

TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN NIGERIA: TOWARDS AN INTEGRATED FUNCTIONAL APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the role of transnational corporations in the protection of human rights in Nigeria. It argues that both as organs of society and as entities critical to the social and economic development of the country, transnational corporations are required to play active roles in the protection of human rights. Drawing on previous instances of complicity of transnational corporations in human rights abuses in their host communities, the paper advocates an integrated functional approach which will entail the government making the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights and other relevant norms binding on corporations within the Nigerian legal system, and the companies complying with, and integrating human rights norms in their operations and processes.