

2022 Year in Review

Over the past twelve months, the Investor Alliance for Human Rights has continued to work with investors and civil society organizations to mobilize collective and coordinated investor leverage to embed and promote the corporate responsibility to respect human rights.



**INVESTOR ALLIANCE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**
AN INITIATIVE OF ICCR



Advocating for Rigorous Rights-Respecting Regulation

The Investor Alliance continues to lead on bringing the investor voice in support of rigorous mandatory human rights due diligence in national and regional markets. It encourages companies to develop and embed holistic and comprehensive human rights due diligence processes within their operations to respect rights and mitigate and remedy harms impacting rights holders.

Last year together with 142 investor signatories representing 1.5T in AUM the Investor Alliance coordinated with PRI and Eurosif a public statement calling for improvements to the [EU directive on corporate sustainability due diligence](#), pushing to ensure that this legislation will be a transformative step forward in ensuring that economic activities, including investments, tied to the EU single market are conducted in a responsible manner.

In January 2022, investors representing over US\$8.7 trillion in assets [advocated for rights-respecting tech regulation](#), calling on the EU, to develop regulation like the Digital Services Act (DSA), to incentivize technology companies to address privacy and discrimination risks related to surveillance-based online advertising enabled by artificial intelligence (algorithmic decision systems). In July 2022, the DSA was passed, with some important wins including a ban on the use of sensitive data (e.g., religious and political opinions, sexual preferences, health data) for targeted ads, one of the key asks in the investor statement.

Enabling Rapid Investor Responses to Emerging Geopolitical Human Rights Crises

Following the **Russian invasion of Ukraine**, in March 2022 the Investor Alliance issued an [investor alert](#) providing urgent and succinct guidance for investors to assess both their own conflict exposure and that of their portfolio companies operating in Russia, highlighting at-risk sectors such as finance, extractives, tech, and weapons components. The alert condemned the invasion, reiterated investors' responsibilities under the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), and urged businesses and investors to use their individual and collective leverage to promote respect for international human rights and humanitarian law.

230+

Institutional investor members in 20 countries representing \$13.5 trillion.

150+

Companies engaged on human rights risks across 4 coordinated corporate engagements.

1470+

Investors gained an increased capacity to understand corporate and investor human rights responsibilities via Investor Alliance capacity-building webinars and video logs.

200+

Investors representing over \$10.2 trillion supported robust human rights regulations through joint sign-on statements.

Participating in Multi-Stakeholder Coalitions to Scale Impact

Multi-stakeholder collaboration is a proven method of deepening and enhancing investor action and impact. For this reason, the Investor Alliance is a member of the B4Ukraine Coalition and the World Benchmarking Alliance's Human Rights Due Diligence Collective Impact Coalition, and serves on the Steering Committee of the Coalition to End Uyghur Forced Labour.

Helping Investors Operationalize Human Rights Frameworks in their Investment Activities

Through the provision of cutting-edge tools including the [Investor Toolkit for Human Rights](#) – which this past year [was translated into Japanese](#) – salient issue briefings such as [Child Rights Online](#), and one-on-one consultations as part of our “office hours”, the Investor Alliance supports its over 200 institutional investor members in effectively addressing human rights risks in their portfolios.

Mobilizing Research for Data-Driven Corporate Engagements

The Investor Alliance partners with Ranking Digital Rights, the World Benchmarking Alliance's Corporate Human Rights Benchmark, BankTrack, and researchers at Sheffield Hallam University to [mobilize data-driven, research-based investor engagements with companies](#). Throughout 2022, all Investor Alliance corporate engagements were informed by reports published by our human rights data allies. Their deep quantitative and qualitative analysis helps our members conduct transformative corporate engagements, outlining clear paths for how corporations can move from laggards to leaders on key human rights indicators.

Building Bridges Between Investors and Civil Society

Through a variety of forums including public webinars and conferences, closed investor briefings, working groups, and round table discussions, the Investor Alliance creates tailored opportunities for collaboration between civil society and investors. [These events](#) increase investors' understanding of human rights risks and harms, and equip them to assess their portfolios and hold companies to account. At the same time, civil society organizations benefit from an increased knowledge of investors' advocacy efforts and unique leverage.

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.

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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