



08

March
2021

3–4.15 p.m. (CET)



Report launch

Multinational Enterprises and the International Transmission of Gender Policies and Practices



SOFIA KARADIMA

Senior Editor & Researcher,
Investment Monitor

Sofia Karadima is a senior editor and researcher at *Investment Monitor*, focusing on FDI in financial services and ESG investing. Prior to Investment Monitor, she covered institutional investment across private markets for financial news and research provider Acuris. She has reported on private equity, venture capital, private debt and infrastructure, among other topics. Sofia is currently based in London, after living in Chile, Denmark, Spain and Greece.





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ISABELLE DURANT

Acting Secretary-General UNCTAD

Ms. Isabelle Durant (Belgium) took office as Acting Secretary-General of UNCTAD on 16 February 2021, after over three years as UNCTAD's Deputy Secretary-General. Ms. Durant had a distinguished career in Belgian and European politics. She held the offices of Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Transport and Energy and Senator in the Belgian Government. She also served as Vice-President of the European Parliament and Presidency of the European Union Council of Ministers of Transport. Ms. Durant has a wealth of experience collaborating with civil society and the private sector as well, notably as the Vice-President responsible for relations between the European Parliament and civil society. Finally, Ms. Durant has held posts as a senior consultant on the empowerment of women in local government for the UNDP and as a member of Parliament of the Brussels-Capital Region in Belgium.





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JAMES ZHAN

Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, UNCTAD

James Zhan is senior director at UNCTAD. He leads the *World Investment Report* and is editor-in-chief of the *Transnational Corporations Journal*. He chairs the Governing Board of the UN Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative (with members of major stock exchanges worldwide). He has also provided policy advice to numerous governments (including heads of states and cabinets) and parliaments. He led the formulation of global guidelines for a new generation of investment policies and the establishment of the World Investment Forum. He is chief strategist for the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies and was Global Agenda Council member of the World Economic Forum. He has held several advisory positions in academic institutions (including Cambridge University, Columbia University, Cornell University, Oxford University and the University of Geneva). He has published extensively on trade, investment and technology-related economic and legal issues.



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JENNIFER POOLE

Associate Professor, School of
International Service, American
University, Washington

Jennifer P. Poole is Assistant Professor of Economics in the School of International Services at the American University. Professor Poole's research and teaching interests fall at the intersection of international trade, labor economics, and development economics. With an emphasis on Brazil, her broad research agenda considers the effects of global integration on local labor markets. She also studies the role of labor institutions in influencing local adjustments to shocks and the implications of information transfer in trade and investment. Her research has been published in the *Journal of Development Economics*, the *Journal of International Economics*, and the *Review of Economics and Statistics*, and has been funded by the National Science Foundation. She recently served as Senior International Economist in President Obama's Council of Economic Advisers and has also served as a visiting scholar at the World Bank, among other institutions. She holds a PhD in Economics, University of California, San Diego and BA in Economics from Smith College in the United States.





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AMELIA U. SANTOS-PAULINO

Chief, Investment Issues Section,
Division on Investment and
Enterprises, UNCTAD

Amelia U. Santos-Paulino is Chief of the Investment Research Section Chief of Investment Issues Section at UNCTAD's Division on Investment and Enterprise, and Deputy Editor of the Transnational Corporations Journal. Before joining UNCTAD, she was Research Fellow and Project Director in the United Nations University's World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER) in Helsinki, Research Fellow in the University of Sussex's Institute of Development Studies, and Senior Research Economist in the Central Bank of the Dominican Republic. She served as Senior Adviser of the Dominican Republic's Government on International Trade and Investment for the negotiations of the US-DR-CAFTA Free Trade Agreement, amongst other full-time posts within the civil service and academia of the Dominican Republic. She has also held visiting posts at the University of California, Davis, the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Fudan University in Shanghai, and the Asian Development Bank Institute in Tokyo. Her work has been published in journals including the Economic Journal, Cambridge Journal of Economics, and World Development, and has also edited books published by Oxford University Press and Cambridge University Press. She holds PhD and MA degrees in Economics from the University of Kent in the UK.





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SIMEON DJANKOV

Policy Director with the Financial Markets Group at the London School of Economics and Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics

Simeon Djankov is a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. Prior to joining the Institute, Djankov was deputy prime minister and minister of finance of Bulgaria from 2009 to 2013. Prior to his cabinet appointment, Djankov was chief economist of the finance and private sector vice presidency of the World Bank, as well as senior director for development economics. He is the founder of the World Bank's *Doing Business* and *Women, Business and the Law* projects. He is author of *Inside the Euro Crisis: An Eyewitness Account* (2014), author of the *World Development Report 2002*, co-author of *Europe's Growth Challenge* (2016) and director of *World Development Report 2019*. He is also coeditor of *The Great Rebirth: Lessons from the Victory of Capitalism over Communism* (2014) and *Covid-19 in Developing Economies* (2020).

Djankov is policy director of the Financial Markets Group at the London School of Economics. Previously he was rector of the New Economic School in Russia and a visiting lecturer at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. He was associate editor of the *Journal of Comparative Economics* from 2004 to 2009 and chairman of the Board of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in 2012–13. He has published over 90 articles in professional journals. He obtained his doctorate in economics in 1997 from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.





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HIAU LOOI KEE

Lead Economist, Development
Research Group, World Bank

Hiau Looi Kee is a Lead Economist with the Trade Team of the World Bank Research Department. Her research focuses on trade and productivity growth at the firm and aggregate levels. Her current projects include studying the global value chains and domestic value added in exports, large scale estimations of trade policy measurements in terms of import demand elasticities, ad valorem equivalent of non-tariff measures and trade restrictiveness indexes. Her work has been published in top general interests and field journals, such as the *American Economic Review*, *Review of Economics and Statistics* and the *Journal of International Economics*. She has a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California at Davis.





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CAROL NEWMAN

Professor in Economics at the Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin and Head of the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy

Carol Newman is a professor of economics at the Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin. Her research is in the microeconomics of development with a focus on household and enterprise behaviour. She has published widely in the fields of development and agricultural economics.

She is engaged in research projects across Africa and South East Asia. She is a research associate of the Development Economics Research Group at the University of Copenhagen, and a consultant to the World Bank. She is currently Head of the School of Social Sciences and Philosophy in Trinity College Dublin, and is a co-founder of the Trinity Impact Evaluation Unit (TIME). She is also a non-resident research fellow of UNU-WIDER.



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VANINA FARBER

Elea Chair for Social Innovation
and director for center of social
innovation at IMD, Lausanne

Vanina Farber is an economist and political scientist specializing on social innovation, entrepreneurship and corporate social responsibility, with also almost twenty years of teaching, researching and consultancy experience, working with academic institutions, multinational corporations and international organizations. She is the holder of the elea Chair for Social Innovation. Prior to IMD, Vanina was Professor and Chair of Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Social Inclusion at Universidad del Pacífico, Peru, where she also was the Dean of the Graduate School of Business from 2014 to 2016. From 2005 to 2017 she was also an Adjunct Professor for IE Business School, Spain. Vanina holds a Bachelor in Political Science from Universidad de Buenos Aires and an M.A. in Economics and PhD in business administration (economics) from the University of Memphis in the USA.





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VICTOR VAN VUUREN

Director, Enterprises Department,
International Labour Organization

Victor is Director of the Enterprises Department at the International Labour Organization in Geneva since 2016. After completing a law degree Victor started his working career at the South African Department of Justice as a public prosecutor and magistrate. Thereafter he moved into the private sector as a corporate legal advisor and human resources director at executive level in large corporates. In February 2009 Victor was appointed as Director of ILO's Southern and Eastern Africa.

Victor is currently the chair of both PAGE (Partnership for Action in the Green Economy) and the UNTFSSSE (United Nations Task Force of the Social and Solidarity Economy), a board member of the Business Coalition on Social and Human Capital and a founding member and board member of the Geneva Innovation Movement Association (GIM). Victor served on the South African Council for Higher Education, the National Economic Development and Labour Council, the International Labour Organisation Governing Body, the Council of the Pan African Employers' Confederation and the South African Power Utility Research Advisory Board.

