

## **Joint Civil Society Statement reacting to lack of majority in COREPER on CSDDD**

### **We say YES to the CSDDD**

Today's failure of the EU Council to endorse the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive marks a deplorable setback for corporate accountability and the protection of Human Rights and the environment worldwide.

The blockage is largely attributable to big Member States: the early announced abstention from influential Germany - orchestrated by the minority German coalition partner, the FDP, and met with spiritless resistance by Chancellor Scholz - was followed by others. A last-minute attempt by France to derail negotiations by proposing a tenfold increase in company threshold last night increased the uncertainty for other states. These political games starkly defy the resounding support for the Directive from governments, trade unions, civil society, large, medium and small businesses, and individual citizens. Without binding EU legislation on corporate accountability, national governments fail to address human rights impacts, the exploitation of workers, and impacts on Indigenous Peoples's rights and other traditional communities and natural ecosystems linked to corporate operations. It is a harrowing failure by EU governments to meet their obligations under international human rights law, and a green-light signal to reckless businesses that they can keep fueling the climate and ecological crises for corporate profits.

This lack of support threatens a vital piece of EU sustainability legislation, necessary and overdue to trigger the change in business conduct. It is the result of a democratic process in the European Parliament and of extensive negotiations with Member States.

Now more than ever, the Belgian Presidency must rise to the occasion: it is time to circle back to the Member States and ensure a strong majority without haggling over the key principles of the compromise hammered out in the trilogue agreement.

#### **Signatures:**

1. European Coalition for Corporate Justice
2. Friends of the Earth Europe
3. Fern
4. Vredesactie
5. BankTrack
6. FIDH
7. GLOBAL 2000 - Friends of the Earth Austria
8. Mai bine
9. REDU
10. CUIB
11. ShareAction
12. Swedwatch
13. ECONOMY FOR THE COMMON GOOD
14. Anti-Slavery International
15. Südwind, Austria
16. Solidaridad
17. Jugend Eine Welt, Austria
18. WeWorld, Italy
19. Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)
20. Human Rights International Corner (HRIC)
21. Informationsgruppe Lateinamerika, Austria
22. International Peace Information Service (IPIS)
23. Novi sindikat, Croatia
24. European Environmental Bureau
25. MVO Platform
26. Irish Coalition for Business and Human Rights
27. Christian Aid Ireland

28. Finnwatch
29. OECD Watch
30. WSM
31. Mani Tese ETS
32. Campagna Impresa2030
33. Transport & Environment
34. NeSoVe
35. Frank Bold
36. Romero Initiative
37. Latinamerikagrupperna
38. SÜDWIND - Institute for Economy and Ecumenism
39. Broederlijk Delen
40. ActionAid International
41. Oxfam
42. Reds - Red de solidaridad para la transformación social
43. Fairtrade International
44. ClientEarth
45. CNCD-11.11.11
46. Milieudefensie (Friends of the Earth Netherlands)
47. Informationsstelle Peru
48. CorA-Netzwerk für Unternehmensverantwortung
49. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre
50. World Fair Trade Organization - Europe
51. Act Church of Sweden
52. Sherpa
53. Diakonia Sweden
54. LM International
55. Amis de la Terre France / Friends of the Earth France
56. Polish Institute for Human Rights and Business
57. Grupo belga Solidario con Guatemala
58. Amnesty International
59. FOS
60. Climate Action Network Europe
61. IF Metall (Industrial and Metal Workers' Union Sweden)
62. Protection International
63. CIDSE- An international family of Catholic social justice organisations
64. Initiative Lieferkettengesetz
65. Eesti Roheline Liikumine - Estonian Green Movement
66. achACT
67. ForumCiv, Sweden
68. Fair Trade Advocacy Office
69. Plataforma por Empresas Responsables
70. Partos
71. WeEffect, Sweden
72. Avocats Sans Frontières
73. Observatorio de Responsabilidad Social Corporativa
74. Environmental Justice Foundation
75. Coordinadora Estatal de Comercio Justo
76. Afrikagrupperna, Sweden
77. Welthaus der Diözese Linz
78. Vision, the Swedish civil servants' union
79. Clean Clothes Campaign
80. PowerShift
81. CCFD-Terre Solidaire
82. Initiative pour un devoir de vigilance, Luxembourg
83. Global Witness
84. EU-LAT Advocacy Network
85. Setem
86. Focus Association for Sustainable Development
87. RREUSE
88. Swedish Society for Nature Conservation
89. Global Responsibility – Austrian Platform for Development and Humanitarian Aid
90. European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR)
91. Solsoc
92. ÖGB EU Office
93. Forest Peoples Programme
94. AK EUROPA - Austrian Federal Chamber of Labour - Brussels office
95. WWF European Policy Office
96. La Strada International

97. European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)
98. International Dalit Solidarity Network
99. 11.11.11, Coalition for International Solidarity, Belgium
100. Trócaire, Ireland
101. KIOS Foundation, Finland
102. Germanwatch,
103. Minerva Business and Human Rights Association
104. Fairfood
105. FEMNET e.V.
106. Cultural Survival
107. Centre for the Politics of Emancipation, Serbia
108. EU Raw Materials Coalition
109. Notre Affaire A Tous
110. Earthsight
111. Publish What You Pay
112. Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI)
113. Rainforest Foundation Norway, Norway
114. Society for Threatened Peoples, Switzerland
115. European Federation of Public Services Unions (EPSU)
116. Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland e.V. (Friends of the Earth Germany)
117. IM, Sweden
118. Securing Indigenous Rights in the Green Economy Coalition (SIRGE)
119. Batani Foundation
120. The Andrew Lees Trust
121. Ökumenisches Büro für Frieden und Gerechtigkeit e.V.
122. Earthworks
123. Human Rights Law Centre
124. ACT Alliance EU
125. BUNDjugend / Young Friends of the Earth Germany
126. Human Rights Watch
127. FIAN Germany
128. Solidair met Guatemala
129. Lightup Norway
130. Norwegian Helsinki Committee
131. Factlines
132. Christian Council of Norway
133. Norwegian Council for Africa
134. Framtiden i våre hender, Norway
135. Asociación por la Paz y los Derechos Humanos Taula per Mèxic, Catalunya
136. Norwegian Church Aid