

Big Pharma e accesso alle cure. La questione della responsabilità d'impresa tra etica e mercato

PAOLA RUSSO

Abstract: In this paper I examine the difficult relationship between multinational pharmaceutical companies and human rights. In the first part I focus on the philosophical, political and legal aspects of this relationship, the main question being whether or not healthcare access can be considered as a human right which can be enforced against pharmaceutical companies. In fact, although pharmaceutical companies are private transnational actors, they play a huge role in terms of responsibility. In the second part I emphasize that healthcare access is a global issue which is to be faced through a transnational cooperation between WHO, ONGs and pharmaceutical companies. In the third part I deal with the policy of Sanofi, which seems to be more open and sensitive to healthcare access issues, as we have seen in the strategy of social responsibility and sustainability carried out over the years by this company.

Keywords: Pharmaceutical companies, Healthcare access, Human rights, Social responsibility.