# Enforcing Health and Safety Regulation

A Comparative Economic Approach

# Enforcing Health and Safety Regulation A Comparative Economic Approach

### DISSERTATION

to obtain the degree of Doctor at the Maastricht University, on the authority of the Rector Magnificus, Prof. dr. L.L.M. Soete in accordance with the decision of the Board of Deans, to be defended in public on Friday 26 October 2012, at 12.00 hours

by

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For my dad

Tėčiui

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

I have yet to see any problem, however complicated, which when you looked at it the right way did not become still more complicated.

Poul Anderson

These lines capture well how I have experienced the PhD writing process, which is brought to a close by this publication. While at the beginning of PhD research four years seemed to be plenty of time to acquire an abundance of knowledge to answer my research concerns, at the end of it I see that a PhD thesis is actually just a modest start in grasping a fascinating subject, which often raises at least as many questions as it answers. In any case, authoring a PhD was a pleasant experience and I am grateful to many people for this.

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Laura Tilindytė Maastricht, July 2012

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#### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACoP Approved Code of Practice

ALRC Australian Law Reform Commission

ArbSchG Arbeitsschutzgesetz (German Health and Safety Act)
BAuA Bundesanstalt für Arbeitsschutz und Arbeitsmedizin

(Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health)

BetrVG Betriebsverfassungsgesetz (German Works Constitution

Act)

BGs Berufsgenossenschaften (German statutory accident

insurers)

BERR Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory

Reform (now Department for Business, Innovation

and Skills)

BRE Better Regulation Executive

CCA Centre for Corporate Accountability

CJEU Court of Justice of the European Union (former ECJ)

COE Council of Europe

CPS Crown Prosecution Service

dB Decibel

DGUV Deutsche Gesetzliche Unfallversicherung (German

Statutory Accident Insurance)

EC European Community

ECHR European Convention for the Protection of Human

Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

ECSR European Committee of Social Rights
EMM Enforcement Management Model
EPS Enforcement Policy Statement

EU European Union

e.V. eingetragener Verein (incorporated society)

FOD Field Operations Directorate

GB Great Britain

GDA Gemeinsame Deutsche Arbeitsschutzstrategie (Common

German OHS Strategy)

GDP Gross Domestic Product

#### List of Abbreviations

GNP Gross National Product

HELA HSE and the Local Authorities Enforcement Liaison

Committee

HSC Health and Safety Commission
HSE Health and Safety Executive
HSL Health and Safety Laboratory
HSWA Health and Safety at Work Act

IA Impact Assessment

IALI International Association of Labour Inspection

IEE Initial Enforcement Expectation
ILO International Labour Organization

IT Information Technology

LASI Länderausschuss für Arbeitsschutz und Sicherheitstechnik

(Committee for OHS and Safety Engineering)

LFS Labour Force Survey
MSDs Musculoskeletal Disorders
NAO National Audit Office

OECD Organization for Economic Co-operation and

Development

OHS Occupational Health and Safety
ONS Office for National Statistics
ORR Office of the Rail Regulator

OSHA American Occupational Safety and Health Agency
OWiG Ordnungswidrigkeitengesetz (German Administrative

Offences Act)

PSD Pesticides Safety Directorate
QMV Qualified Majority Voting
RDM Regulatory Decision Making

RESA Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions Act

RIA Regulatory Impact Assessment

RIDDOR Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous

Occurrences Regulations

SGB Sozialgesetzbuch (German Social Code)
SLIC Senior Labour Inspectors' Committee
SMEs Small-and-Medium-Sized Enterprises
StGB Strafgesetzbuch (German Criminal Code)

SuGA Sicherheit und Gesundheit bei der Arbeit (German OHS

reports)

TEU Treaty on European Union

TFEU Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

TUC Trade Union Congress
UK United Kingdom
US United States

VwVfG Verwaltungsverfahrensgesetz (German Administrative

Procedure Law)

WHO World Health Organization

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