

**EDEN Etica, Diritto, Economia Normativa
Seminario**

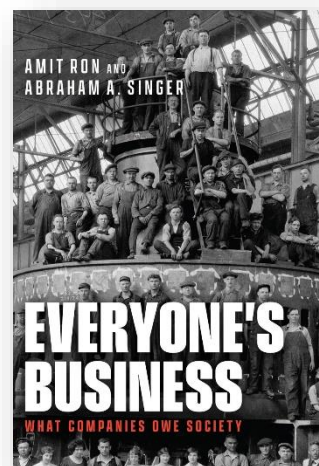
**Businesses as a Political Actor:
Responsibilities in a Democratic Society**

Discussion of Amit Ron and Abraham A. Singer's
Everyone's Business. What Companies Owe Society (University of Chicago Press, 2024)

May 8, 2025, h. 4:30-6:30 pm, Biblioteca di Politeia
Università degli Studi di Milano, Via Festa del Perdono 7

Businesses are political actors. They not only fund political campaigns, take stances on social issues, and wave the flags of identity groups – they also affect politics in their everyday hiring and investment decisions. As a highly polarized public demands political alignment from the powerful businesses they deal with, what's a company to do?

Amit Ron and Abraham Singer show that the unavoidably political role of companies in modern life is both the fundamental problem and inescapable fact of business ethics: corporate power makes business ethics necessary, and business ethics must strive to mitigate corporate power. Because of its economic and social influence, Ron and Singer forcefully argue that modern business's primary social responsibility is to democracy. Businesses must work to avoid wielding their power in ways that undermine key democratic practices like elections, public debate, and social movements.



Program

- 4:15 pm Registration of participants
- 4:30 pm Chair: **Giulia Bistagnino** (Università degli Studi di Milano; Politeia)
- 4:45 pm Introduction: **Amit Ron** (Arizona State University)
- 5:00 pm Discussants:
Chiara Destri (Goethe University, Frankfurt a.M.)
Lorenzo Sacconi (Università degli Studi di Milano)
- 5:45 pm Author's response and discussion

Scientific Committee: Emilio D'Orazio, Francesco Ferraro, Nicola Riva

The seminar will be in presence only. Free admission subject to registration to: info@politeia-centrostudi.org