



JOINT STATEMENT

“EU Member States must deliver the EU Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive”

Brussels, 13 February 2024

The negative impacts of corporate activities on human rights and the environment are not the hazardous and occasional externalities of business activities; they are often the consequences of an economic system that puts profit over people and the extraction of wealth over care for the planet.

Mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence could become a reality after many years of advocacy efforts from civil society and faith-based and religious organisations. It is now on the Council of the European Union to ensure that the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) is adopted to guarantee access to justice for those affected by corporate abuses.

Echoing the [2020 Catholic Bishops' statement](#) asking for mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence legislation, CIDSE and COMECE call now on the governments of EU Member States to urgently adopt the compromise text resulting from political triologue negotiations last December in order to address the risks that corporate activities pose to our Human Family and our Common Home.

Our call joins that of the [2023 Faith Leaders Statement](#) calling on EU lawmakers to adopt a strong law holding companies accountable for their actions that damage the environment and abuse human rights, as well as that of a [large number of EU citizens, European and global businesses, investors](#) and international organisations such as the [OECD, OHCHR and the ILO. Large, medium-size and small companies support the current compromise](#) as “feasible and appropriate”.

As the 2020 Bishops' statement stressed: *“Now more than ever, we need mandatory supply chain due diligence to stop corporate abuse and guarantee global solidarity.”*