In the light of ongoing discussions in Germany on their position towards the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD), 

The Confederation of Public Letter


The CSDDD offers a unique opportunity to establish a level playing field for sustainability due diligence in Europe. It is proportionate and workable in practice for companies in scope. It could jeopardise the viability of an SME.

The CSDDD also includes clear mechanisms to ensure that SMEs are protected from any baseless claims. The civil liability regime clarifies that requirements are an obligation of means, not results, giving companies legal certainty. A targeted approach allows companies to prioritize their efforts where they are most impactful and manageable. The use of a risk-based approach allows companies to build their capacity and even provide financial support where compliance with the provisions introduce any new costs.

The CSDDD will play a critical role in the achievement of the EU Green Deal which is fundamentally about cleaner and greener growth. It will support risk management and the longer-term efforts of companies to align their strategies with the EU's sustainability goals.

We encourage EU Member States to maintain their commitment to support this directive at the European Parliament on the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD). We welcome the efforts of the ICCR, the Investor Alliance for Human Rights (IAHR) and the European Sustainable Investment Forum, Eurosif, for implementing this law.

The views expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of their entire memberships or signatories, either individually or collectively.

DISCLAIMER: This statement provides them with a clear and consistent sustainability due diligence framework across the global business landscape.