



Shareholders' Duties

Edited by
Hanne S. Birkmose



Wolters Kluwer

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Shareholders' Duties

European Company Law Series

VOLUME 12

Editor

Steeff Bartman, professor of company law at Leiden University in The Netherlands and lawyer at DLA Piper. The editorial board, made up of leading company law experts from around Europe, ensures that each book is topical, well-written and practical.

Introduction

The European Company Law Series is closely linked to the bimonthly journal *European Company Law*, also published by Kluwer Law International.

Contents/Subjects

The series covers subjects of company law in a broad sense, including insolvency, co-determination and securities law. Topical issues such as merger control, corporate governance, and piercing the corporate veil have been covered.

Objective of Series

Analysis of topical or complex subjects in European company law.

Readership

Academics; regulators; practitioners.

The titles published in this series are listed at the end of this volume.

Editor and Contributors

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Dr Chiu is co-Director of the UCL Centre for Ethics and Law, a research centre focused on thinking and development in topical issues of business and society, law, regulation and ethics, the professions and ethics, and ethical dimensions in medicine and technology. The Centre of Ethics and Law may be found at the website below:

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Preface

Corporate governance discussions in Europe on shareholders' rights have increasingly been replaced by discussions on shareholders' duties. This trend is reflected in company and capital market law, where duties towards investee companies and stakeholders increasingly are imposed on shareholders. Thus, the traditional perception in company law, where shareholders have no duties, is challenged. There is not only a growing pressure from academia and politicians to see shareholders as holders of rights as well as having duties, shareholders already have a number of duties in company law and capital market law in Europe. However, a comprehensive view on shareholders' duties has not yet been given. Consequently, the aim of this book is not only to examine the duties, which have been imposed on shareholders in company law and capital market law, but also to consider where this trend is taking shareholders.

The book is part of the research project 'Shareholders' Duties'. I would like to thank the Danish Council for Independent Research for their financial support for this project. Moreover, I am very grateful for the inspiration and support from the research group working on the project: Professor Florian Möslin, Philipps-University of Marburg; Professor Mette Neville, Aarhus University; Professor Karsten Engsig Sørensen, Aarhus University; Senior Lecturer Konstantinos Sergakis, University of Glasgow; Assistant Professor Therese Strand, Copenhagen Business School and Post-doc Kristinn Reynisson, Aarhus University. Finally, I would like to thank secretary at the Department of Law, Gitte Schneider and Jacob Friis, student of law at Aarhus University, for their valuable help in the editing process, and UK lawyer-linguist Steven Harris for help on the editing of the language.

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