Giustizia Globale e Standard di responsabilità sociale: uno sguardo critico

Global Justice and Corporate Social Responsibility Standards: A Critical View

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Abstract: Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) standards can help multinational corporations to play a positive role in global justice, in two ways. First, by defining substantive requirements, CSR standards can help corporations to identify specific practices that realize general principles of justice. Second, by codifying 'responsible behavior', CSR standards enable all stakeholders to verify effective compliance with stated principles. However, CSR standards may generate a "paradox": The more an organization focuses its efforts in implementing CSR standards, the higher is the risk that a thoughtless, blind and blinkered mindset emerges. The paper discusses three problems that might be at the root of this Paradox: i) deceptive measurements; ii) responsibility erosion and iii) blinkered culture. It applies the perspective of American Pragmatism to analyze these problems and to suggest a number of considerations that could help both CSR standards developers and users to address the paradox.

Keywords: Global justice, Corporate social responsibility, Standards, Paradox, Pragmatism.