Alice Evans's Hope for Reform: corporate-accountability research in its 2018 context

Working-paper year: 2018

Independent historical commentary. This is not the former publisher's PDF or a recovered translation.

A research note identifying Alice Evans's 2018 working-paper title while distinguishing it from her later 2019 peer-reviewed study of reform expectations and campaign mobilization.

The 2018 paper identity

A UCL event page from October 2018 identifies Alice Evans's paper as "Hope for Reform: Strengthening Corporate Accountability in Global Supply Chains." That establishes the historical working-paper title and its setting, but does not verify that a formerly hosted PDF was an exact version of the paper. UCL's event record is evidence of the title, not a substitute for a verified manuscript text.

The later publication

In 2019, Evans published the peer-reviewed article "Overcoming the Global Despondency Trap: Strengthening Corporate Accountability in Supply Chains." The later study draws on 140 interviews in ten European countries and examines how visible reform successes can affect campaigners' expectations. The King's College London record documents that publication and its research basis. The 2019 article is related to the 2018 paper by author and subject, but the available records do not establish identical versions or interchangeable titles.

Our analysis: Keeping the two records distinct protects the chronology and the claims that can be attached to each. The 2018 event supports identification of a working paper; the later publication record supports the interview count and its account of reform expectations. Evidence from the latter should not be retroactively attributed to an unverified earlier text.

Research alongside legal change

The subject sits within a wider corporate-accountability debate, but the paper and the law occupy different evidentiary roles. Evans's later work offers a scholarly explanation of how campaigners may respond to perceived opportunities for reform. It is not a court decision, a statutory duty, or proof that a particular legal measure produced the dynamics she studies.

Our analysis: For legal history, the useful connection is interpretive rather than evidentiary substitution. Research about mobilization can help frame why accountability campaigns persist or change direction; it cannot establish the content or legal effect of a specific supply-chain rule. This newly written note distinguishes the documented working-paper identity from the later related article without claiming to reproduce either.

Original sources and reporting

UCL: 2018 event identifying Alice Evans's Hope for Reform paper
https://www.ucl.ac.uk/laws/events/2018/oct/using-corporate-toolkit-fix-public-ills

King's College London: Overcoming the Global Despondency Trap
https://kclpure.kcl.ac.uk/portal/en/publications/overcoming-the-global-despondency-trap-strengthening-corporate-ac

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HTML note: https://bhrinlaw.org/articles/alice-evans-hope-for-reform-2018/