer and global commentator at the Financial Times since 1981.

He was formerly the financial editor of The Economist, where he remained until 1980, when he joined the UK Foreign Office's policy planning staff. On leaving the Foreign Office, he became a writer and columnist at the Financial Times.

A past chairman of Pensions and Investment Research Consultants, the UK shareholder activist and corporate governance consultancy, John served on the UK Government’s Company Law Review steering group, which provided the groundwork for the Companies Act 2006. He joined the board of Quintain plc as a non-executive director in 2002 and chaired the company from 2007 to 2009. He is currently a Non-Executive-Director of the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum, as well as being a trustee of the £4 billion Pearson Group Pension Fund.

John is a member of the OECD/World Bank Private Sector Advisory Group on Corporate Governance and a member of the Advisory Panel of the Association of Corporate Treasurers. He was the winner of the Wincott Foundation senior prize for excellence in financial journalism. His books include Going Off the Rails: Global Capital and the Crisis of Legitimacy (John Wiley), which anticipated the 2007–8 financial crisis, and Capitalism: Money, Morals and Markets (Biteback).

David Pyott CBE
Former Chairman and CEO, Allergan

From 1998 to 2015, Dr Pyott served as CEO of Allergan Inc., where he was recognised by Harvard Business Review as one of the ‘100 Best Performing CEOs in the World’. Under his 17-year tenure, Allergan was transformed from a small eye-care business with approximately $1 billion in sales to a global specialty pharmaceutical and medical device company, with sales of over $7 billion in 2014 and more than 10,000 employees. The company increased investment in R&D from $100 million in 1998 to over $1 billion in 2014, creating an industry-leading R&D pipeline.

Dr Pyott has been awarded a CBE; a Medal by the University of California, Irvine; the Semper Fidelis Award by the US Marine Corps; and an Honorary Degree in Medicine by the University of Edinburgh.

He holds an MA from the University of Edinburgh, a Diploma in International and European Law from the University of Amsterdam, and an MBA from London Business School.

Dr Pyott holds directorships at Avery Dennison Corporation, Aynlam Pharmaceuticals, BioMarin Pharmaceutical and Royal Philips, and is Chairman of Bioniz Therapeutics and Rani Therapeutics. He is Deputy Chairman of the Board of Governors of LBS, a trustee of the California Institute of Technology, President of the International Council of Ophthalmology Foundation and a member of the Advisory Board of the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.
Henri Servaes
Richard Brealey Professor of Corporate Governance and Professor of Finance, London Business School

Henri is also a Research Fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research and a Research Associate of the European Corporate Governance Institute.


His work has been presented at all major international finance conferences and at more than 90 universities worldwide. He has had previous appointments at the University of Chicago, the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium), Duke University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Henri has been involved in consulting and executive education for a wide range of companies and organisations. His work has been cited in a large number of international newspapers, including the Financial Times, The Wall Street Journal, and The Economist.

At London Business School, he teaches corporate finance, corporate governance, and mergers & acquisitions.

Andrea Sullivan
International Head of Environmental, Social and GovernanceBank of America Merrill Lynch

As International Executive for the Global Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) Group, Andrea is responsible for the bank’s ESG efforts in markets outside the US. In this role, she leads on the firm’s sustainable business practices and focuses on the strategic alignment and integration of ESG within the bank’s responsible growth objectives. She works closely with senior leaders across the company to steward the bank’s ESG business development, operational initiatives, employee programmes, policy development and social investments.

Andrea joined the bank from Lehman Brothers, where she was a managing director and Chief Executive of the Lehman Brothers Foundation Europe. She has held various leadership roles focusing on business strategy, marketing and communications, including working with British Sky Broadcasting, the Lego Company and Lifetime Television.

Andrea holds a BA degree in the Political Implications of Art from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania and a Juris Doctorate from NYU School of Law. She is an advisor to the bank’s regional Women’s Leadership Council and is passionate about the arts and innovation. Andrea is actively engaged on various boards and investment committees, including Create London, Mousetrap Theatre Projects, Bridges Social Entrepreneurs Fund and the Arts Impact Fund. She resides in London with her family.
Daniel Summerfield
Head of Corporate Affairs, Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS)

Dr Daniel Summerfield has recently been appointed Head of Corporate Affairs, a newly created role at the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS) – the UK’s largest pension fund, with assets of around £65 billion. He is responsible for the corporate communications, public relations and public affairs activities of both the pension and investment management businesses. He also oversees internal communications, the culture development programme at USS Investment Management and USS’s nascent corporate responsibility initiative.

Previously, Daniel co-headed the Responsible Investment Team at USS Investment Management, where he was responsible for the stewardship of the companies, funds and assets in which USS invests by engaging on key governance issues and market-wide risks as part of the internal investment process. He also coordinated the public affairs activities of USS Investment Management.

Daniel serves as a member of a number of committees in the UK and overseas, including the Investment Association’s Governance and Engagement Committee, and co-chairs the Conference Board of the European Governance Council.

Before working at USS, he was Head of Corporate Governance at the Institute of Directors.

Daniel also currently serves as a trustee of two local schools and is an Honorary Visiting Fellow at Cass Business School, which is one of City, University of London’s five schools.

Lord Wei of Shoreditch

Lord Wei of Shoreditch served as the youngest male in the House of Lords and the only member from a Chinese background. He started as a McKinsey & Company consultant specialising in technology, particularly mobile, before shifting into venture capital, social enterprise and, more recently, policy development.

Lord Wei is the founding partner of the Shaftesbury Partnership, a member of the founding team of Teach First, a former advisor at Absolute Return for Kids and he is part of the advisory board of Future Planet Capital. He is a former fellow of the Young Foundation and a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader. Currently, Lord Wei is a member of the House of Lords EU Internal Affairs Committee, Chair of the Conservative Friends of the Chinese and Chair of the sub-group of the All-Party Parliamentary China Group. He also sits on multiple boards as chair and advisor to the real estate, energy, venture capital, culture and technology industry.

Lord Wei is the most senior politician of ethnic Chinese origin in Europe, with an interest in British Chinese community issues and the cultural ties between both countries.

He chaired the All-Party Parliamentary Group for East Asian Business, worked for the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Trade and Investment, promoting better trade and political and cultural links between the UK and East Asia whilst encouraging the next generation of East Asians to play a more significant role in public life, society and business.