



INVESTOR ALLIANCE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
AN INITIATIVE OF ICCR

SIZING UP BIG TELECOM ON HUMAN RIGHTS INSIGHTS FOR INVESTORS

 **The 2022 Telco Giants**
 **Scorecard**

January 17, 2023
11am – 12pm EST

Speakers:



Dr Jan Rydzak
Investor Engagement Manager
Ranking Digital Rights



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Stewardship Analyst
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Signal over Noise: RDR's 2022 Telco Giants Scorecard

Jan Rydzak, PhD
Ranking Digital Rights
Company & Investor Engagement Manager

January 17, 2023
Investor Alliance for Human Rights webinar



Ranking
Digital
Rights



**NEW
AMERICA**



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Who are we?

Ranking Digital Rights
evaluates the world's most
powerful digital platforms and
telcos on their disclosed policies
and practices affecting freedom
of expression and privacy.



RDR's pillars of disclosure

GOVERNANCE

- Human rights policy commitment
- Governance and management oversight
- Training and whistleblower protection
- Human rights due diligence
- Stakeholder engagement
- Remedy processes

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

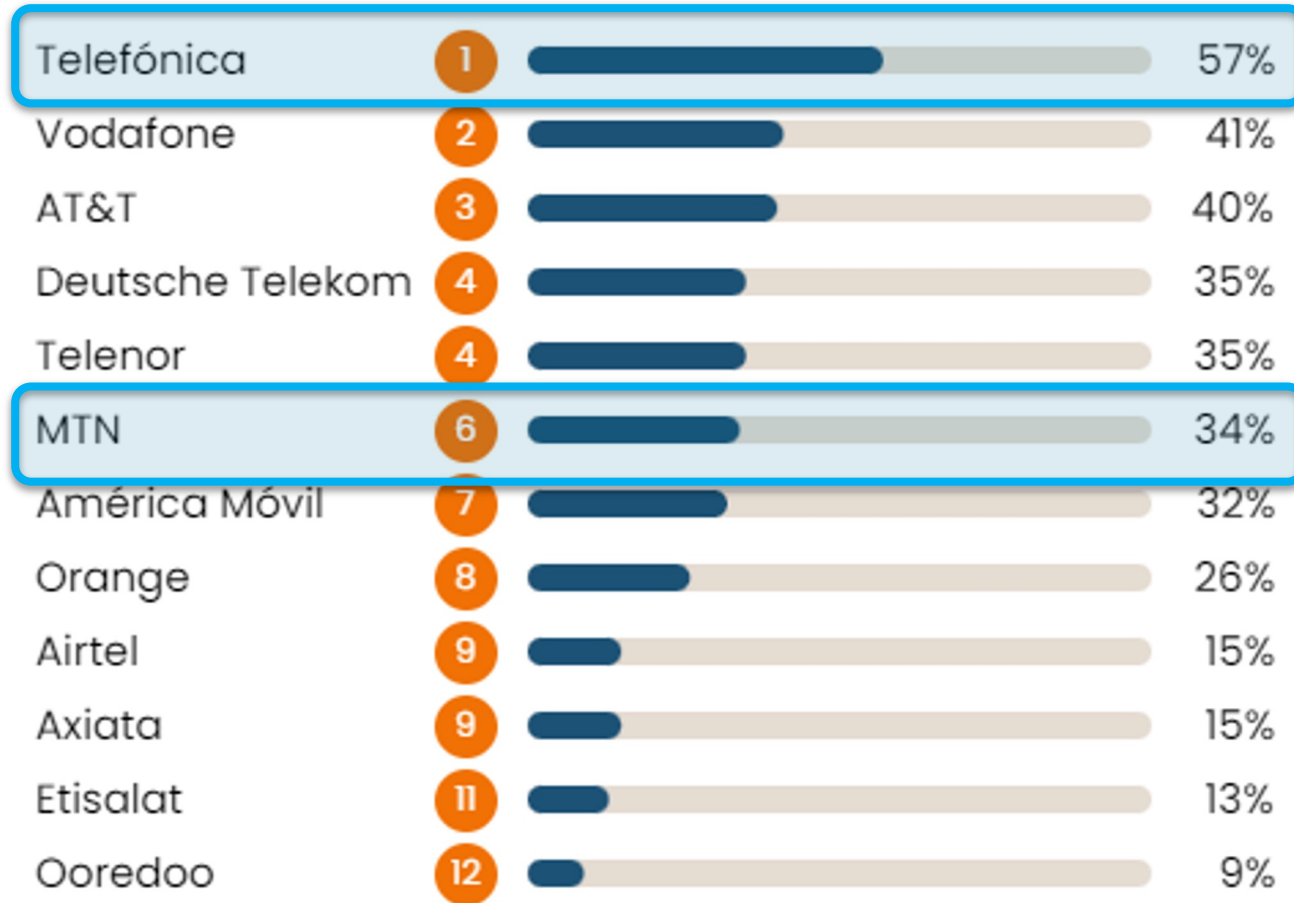
- Access to terms / rules
- Transparency about how policies are enforced
- Government and private demands to **restrict content or access to service**
- Identity policies
- Network management and shutdowns

PRIVACY

- Access to privacy policies
- Collection and handling of user information
- Government and private demands for **user data**
- Security

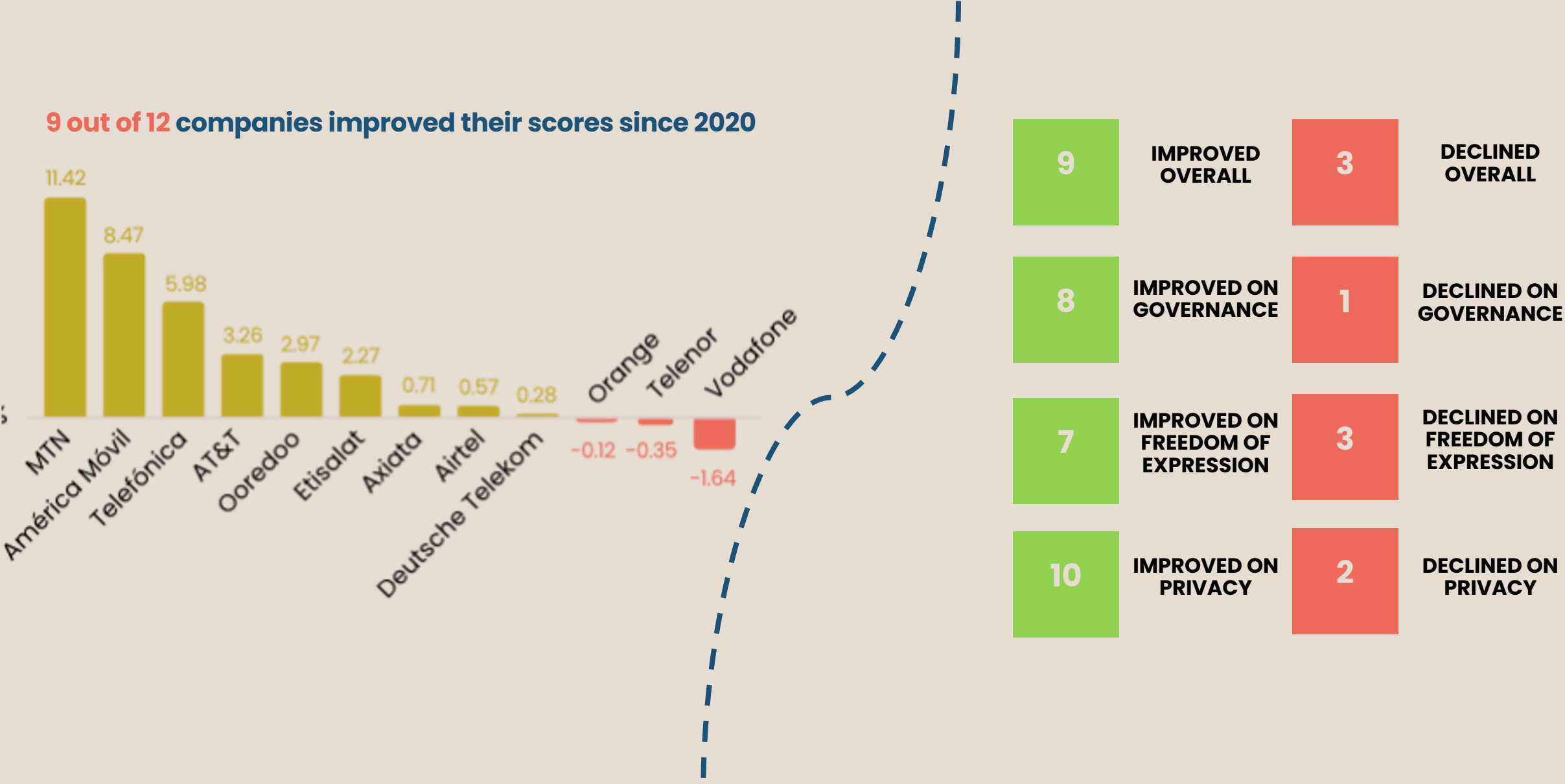
58 indicators, ~350 questions

The 2022 Telco Giants Scorecard



12 companies, **5** continents, **10** jurisdictions, **350 questions**

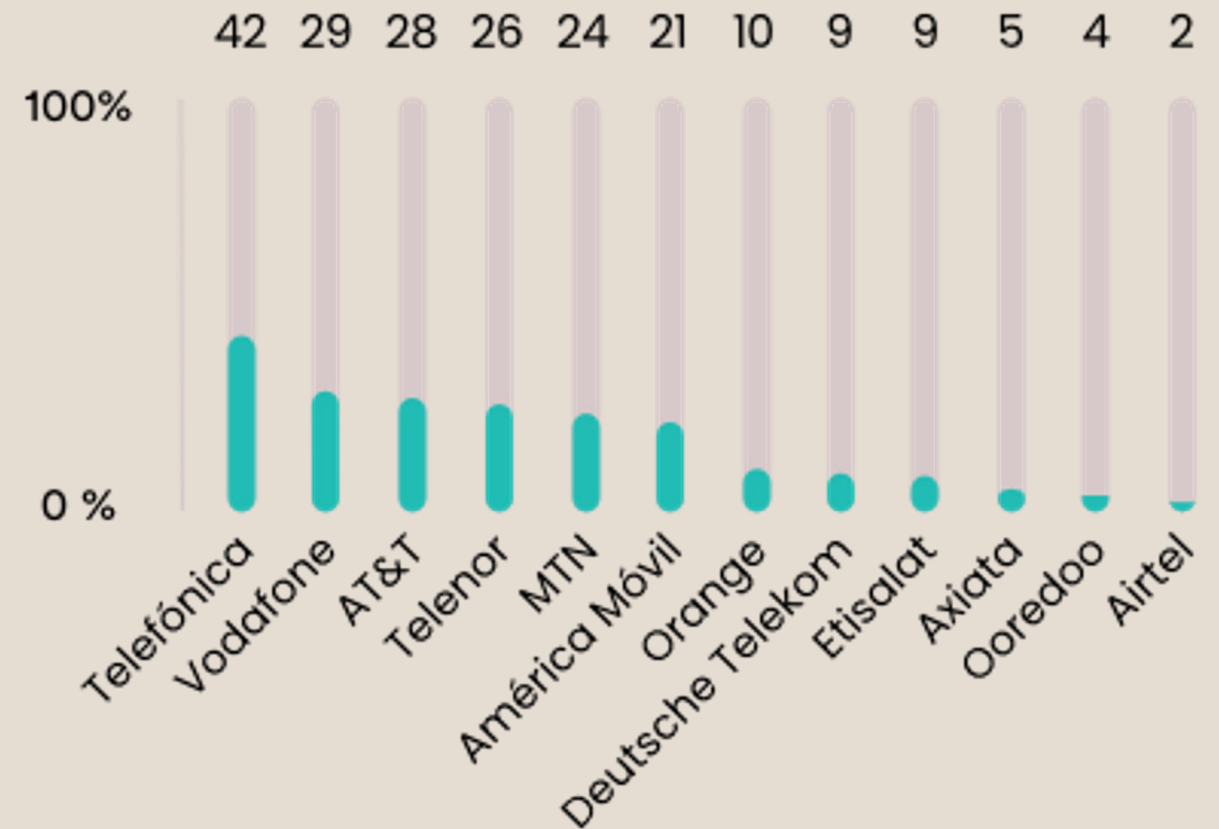
A mix of progress and stagnation



Still failing on freedom of expression

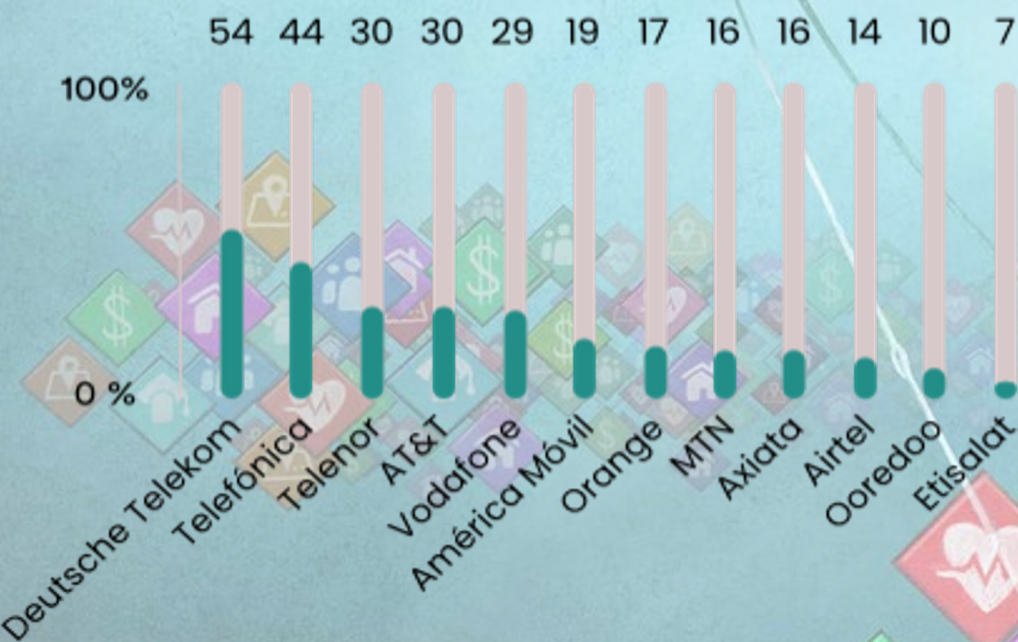
- Improvements and some backsliding on internet shutdowns, overall disclosures still poor
- **Blind spot:** enforcement of rules (spam, harassment, illicit material)
- **Blind spot:** transparency around government censorship demands

How do Telcos rank on Freedom of Expression?



Privacy and data handling

How transparent are telcos about their handling of user information?



In what ways are telcos engaging in targeted advertising?

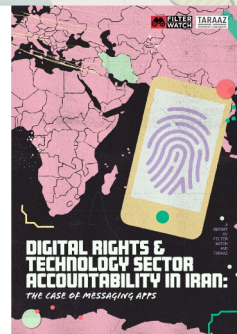
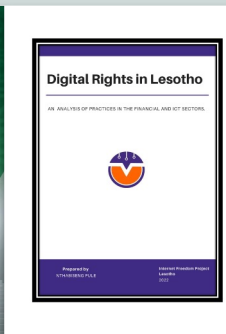
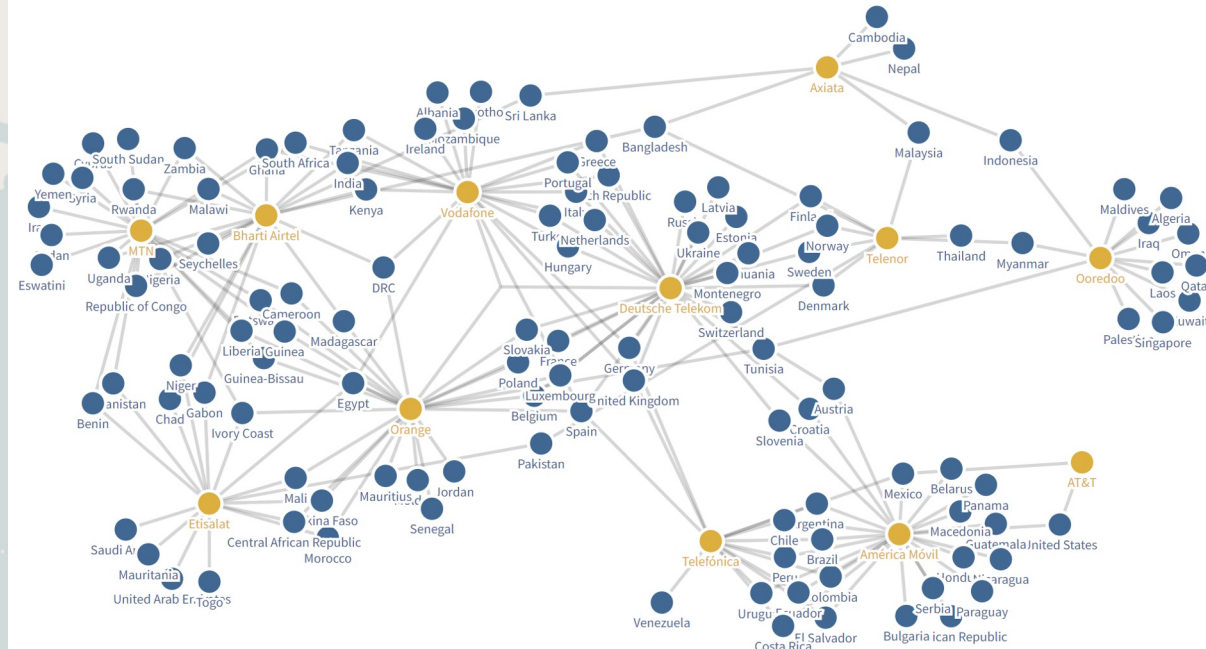
Most involved	Airtel, Orange, Ooredoo, Axiata, Vodafone
Less involved	Deutsche Telekom, Telefónica, AT&T, MTN Telenor, América Móvil, Etisalat

How are they involved?

Type of involvement	# of involved companies
Location based advertising	●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
Addressable TV	●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
Identity system	●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
Ad network	●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●
Data management platform	●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●●

Wide gaps between HQ and subsidiaries

- Some policies apply across transnational companies, but many are country-specific
- Government contracts increase the disparities
- Adaptations by partner orgs are highlighting these problems



Companies responding to ESG pressure

2022 is the first year every ranked telco published an ESG report.



The GSMA's first ever "**ESG Metrics for Mobile**" identify the RDR Index/Scorecards as the key source of digital rights KPIs.



Responsible investment reports show impact of engagement initiative coordinated by IAHR.



The future of ESG and human rights benchmarking

What's on *your* radar?
Industries, technologies, strategies

All illustrations by Paweł Kuczyński for Ranking Digital Rights.



Thank you!

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Questions?



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- Join our collective investor engagement with [ICT companies](#) addressing users' rights to privacy and freedom of expression
- [Sign up](#) to our [Investor Statement on Corporate Accountability for Digital Rights](#)
- Join our bi-monthly ICT and human rights working group calls
- Refer to investor tools - [ICT Salient Issue Briefings](#)
- Vote your proxies this 2023 season
- Please contact Anita Dorett at adorett@iccr.org for further information



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Thank You!



Investor Alliance for Human Rights

A collective action platform connecting institutional investors with tools and strategies to promote corporate respect for human rights.

Join Us

Sign up to become a member: <https://bit.ly/2IOYDA9>

For more information, contact: adorett@iccr.org