

Foreword

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This research volume, *CSR and Climate Change Implications for Multinational Enterprises* is part of a specialized collection titled *New Horizons in International Business*. It is the product of a unique and long collaboration between ICN Business School, France, and the Scheller College of Business's Center for International Business Education and Research, Georgia Tech, in partnership with CEREFIGE, University of Lorraine. It reflects the increasing research emphasis on questions of sustainability, writ large, and also on questions of ecosystem sustainability, pollution and the phenomenon known as global warming. The emphasis on the role of private sector actors, and particularly multinational corporate actors, is a welcome emphasis to shed further light and continue the process of accretion to a significant body of research literature. These institutional objectives are also reflected in the Multinational Enterprises and Sustainable Development Association (MESDA), which links these academic institutions in the pursuit of knowledge and new pathways around sustainability.

This special collection is the result of further collaboration with new partners at the ISCTE-IUL, University Institute of Lisbon, in the immediate aftermath of the Paris Agreements.

The role of the multinational enterprises (MNE) is paramount in the implementation of the September 2015 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), their numerical targets, as well as their negotiated embodiment in the Paris Agreements of December 2105.

Multinational enterprises are agents of change and diffusers of technological innovation as well as better practices and standards. As such, they are able to respond, at an operational level, to the multiple challenges raised by the ambitious sustainable development goals, bearing on issues of climate change, and incorporate them in their governance practices. Understanding the role played by enterprises as global economic actors, in supporting their corporate social responsibility, is critical as they collaborate with national governments, non-governmental actors, and international organizations.

This research volume is noteworthy as it responds to the challenges faced by business schools across the world in their management research and educational mandates, which they must address in advancing sustainability and creating a liveable, inclusive society. In this context, both Georgia Tech and ICN are showing the way in their respective countries. This work leads by taking a balanced and multidimensional approach in the furtherance of these mandates.

I am particularly pleased to open this book and to welcome its authors.

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