Management international
International Management
Gestión Internacional

Call for Papers

Submission Deadline: ***January 6, 2025***

Extension: March 6, 2025

Multinational Enterprises facing the Challenges of Sustainable Socio-ecological Transitions in a Disrupted International Economic, Institutional, and Political Context

Vera Ivanaj, Silvester Ivanaj, Niti Bhasin, John McIntyre

Guest Editors:

Vera Ivanaj,
University of Lorraine, France

Silvester Ivanaj,
ICN Business School, France

Niti Bhasin,
University of Delhi, India

John McIntyre,
Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA

Since the advent of sustainable development (SD) and corporate social responsibility (CSR), especially with the development of the 2030 Agenda, and more recently, the UN Climate Change Conference (COP 28), key international stakeholders have sought to coordinate their actions and implement international strategies to address the major socio-ecological challenges of the current world. In the face of these challenges, Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) constitute important international actors and can play an essential role. Academic research has already recognized their influence in implementing strategies and practices that contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goals, as well as in broader transformations required by the environmental, social, economic, and political issues of today's world (Van Zanten & Van Tulder, 2018; Berning, 2019; Sachs et al., 2019; Ivanaj et al., 2021; Nylund, Brem, & Agarwal, 2021; Montiel et al., 2021; Van Der Waal, Thijssens, & Maas, 2021; Eang, Clarke, & Ordonez-Ponce, 2023).

Indeed, multinational enterprises are key actors in the global economy, and their national and international strategies and practices can impact socio-ecological transitions, either positively or negatively (Van Zanten & Van Tulder, 2018; Kolk, Kourula, & Pisani, 2017). However, profitability and organizational performance considerations often lead MNEs to make strategic choices that do not always generate proactive environmental or social protection actions. Sometimes their actions can be catastrophic, as evidenced by a number of major social and ecological disasters caused in the past by MNEs (Gendron et al., 2017). Thus, academic research has already highlighted strategic behaviors of the "greenwashing" type, i.e., using Sustainable Development Goals and CSR requirements as a cover for reprehensible practices or lack of effort (Yang et al., 2020; Peng et al., 2023). For example, concerning compliance with environmental protection standards or the SDG agenda, the choices made by Multinational Enterprises seem to be primarily motivated by notions of reputation, legitimacy, or conformity, rather than virtuous, ethical, or socially responsible behaviors (Musteen et al., 2013; Donoher, 2017; Terpstra-Tong, 2017). This also appears to be the case regarding the choice of technological innovations and foreign investment or international market development policies, especially in developing countries (Ghauri, 2018; Montiel et al., 2021). At this stage, considering the Pollution Haven Hypothesis (Copeland & Taylor, 2004), a portion of FDI from developed to developing countries (North-South FDI) is attributed to the relocation of environmentally unfriendly technology to these nations, which typically have less stringent standards (Eskeland, & Harrison, 2003; Bu, Liu, Wagner, & Yu, 2013; Bashir, 2022).

Despite some negative impacts of multinational enterprises on SD and CSR, current international political, economic, and institutional dynamics can provide a conducive context for improving the commitments of multinational enterprises and better meeting ecological and social expectations (Schönherr, Findler & Martinuzzi, 2017). The mobilization of MNEs as very active stakeholders in the development of the 17 SDGs, alongside other political, economic, and social actors, demonstrates their willingness to engage seriously in strategic thinking and concrete actions to facilitate socio-ecological transitions. These transitions represent not only constraints but also opportunities for creating economic and social value for economic actors (Kolk and Pinkse, 2008; Accenture & UN Global Compact, 2016; Business & Sustainable Development Commission, 2017; Shapiro, Hobdari & Oh, 2018). Indeed, MNEs are increasingly seen as part of the solution and not just the problem (Kolk and Van Tulder, 2010). Thus, the strategies pursued by MNEs can impact the development of infrastructure in developing countries (Yamin and Sinkovics, 2009) as well as the emergence of international networks and interorganizational partnerships (Rivera-Santos and Rufin, 2010). Social, economic, and Sustainable Development Goal requirements can give multinational enterprises the opportunity to develop competitive advantages and become key success factors in terms of profit, growth, and even organizational survival (Kolk and Pinkse, 2008; Montiel et al., 2021). In times of crisis, especially energy emergencies, MNEs can impact crisis management by reducing turbulence in energy markets and contributing to diminishing global and national energy consumption (Macharzina, 2000) and managing natural resources (Shapiro, Hobdari, & Oh, 2018).

Despite advancements in research regarding the role played by multinational enterprises (MNEs) in global socio-ecological issues and those related to achieving sustainable development goals, academic studies in international management are out of sync with the reality of managerial practices (Van Zanten & Van Tulder, 2018) and the major challenges of today's world (Tihanyi, 2020). Research in this field is fragmented, and studies are scattered (Witte & Dilyard, 2017; Van Zanten & Van Tulder, 2018). Few integrative studies exist that enable an understanding of MNEs' multiple roles and, more importantly, the influence of both macro and micro-economic and organizational factors (McIntyre, Ivanaj, & Ivanaj, 2022). Indeed, recent literature reviews in the field (e.g., Kolk, Kourula, & Pisani, 2017) show that the majority of studies conducted have adopted a macro perspective, focusing on the role of multinational enterprises in economic development, and highlighting, for example, the impact of foreign direct investment or the role played by multinationals in reducing disparities with the base of the pyramid. Some studies have also focused on the role of MNEs in globalization, peace, or climate change (e.g., Fossats-Vasselin, & Mayrhofer, 2018) or on specific SDG-related objectives such as energy, water resource management, or poverty alleviation (e.g., Kolk, Rivera-Santos & Rufín, 2018). Despite these advances, very few integrative studies consider the role of multinational enterprises in all three economic, social, and environmental dimensions and account for actual business practices related to sustainable development or socio-ecological transitions (Van Zanten & Van Tulder, 2018).

Furthermore, from a theoretical perspective, the role that multinational enterprises can play in sustainable development (SD), corporate social responsibility (CSR), and socio-ecological transition has been studied using a multitude of theoretical approaches, such as institutional theories (e.g., Campbell, 2007; Matten & Moon, 2008; Van Zanten & Van Tulder, 2018), stakeholder theories (e.g., Parmar et al., 2010), political theories (Scherer & Palazzo, 2011; Scherer, Palazzo, & Matten, 2014), business ethics (Donaldson & Dunfee, 1999; Hemingway & Maclagan, 2004; Frederiksen, 2010;), and strategic management (McWilliams & Siegel, 2001; Orlitzky, Siegel, & Waldman, 2011). These approaches are very useful for understanding the multiple facets that can determine MNEs' strategic behaviors. However, the proliferation of approaches makes knowledge capitalization difficult due to the lack of a unifying theoretical framework that promotes cross-fertilization of knowledge between theoretical currents and researchers.

Nevertheless, academic research and managerial practice have already highlighted that the role of MNEs in socio-ecological transition depends not only on their internal organizational context and resources, but also on external contexts, including economic, political, institutional, and cultural factors. Indeed, all internal and external stakeholders of multinational enterprises can play a role, such as local, national, and international governmental bodies, counter-power institutions like NGOs or trade unions, other economic actors besides MNEs, such as small and medium-sized enterprises, entrepreneurs, the general public, and the media, as well as organizational and national culture (Kolk, Kourula, & Pisani, 2017; Ivanaj et al., 2013; Ivanaj et al., 2021).

Firstly, concerning economic contexts, a significant lever for action for multinational enterprises is internal and external investments (Montiel et al., 2021). These investments, in addition to creating economic and technological development opportunities for host countries, can also have an impact on social aspects such as employee quality of life, education, health, peace, poverty reduction, etc. (Nalen, 1985; Rygh, 2020; Montiel et al., 2021). They can also contribute to the development of sustainable technological innovations (Marcon, de Medeiros & Ribeiro, 2017) and the consolidation of economic ties between countries, thus fostering the creation of international actor dynamics and networks that can provide solutions to critical global issues. At this level, national and international trade systems can facilitate or hinder the role of MNEs in sustainability. Some systems, for example, can promote equitable wealth creation, while others cannot (Judge et al., 2014). Other macroeconomic factors can also impact the role of MNEs: the growth rate of countries or regions, demand, technological innovation, the labor market, education levels, etc. (Guth, 2009).

In a context of economic globalization and market liberalization towards developing countries, the economic fabric of emerging nations, particularly that of micro-enterprises and local or indigenous entrepreneurship, can constitute a viable economic market for multinational enterprises (MNEs). These MNEs can find opportunities for direct product sales, especially in geographically isolated areas, and can promote their economic and social development (Chelekis and Mudambi, 2010; De Lange, 2016), notably through the employability of local workers (Fortanier and Van Wijk, 2010) and access to low-cost raw materials (Ghauri and Rao, 2009). The mobilization of traditional know-how and a focus on a social and solidarity economy allow MNEs to bring high-value-added products to the market. However, the relationship between multinational enterprises and businesses in this sector is not straightforward. Multinational enterprises can make it challenging for local entrepreneurs, especially those whose core business relies on indigenous and traditional know-how and who have limited resources to compete with multinational corporations (Spencer, 2008). On the other hand, the indigenous economy can also benefit from investments from multinational enterprises to foster its development (Zhao, Ozer, Rong, & Mondejar, 2019). Furthermore, local entrepreneurs, especially those operating at the base of the pyramid, tend to place significant emphasis on social and sustainability performance aspects in their business strategies (Sinkovics et al., 2014; Tien et al., 2019), which can sometimes be at odds with the economic performance goals of multinational enterprises.

In recent years, the finance sector has witnessed significant development due to the emergence of the microfinance market and the economic and social development opportunities it generates, especially for the most disadvantaged socio-professional categories (Ault, 2016). International microcredit systems and networks can be beneficial for the development of high-performing local entrepreneurs, by creating local employment (Bruton et al., 2011) and promoting social actions that facilitate inclusion. The latitude and social mission of these institutions can be affected by international actors in the finance industry, which may exert pressure on MNEs in the sector to bring their strategic orientation regarding sustainable development (SD) and corporate social responsibility (CSR) more in line with profit expectations (Mersland et al., 2011; Serrano-Cinca and Gutierrez-Nieto, 2014).

The global institutional context can also influence the role played by MNEs. Institutions such as the Business Council for Sustainable Development (BCSD) and The *World Trade Organization* (*WTO*) have contributed since their inception to promoting free trade and facilitating international agreements aimed at achieving growth while addressing environmental issues (Schmidheiny, 1992). For example, the Generalized System of Preferences appears to favor exports from developing countries to developed countries, such as the United States (Seyoum, 2006). Government policies can also impact the role played by MNEs, particularly through wealth distribution and public goods management systems (Bucheli and Aguilera, 2010) or regulations and tax policies related to environmental protection or social issues (Duncan, 1992). Government measures to combat air pollution or reduce energy resource dependence can influence the strategic choices of MNEs regarding green production and technology. The level of government engagement in environmental or social transformation issues can serve as both a hindrance and a lever for MNEs (Dunning and Fortanier, 2007).

The international political context, including political regimes, national and international conflicts, wars, and terrorism, can also impact MNEs. Significant exposure to political conflicts in host countries can weaken the sustainability and survival of MNEs (Dai et al., 2013). However, an international trade policy promoting cooperation among countries can serve as a development lever (Henisz et al., 2010). Political instability, frequent regime changes, armed conflicts, or alliances between states can notably affect credit ratings (Lee, 1993) and the flow of investments (Li and Vashchilko, 2010). The role of crime rates in host countries also impacts investments from MNEs (Ramos and Ashby, 2013).

Terrorism and extreme situations also significantly influence the behavior of MNEs and their employees (Barnes and Oloruntoba, 2015; Jallat and Shultz, 2011). Overall, terrorism can pose both a direct and indirect threat to international business activities. Transaction costs can increase, thereby hindering the free flow of

goods and services, which can impact the performance of both national and international economic actors (Czinkota et al., 2005; Czinkota and Ronkainen, 2009). Increased political pressures also affect the quality of life for MNE workers and their performance levels. Stress can lead to negative interpersonal reactions towards host country nationals (Bader and Berg, 2013). In countries exposed to terrorism, employees often have to deal with strong intra-family, security-related tensions, which can significantly affect their workplace performance (Bader et al., 2015) and their level of organizational commitment (Reade and Lee, 2012). On the other hand, terrorist threats can sometimes encourage companies and their employees to become more resilient and some even benefit economically from these extreme conditions (Branzei and Abdelnour, 2010).

This call for contributions aims to investigate, from an integrative and interdisciplinary perspective, the influence of multiple economic, political, and institutional determinants on the strategies and practices of multinational enterprises in the context of major sociological transitions of our time. Submitted publications should closely address the following issue:

What are the factors that promote or hinder the implementation of actions by MNEs in support of major socio-ecological transitions, and what are the dynamics of macro- and micro-organizational interactions resulting from these contexts?

To address this question, we welcome theoretical reflections, empirical studies, and case studies that facilitate dialogue among researchers from disciplines such as economics, management, and political science. Below is an indicative list of research topics that authors may submit for consideration in this special issue, although other themes directly related to the main theme are also welcome:

National and International Policies and MNE

- Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Technology & innovation systems
- Environmental policies
- Trade & FDI policies
- Institutional environment

International Economic Ecosystem and MNE

- Sustainability & emerging market MNEs
- Green & circular economies
- Entrepreneurial ecosystems
- Sustainable & social entrepreneurship
- Digitalization & AI
- Green unicorns

International Partnerships and MNE

- Voice of the Global South in sustainable development
- Regional, national & international integration
- Bilateral & multilateral agreements
- Investing in people

Indigenous Knowledge Systems and MNE

- Indigenous knowledge & biodiversity
- Cultural-social dimensions of science and technology
- Indigenous knowledge transmission

- Responsible consumption and biopiracy

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and MNE

- Corporate governance frameworks
- Climate change & carbon emissions
- Responsible investment & energy transition
- Disclosure practices
- Corporate social responsibility & ethics

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and MNE:

- People, planet, peace & prosperity
- Technology & sustainable business models
- Investment & clean energy
- Poverty & inequality
- Health & well-being
- Education

References

Accenture & UN Global Compact (2016). Agenda 2030: A window of opportunity. The UN Gobal Compact-Accenture Strategy CEO Survey 2016. New York: Accenture.

Ault, J. K. (2016). An institutional perspective on the social outcome of entrepreneurship: Commercial microfinance and inclusive markets. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 47(8), 951–967.

Bader, B., and Berg, N. (2013). An empirical investigation of terrorism-induced stress on expatriate attitudes and performance. *Journal of International Management*, 19(2), 163–175.

Bader, B., Berg, N., and Holtbrügge, D. (2015). Expatriate performance in terrorism-endangered countries: The role of family and organizational support. *International Business Review*, 24(5), 849–860.

Barnes, P., and Oloruntoba, R. (2005). Assurance of security in maritime supply chains: Conceptual issues of vulnerability and crisis management. *Journal of International Management*, 11(4), 519–540.

Bashir, M. F. (2022). Discovering the evolution of Pollution Haven Hypothesis: A literature review and future research agenda. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, *29*(32), 48210-48232.

Berning, S. C. (2019). The role of multinational enterprises in achieving sustainable development-the case of Huawei. *European Journal of Sustainable Development*, *8*(3), 194-194.

Branzei, O., and Abdelnour, S. (2010). Another day, another dollar: Enterprise resilience under terrorism in developing countries. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 41(5), 804–825.

Bruton, G. D., Khavul, S., and Chavez, H. (2011). Microlending in emerging economies: Building a new line of inquiry from the ground up. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 42(5), 718–739.

Bu, M., Liu, Z., Wagner, M., & Yu, X. (2013). Corporate social responsibility and the pollution haven hypothesis: Evidence from multinationals' investment decision in China. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Accounting & Economics*, *20*(1), 85-99.

Bucheli, M., and Aguilera, R. V. (2010). Political survival, energy policies, and multinational corporations. *Management International Review*, 50(3), 347–378.

Business & Sustainable Development Commission (2017). Valuing the SDG prize. London: Business & Sustainable Development Commission.

Campbell, J. L. (2004). *Institutional change and globalization*. Princeton University Press.

Chelekis, J., and Mudambi, S. M. (2010). MNCs and micro-entrepreneurship in emerging economies: The case of Avon in the Amazon. *Journal of International Management*, 16(4), 412–424.

Copeland, B. R., & Taylor, M. S. (2004). Trade, growth, and the environment. *Journal of Economic literature*, *42*(1), 7-71.

Czinkota, M. R., and Ronkainen, I. A. (2009). Trends and indications in international business. *Management International Review*, 49(2), 249–265.

Czinkota, M. R., Knight, G. A., Liesch, P. W., and Steen, J. (2005). Positioning terrorism in management and marketing: Research propositions. *Journal of International Management*, 11(4), 581–604.

Dai, L., Eden, L., and Beamish, P. W. (2013). Place, space and geographical exposure: Foreign subsidiary survival in conflict zones. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 44(6), 554–578.

Donaldson, T., & Dunfee, T. W. (1999). *Ties that bind: A social contracts approach to business ethics*. Harvard Business School Press.

Donoher, W. J. (2017). The multinational and the legitimation of sustainable development. *Transnational Corporations*, 24(3), 49-60.

Duncan, N. E. (1992). The energy dimensions of sustainable development. *Columbia Journal of World Business*, 27(3/4), 164–173.

Dunning, J. H., & Fortanier, F. (2007). Multinational enterprises and the new development paradigm: Consequences for host country development. *Multinational Business Review*, *15*(1), 25-46.

Eang, M., Clarke, A., & Ordonez-Ponce, E. (2023). The roles of multinational enterprises in implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals at the local level. *BRQ Business Research Quarterly*, *26*(1), 79-97.

Eskeland, G. S., & Harrison, A. E. (2003). Moving to greener pastures? Multinationals and the pollution haven hypothesis. *Journal of development economics*, *70*(1), 1-23.

Fortanier, F., & Van Wijk, J. (2010). Sustainable tourism industry development in sub-Saharan Africa: Consequences of foreign hotels for local employment. *International Business Review*, *19*(2), 191-205.

Fossats-Vasselin, V., & Mayrhofer, U. (2018). Multinational enterprises and the challenges of globalization. *Global Phenomena and Social Sciences: An Interdisciplinary and Comparative Approach*, 37-47.

Frederiksen, C. S. (2010). The relation between policies concerning corporate social responsibility (CSR) and philosophical moral theories–an empirical investigation. *Journal of Business Ethics*, *93*, 357-371.

Gendron, C., Girard, B., Ivanaj, S., Ivanaj, V., & Friser, A. (2017). Rôle et responsabilités des hauts dirigeants face aux changements climatiques : réflexions à partir du cas de BP. *Entreprises et histoire*, (1), 34-53.

Ghauri, P. N. (2018). Multinational enterprises and sustainable development in emerging markets. *Global Phenomena and Social Sciences: An Interdisciplinary and Comparative Approach*, 21-36.

Ghauri, P. N., and Rao, P. M. (2009). Intellectual property, pharmaceutical MNEs and the developing world. *Journal of World Business*, 44(2), 206–215.

Guth, W. D. (2009). Developing new avenues for growth: Challenges presented by five trends in the global environment. *Journal of International Management*, 15(3), 251–261.

Hemingway, C. A., & Maclagan, P. W. (2004). Managers' personal values as drivers of corporate social responsibility. *Journal of business ethics*, *50*, 33-44.

Henisz, W. J., Mansfield, E. D., and Von Glinow, M. A. (2010). Conflict, security and political risk: International business in challenging times. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 41(5), 759–764.

Ivanaj, S., Ivanaj, V., McIntyre, J., & da Costa, N. G. (2021). What can multinational enterprises do to implement sustainable development goals?. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 296, 126586.

Ivanaj, V., Guimaraes Da Costa, N., Ivanova, O., Ivanaj, S., & Kar, R. N. (2013). Understanding MNEs' attitudes towards CSR: A literature review and research agenda. *Responsible Organization Review*, 8(2), 15-30.

Jallat, F., and Shultz, C. J. (2011). Lebanon: From cataclysm to opportunity–Crisis management lessons for MNCs in the tourism sector of the Middle East. *Journal of World Business*, 46(4), 476–486.

Judge, W. Q., Fainshmidt, S., and Brown, J. L. (2014). Which model of capitalism best delivers both wealth and equality? *Journal of International Business Studies*, 45(4), 363–386.

Kolk, A., & Pinkse, J. (2008). A perspective on multinational enterprises and climate change: Learning from "an inconvenient truth"?. *Journal of International Business Studies*, *39*, 1359-1378.

Kolk, A., & Van Tulder, R. (2010). International business, corporate social responsibility and sustainable development. *International business review*, *19*(2), 119-125.

Kolk, A., Kourula, A., & Pisani, N. (2017). Multinational enterprises and the sustainable development goals: what do we know and how to proceed?. *Transnational Corporations*, *24*(3), 9-32.

Kolk, A., Rivera-Santos, M., & Rufín, C. (2018). Multinationals, international business, and poverty: A cross-disciplinary research overview and conceptual framework. *Journal of International Business Policy*, 1, 92-115.

Lee, S. H. (1993). Relative importance of political instability and economic variables on perceived country creditworthiness. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 24(4), 801–812.

Li, Q. A., and Vashchilko, T. (2010). Dyadic military conflict, security alliances and bilateral FDI flows. *Journal of International Business Studies*, 41(5), 765–782.

Macharzina, K. (2000). European energy. *Management International Review*, 40(4), 303–305.

Marcon, A., de Medeiros, J. F., & Ribeiro, J. L. D. (2017). Innovation and environmentally sustainable economy: Identifying the best practices developed by multinationals in Brazil. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, *160*, 83-97.

Matten, D., & Moon, J. (2008). "Implicit" and "explicit" CSR: A conceptual framework for a comparative understanding of corporate social responsibility. *Academy of management Review*, *33*(2), 404-424.

McIntyre, J. R., Ivanaj, S., & Ivanaj, V. (Eds.). (2022). *The Role of Multinational Enterprises in Supporting the United Nations' SDGs*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

McWilliams, A., & Siegel, D. (2001). Corporate social responsibility: A theory of the firm perspective. *Academy of management review*, *26*(1), 117-127.

Mersland, R., Randoy, T., and Strom, R. O. (2011). The impact of international influence on microbanks' performance: A global survey. *International Business Review*, 20(2), 163–176.

Montiel, I., Cuervo-Cazurra, A., Park, J., Antolín-López, R., & Husted, B. W. (2021). Implementing the United Nations' sustainable development goals in international business. *Journal of International Business Studies*, *52*(5), 999-1030.

Musteen, M., Rhyne, L., and Zheng, C. C. (2013). Asset or constraint: Corporate reputation and MNCs; involvement in the least developed countries. Journal of World Business, 48(3), 321–328.

Nalen, C. A. (1985). THE ROLE OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN THIRD-WORLD DEVELOPMENT. *Columbia Journal of World Business*, *20*(4), 59-63.

Nylund, P. A., Brem, A., & Agarwal, N. (2021). Innovation ecosystems for meeting sustainable development goals: The evolving roles of multinational enterprises. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, *281*, 125329.

Orlitzky, M., Siegel, D. S., & Waldman, D. A. (2011). Strategic corporate social responsibility and environmental sustainability. *Business & society*, *50*(1), 6-27.

Parmar, B. L., Freeman, R. E., Harrison, J. S., Wicks, A. C., Purnell, L., & De Colle, S. (2010). Stakeholder theory: The state of the art. *Academy of Management Annals*, *4*(1), 403-445.

Peng, X., Li, J., Tang, Q., Lan, Y. C., & Cui, X. (2023). Do environmental scores become multinational corporations' strategic “greenwashing” tool for window-dressing carbon reduction? A cross-cultural analysis. *Business Strategy and the Environment*.

Ramos, M. A., and Ashby, N. J. (2013). Heterogeneous firm response to organized crime: Evidence from FDI in Mexico. *Journal of International Management*, 19(2), 176–194.

Reade, C., and Lee, H. J. (2012). Organizational commitment in time of war: Assessing the impact and attenuation of employee sensitivity to ethnopolitical conflict. *Journal of International Management*, 18(1), 85–101.

Rivera-Santos, M., and Rufin, C. (2010). Global village vs. small town: Understanding networks at the base of the pyramid. *International Business Review*, 19(2), 126–139.

Rygh, A. (2020). Social value creation by multinational enterprises: The next “Big Question” for international business research?. *Critical Perspectives on International Business*, *16*(1), 47-75.

Sachs, J. D., Schmidt-Traub, G., Mazzucato, M., Messner, D., Nakicenovic, N., & Rockström, J. (2019). Six transformations to achieve the sustainable development goals. *Nature sustainability*, *2*(9), 805-814.

Scherer, A. G., & Palazzo, G. (2011). The new political role of business in a globalized world: A review of a new perspective on CSR and its implications for the firm, governance, and democracy. *Journal of management studies*, *48*(4), 899-931.

Schmidheiny, S. (1992). The business logic of sustainable development. *Columbia Journal of World Business*, 27(3/4), 18–24.

Schönherr, N., Findler, F., & Martinuzzi, A. (2017). Exploring the interface of CSR and the sustainable development goals. Transnational Corporations, 24(3), 33-47.

Serrano-Cinca, C., and Gutierrez-Nieto, B. (2014). Microfinance, the long tail and mission drift. *International Business Review*, 23(1), 181–194.

Seyoum, B. (2006). US trade preferences and export performance of developing countries: Evidence from the generalized system of preferences. *International Business Review*, 15(1), 68–83.

Shapiro, D., Hobdari, B., & Oh, C. H. (2018). Natural resources, multinational enterprises and sustainable development. *Journal of World Business*, *53*(1), 1-14.

Sinkovics, N., & Archie-acheampong, J. 2019. The social value creation of MNEs—A literature review across multiple academic fields. Critical Perspectives on International Business, 16(1): 7–46.

Sinkovics, N., Sinkovics, R. R., and Yamin, M. (2014). The role of social value creation in business model formulation at the bottom of the pyramid – Implications for MNEs? *International Business Review*, 23(4), 692–707.

Spencer, J. W. (2008). The impact of multinational enterprise strategy on indigenous enterprises: Horizontal spillovers and crowding out in developing countries. *Academy of management review*, *33*(2), 341-361.

Terpstra-Tong, J. L. Y. (2017). MNE subsidiaries’ adoption of gender equality and women empowerment goal: A conceptual framework. *Transnational Corporations*, 24(3), 89-102

Tien, N. H., Anh, D. B. H., Ngoc, N. M., & Do Thi, Y. N. (2019). Sustainable social entrepreneurship in Vietnam. *International Journal of Entrepreneurship*, *23*(3), 1-12.

Tihanyi, L. 2020. From ‘‘that’s interesting’’ to ‘‘that’s important.’’ Academy of Management Journal, 63(2): 329–331.

Van Der Waal, J. W., Thijssens, T., & Maas, K. (2021). The innovative contribution of multinational enterprises to the Sustainable Development Goals. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, *285*, 125319.

Van Zanten, J. A., & Van Tulder, R. (2018). Multinational enterprises and the Sustainable Development Goals: An institutional approach to corporate engagement. *Journal of International Business Policy*, *1*, 208-233.

Witte, C., & Dilyard, J. (2017). Guest editors' introduction to the special issue: The contribution of multinational enterprises to the Sustainable Development Goals. *Transnational Corporations*, *24*(3), 1-8.

Yamin, M., and Sinkovics, R. R. (2009). Infrastructure or foreign direct investment? An examination of the implications of MNE strategy for economic development. *Journal of World Business*, 44(2), 144–157.

Yang, Z., Nguyen, T. T. H., Nguyen, H. N., Nguyen, T. T. N., & Cao, T. T. (2020). Greenwashing behaviours: Causes, taxonomy and consequences based on a systematic literature review. *Journal of Business Economics and Management*, *21*(5), 1486-1507.

Zhao, H., Ozer, M., Rong, W., & Mondejar, R. (2019). Do management innovations of indigenous firms benefit from managerial spillovers from multinational enterprises? *Management International Review*, *59*, 919-947.

Submission procedure

Manuscripts (in French or English) should be sent by email to specialissuemne@gmail.com no later than March 6, 2025. They must adhere to the standards outlined in Management international's editorial policy. They will be peer-reviewed following the traditional double-blind review process. The publication of the special issue is scheduled for fall 2026.

Editorial Team

Vera Ivanaj is currently a Full Professor of Management Science at the University of Lorraine, based at the National School of Chemical Industries in Nancy. She has an international professional background and draws on transdisciplinary knowledge acquired through extensive teaching and research experience in the human and social sciences. Her research work is published internationally in various well-known academic journals and books, covering strategic management, sustainable development, innovation, entrepreneurship, art, and organizational aesthetics. Vera conducts her research within the "CEREFIGE" laboratory (EA 3942). She is the co-founder and co-organizer of the international conference “Multinational Enterprises and Sustainable Development (MESD).” Additionally, Vera is an abstract painter, exploring complex philosophical concepts such as life, energy, and movement in her artistic creations.

Silvester Ivanaj is currently the Head of Research and Professor at ICN Business School in Nancy, France. With a multidisciplinary background encompassing information systems, sustainability, and management, he brings over 25 years of expertise in managerial education, information systems development, and entrepreneurship. Silvester holds a Ph.D. in Geosciences from the National Polytechnic Institute of Lorraine and a second Ph.D. in Business Administration from the University of Paris 12 Est – Créteil. He has made significant contributions to the academic literature with numerous peer-reviewed articles and books, focusing on areas such as sustainability, virtual team management, and transdisciplinary research. As a co-founder of

the MESD conference, he actively promotes discussions on sustainable development. Additionally, he has been the Editor-in-Chief of the International Review of Psychosociology and Organizational Behavior Management (RIPCO) since 2019. His commitment to advancing knowledge and fostering innovation is reflected in his numerous teaching, research, and editorial activities.

Niti Bhasin is Professor at the Department of Commerce, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, India and has a teaching and research experience of more than 23 years. She is the Coordinator of International Relations and also heads the 'International Business' area of the Ph. D. programme of the Department. She has also served as the Chairperson of Lady Irwin College, University of Delhi. A University topper (Gold medalist) in the M. Com. Examination (2000) of University of Delhi, she has authored books in the areas of foreign direct investment; Indian financial system; and ease of doing business. Her areas of specialization include international trade policy, multinational enterprises and sustainable development, and foreign direct investment. Dr. Bhasin has contributed research papers in journals of repute including Journal of Business Research, Multinational Business Review, and Journal of International Trade and Economic Development and regularly writes articles for news media platforms.

John R. McIntyre is the founder and director of the Georgia Tech Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) and a tenured Professor of international business management and international economic relations. He primarily serves in the Scheller College of Business and has a joint appointment in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. He has published in over a hundred research publications and trade journals and is the author and co-editor of fourteen books. Dr. McIntyre has been co-chair of the U.S.-India Business Summit (USIBS) and co-founder of the Multinational Enterprises and Sustainable Development (MESD) consortium and the ChinaGoesGlobal Inc. annual conference. He is a recipient of the Georgia Governor's International Business Education Award (September 2009) and the annual Georgia Tech Steven A. Denning Faculty Award for Global Engagement (2015). He is a Fellow of the Academy of International Business (Southeast). He was made a Knight of the National Order of Merit by France in 2009 for supporting French and European investment in the Southeast U.S. He was named an honorary professor of management at the ICN Graduate School of Business, University of Lorraine, France, in 2017. He served as an elected member of the Georgia Institute of Technology Faculty Executive Board and co-chair of its Globalization Task Force. His areas of expertise include global business and corporate strategy, export-import management, comparative management, international technology transfer, international political economy, trade and investment regulatory frameworks, the multinational enterprise, and sustainable development.