"Why the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive is a "game changer" for trade unions and sustainability reporting?

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Online Webinar on the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, 8 March 2023



EU Non-financial Reporting Directive: inadequate protection against greenwashing











Why could the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) be a game-changer? Reason 1

- All large (250+ employees) EU companies have to report according to a mandatory set of reporting standards
 - 50-60,000 companies covered
 - Detailed reporting rules for
 - All large companies
 - 40 standards for specific sectors (mining, oil&gas, etc.)
 - Special rules for SMEs and non-EU companies
 - CSRD defines topics
 - Environment
 - Social
 - Governance
 - Due Diligence/business model/supply chain



Social topics in the CSRD

- Collective bargaining coverage
- Social dialogue / works councils / information, consultation, participation
- Adequate wages
- Child and forced labor
- Health & safety
- Secure employment
- Working time
- Equal treatment
- Equal opportunities
- International + European human rights instruments



Why could the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) be a game-changer? Reason 2

- Sustainability reports have to be audited
- Investors want "real" information



Why could the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) be a game-changer? Reason 3

- Trade unions and works councils have information/consultation rights
 - Article 19a 4b. "The management of the undertaking shall inform workers' representatives at the appropriate level and discuss with them the relevant information and the means of obtaining and verifying sustainability information. Their opinion should be communicated, where applicable, to the relevant administrative, management or supervisory bodies."



Workers' Reps must discuss with management reporting in Sustainability Report on:

- Collective bargaining coverage
- Social dialogue / works councils / information, consultation, participation
- Adequate wages
- Child and forced labor
- Health & safety
- Secure employment
- Working time
- Equal treatment
- Equal opportunities
- International + European human rights instruments



Will CSRD be a game changer?

- Workers' representatives and trade unions need training on sustainability reporting
- Ambitious reporting rules are needed
 - Trade union + NGO representation in European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG)
 - Consultation in April on rules applying to all companies
 - Ongoing development of sector-specific standards
 - Mining/coal, oil&Gas
 - Road transport and agriculture
 - Other 36 sectors to follow in the next 2 years



Thank you for your attention!