

### **Scott Summers: Corporations and their right to human rights**

In recent years there has been an increasing interest in the rights of corporations and the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), particularly in the context of EU cartel enforcement proceedings. In light of this, the paper therefore seeks to assess (i) whether corporations have human rights protection, (ii) whether corporations should have human rights protection, and (iii) why one would want corporations to have this protection. The paper is split into three sections to effectively answer each of these questions. The first part considers the preliminary — and subsequent — drafting of the Convention and interpretation afforded to it by the courts through its case law. The second part analyses the arguments for and against corporations having human rights protection under the ECHR. The third part of the paper conducts a detailed case study of the Yukos Oil case to illustrate and highlight the importance of corporations having human rights protection.

The paper identifies that corporations can have their human rights protected under the ECHR and it provides a variety of reasons for why a corporation needs its human rights protected and why this is desirable, particularly in the context of EU cartel enforcement proceedings.