

Mobilizing global investor action on business and human rights



INVESTOR ALLIANCE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
AN INITIATIVE OF ICCR

While a growing number of mainstream investors are integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria into their investment activities, addressing human rights risks remains widely neglected. These risks pose a threat to stakeholders and communities, and can become liabilities for businesses.

Founded in 2018, the Investor Alliance for Human Rights is the first of its kind network of over **200 global responsible investors** committed to using their collective power to promote the corporate responsibility to respect human rights to mitigate these potential risks. Examples of corporate human rights risks include supply chains tainted by forced labor, financial ties to conflict-affected areas or repressive regimes, and infringements on civil liberties such as the illegal surveillance of citizens and violations of data privacy.

The Investor Alliance equips its members with the necessary skills and guidance to embed respect for human rights into their own policies and practices and, via shareholder engagement, those of their portfolio companies.

We do this by:



Capacity-building

through the provision of practical tools, workshops, subject matter expertise, and targeted guidance grounded in the **UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)** and its human rights due diligence framework;



Coordinating and resourcing corporate engagements

that embed respect for human rights into corporate policies and practices; and



Advocating for standard setting and policymaking

that foster an enabling environment for the uptake of corporate and investor human rights responsibilities.



Subject Matter Expertise and an Active Membership Committed to Driving Change

Our **staff** are experts in the field of business and human rights and would welcome an introductory call to better familiarize you with our work. The Investor Alliance is known for:

- ✓ **AGILITY.** Our rapid response enables investors to maximize their collective impact with both companies and policymakers on urgent and emergent human rights issues.
- ✓ **GROUND-TRUTHING.** We ensure that our engagements on business and human rights concerns are informed by the perspectives of impacted rights-holders.
- ✓ **RIGOR.** Our engagements are held to the highest international business and human rights standards, including the UNGPs and OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises, to assess, disclose, and drive responsible business and investor conduct.



Navigating Multiple Human Rights Risks in the Tech Sector

The Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) sector has a vital role to play in realizing human rights yet these same technologies can be misused to stifle dissent, spread hate speech, and violate privacy rights. The Investor

Alliance resources and coordinates investor engagements with companies in the ICT sector, and has developed a series of **six briefings** that illustrate the multiple digital rights risks and offer investors guidance to address them.



Helping Investors 'Walk their Human Rights Talk'

Under the UNGPs investors have a responsibility to conduct their own human rights due diligence. Through practical guidance, tools and illustrative case studies, our **Investor Toolkit on Human Rights** supports investors' implementation of the UNGPs

in their institutional policies and practices and throughout the investment lifecycle.

Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas are High-Risk Investments

The Investor Alliance coordinates a collective investor engagement with over 60 companies that are either sourcing from or otherwise connected to the **Uyghur Region in Xinjiang, China** where concerns about the illegal surveillance of Uyghur peoples and the prevalence of Uyghur forced labor in multiple sectors are rife. The **Myanmar military** coup and ongoing repression of democracy activists and the **Russian invasion of Ukraine** have prompted calls for heightened human rights due diligence from investors.



Leveling the Field on Business and Human Rights

The Investor Alliance and its members use their considerable leverage to voice their support for legislation, regulation, and standards that can address corporate human rights impacts more systemically. Interventions include convening investor voices in support of **mandatory human rights due diligence** in the EU and digital rights regulations, among others.



We invite you to join us!

Membership in the Investor Alliance is currently free and open to all institutional investors. To learn more about membership, please read our **membership principles**, contact **Rebecca DeWinter-Schmitt** at rdewinter@iccr.org and visit our website at www.investorsforhumanrights.org.

The Investor Alliance for Human Rights is an initiative of the **Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)**.



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