

Human Rights in the Supply Chain

by. Dr. Michael **Schaller**, on March 12, 2019 at 12:30 p.m.

The next 'Science Talk', which is organized by the Institute of Systems Sciences, Innovation and Sustainability Research, will be given by Dr. Michael Schaller. His topic is "Human Rights in the Supply Chain" and his talk will take place on Tuesday, 12 March 2019 at 12.30 pm in the **meeting room of SIS (Merangasse 18, 1st floor)**. Duration: **Approximately one hour** including discussion.

The participation is free of charge and there is no need to register.

SIS offers three to five guest talks each semester, covering its research areas systems sciences, innovation and sustainability research.

Bio-sketch

He has studied industrial engineering at the Technical University Graz with the focus on environmental management. Assistant professor at Graz University of Technology, Institute for Industrial Economics and Management, Department of Industrial Management and Innovation Research. His doctoral thesis is about "Value analysis as an instrument for the consideration of ecological aspects in the design of industrial products".

Junior professional officer and associate expert at United Nations Industrial Development Organisation UNIDO in San José, Costa Rica and Vienna, Austria. Secretary General of the Catholic Action in Styria. Founder and owner of sustainable – *Agentur für Nachhaltigkeit*, a consultancy agency active in the fields of sustainable management, corporate social responsibility and human rights; realization of film and media projects, auditor for Bureau Veritas Austria. Lecturer at the University Graz, Campus 02 - University of Applied Science, Graz and Kärnten University of Applied Science, Spittal an der Drau.

Abstract

For a long time, human rights were no issue for the industry. Only human rights watch dogs, trade unions and solidarity groups asked about working conditions in enterprises and made violations against principal human rights public. Now, 70 years after the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, human rights got into the mainstream of public attention. Consumers are aware of social problems in the supply chain and request from enterprises to produce without the violation of human rights. They buy more and more products that carry labels like Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance or brand specific CSR labels. What started with the food sector, entered other sectors like the packaging material industry, automotive and electronic industry. Michael Schaller will introduce the instruments that can be used to identify human rights issues in the supply chain, he will show what can be done to guarantee minimum social standards and what measurements should be taken, if problems occur within in the supply chain.