

IIGCC



4 February 2025

Investor joint statement on Omnibus Legislation

The Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC), the European Sustainable Investment Forum (Eurosif), and the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), as well as 163 undersigned investors representing approximately €6.6 trillion assets under management as well as 49 service providers and other supporting organisations, totalling 212 signatures, call on the European Commission to preserve the integrity and ambition of the EU's sustainable finance framework, in view of the current discussions on an 'omnibus legislation' to amend key regulations.

The EU Taxonomy, the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) are fundamental cornerstones of the EU's sustainability policy architecture. Together, they help investors to manage risks, identify opportunities, and ultimately reorient capital towards a more competitive, equitable, and prosperous net-zero economy.

Businesses and financial market participants need long-term policy stability to support their implementation efforts. Recent studies, including those published by the EU's own Platform for Sustainable Finance, are showing that increased transparency created by these regulations is <u>starting to have an impact</u>. We must not lose sight of the outcomes these regulations are set to support: accelerating investment towards a more competitive and sustainable economy and enabling investors and other market participants to better manage the risks, impacts and opportunities by facilitating access to high-quality, comparable and reliable sustainability data.

To ensure Europe's global leadership position, as <u>highlighted in the Draghi report</u>, the EU needs to bridge an estimated annual investment gap of €750-800 billion a year. Initiatives like the Clean Industrial Deal will ensure the long-term competitiveness of Europe's net-zero industry and its economic resilience. We know that the bulk of the capital to support these initiatives will need to come from the private sector. Investors are essential actors in channeling capital towards climate solutions and high growth sectors. Timely access to high-quality and comparable reporting is a prerequisite to inform and guide their investment decisions: investors are the key users of sustainability disclosures.

Once fully implemented, the CSRD will ensure such reporting is widely available, standardised and applied consistently, closing many of the data gaps that are repeatedly cited by financial market participants as a key barrier to sustainable investment and meeting their own reporting obligations. This is particularly important for the many investors and corporates that are setting their own net zero commitments and emissions reduction targets, and for whom consistent and comprehensive frameworks for transition plans are essential. In addition, the progressive

introduction of sector-specific standards, focusing on the most material information to inform investment decisions, will further enhance the EU's disclosure framework, providing needed guidance to support companies operating in high-impact industries to decarbonise and facilitating their disclosure efforts.

By requiring disclosure on impacts and EU Taxonomy-aligned activities, the CSRD will enable investors to better identify and assess projects and solutions that can make a positive environmental impact. By 2024, European companies had already reported a total of €440bn of Taxonomy-aligned capital expenditure, a number which is only set to grow further and faster.

The CSDDD complements these disclosure tools with essential opportunities for action and behavioral change. It provides a basis for companies to put in place the systems and processes to effectively implement key requirements, including transition plans and emissions reduction targets.

We support the overall objective of simplifying and improving the coherence of the EU sustainable finance framework. Such revisions can effectively reduce reporting burdens and complexity, while enhancing the usefulness of disclosure requirements and promoting a more coherent approach to the transition across the value chain. However, reopening these regulations in their entirety risks creating regulatory uncertainty and could ultimately jeopardise the Commission's goal to reorient capital in support of the European Green Deal.

A more effective approach would be to focus on streamlining the technical standards and provide clear implementation guidance.

Moreover, the proposed legislation will have implications that extend beyond the targeted initiatives. Transparent information from the Taxonomy and CSRD is also needed to fulfil financial sector requirements, in particular the SFDR and MiFID II obligations on client sustainability preferences. The Commission must consider the wider effects of the proposals on interconnected legislative frameworks.

We recognise these ambitious policies have been rolled out quickly, and often in parallel, leading to implementation and usability challenges for market actors. We therefore support targeted actions by the Commission at the technical level to provide simplification, clarity and consistency across the framework. We call on the European Commission to:

- Preserve the principles, aims and core substance of CSRD, CSDDD and the EU Taxonomy to ensure they can support their intended objectives and maintain regulatory stability.
- Consider the importance of these regulations for facilitating the investment needed to support wider initiatives to drive growth, competitiveness and sustainability, including the forthcoming Clean Industrial Deal.

- Streamline requirements and address inconsistencies and implementation issues within technical standards (level 2), based on industry practitioner feedback and an impact assessment of the usability and effectiveness of existing disclosures and related costs. The Eurosif Regulatory roadmap for EU policymakers, the IIGCC Investor expectations of EU sustainable finance, and the PRI's 2030 EU Policy Roadmap provide specific recommendations on how this can be done.
- Facilitate the implementation of these rules by providing user-friendly guidance to companies – via Q&As, guidelines and recommendations, including, where relevant, sector-specific guidance.
- Ensure interoperability between ESRS and relevant international sectoral standards (ISSB, GRI, SASB) to ease reporting burdens.
- Leverage and scale existing digital and technological solutions to reduce reporting costs and burdens and facilitate greater harmonisation and centralisation of disclosures.

This statement is endorsed by:

Asset Managers

2Xideas AG

3 Banken-Generali Investment-Gesellschaft m.b.H.

AAC Capital Benelux

Achmea Investment Management

AIP Management P/S

Alken Asset Management LTD

Alpina Partners

Alquity Investment Management Limited

AltamarCAM Partners S.L.

Altera

Alternative Bank Switzerland

Altor Equity Partners

Amaron Fund Management AB

Anaxis Asset Management

Anima SGR

Anthos Fund & Asset Management

Arigo Capital

Arkéa Asset Management

Arkéa Capital

Arte Collectum AB

ASEF S.C.Sp

ASN Impact Investors

Axa IM

Axiom Alternative Investments

Boston Common Asset Management

Case Kapitalförvaltning AB

Catella AB

CCLA Investment Management

Certior Capital

Channel Capital Advisors LLP

Contrarian Ventures

Convertinvest

Creas

Cresco Capital Services

Davy Private Clients

DEAS Asset Management Group

Den Sociale Kapitalfond Management ApS

DPAM

East Capital Group

EB-Sustainable Investment Management

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Erste Asset Management GmbH

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Ethos Foundation

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FIRST Fondene AS

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Foresight Group

Future Group

Global Alpha Capital Management Ltd.

Groupe La Française

HAMBURG TEAM

ILX Management BV

Impax Asset Management

Inyova AG

IPUT Real Estate

IVM Caring Capital

Joh. Berenberg, Gossler & Co. KG

Kairos Partners

Kinnerton Credit Management A/S

Kutxabank Gestión SGIIC SAU

L&G Asset Management

La Financière de l'Echiquier

Lannebo Kapitalförvaltning

LBP AM

LocalTapiola Asset Management Ltd

Maple-Brown Abbott Global Listed Infrastructure

Mercy Investment Services, Inc.

Messieurs Hottinguer & Cie Gestion Privée

Metis Invest GmbH

Miller/Howard Investments, Inc.

Mirova

NEI Investments

Neter Capital

Nextalia SGR S.p.A

Nia Impact Capital

Nordea Asset Management

Norrsken VC

Octagon Credit Investors, LLC

Ofi Invest Asset Management

Ownership Capital

Paragon Partners

Phitrust

Pictet Asset Management

Planet A Ventures

PROSPERUS-INVEST LTD.

Ring Capital

Rivage Investment SAS

Robeco

Salm-Salm & Partner

SHS Gesellschaft für Beteiligungsmanagement mbH

Siemens Fonds Invest GmbH

Sovereign Capital Partners LLP

steinbeis & häcker vermögensverwaltung gmbh

Stirling Square

Storebrand Asset Management

Storm Capital Management AS

Svenska Hållbarhetsfonden | The Swedish Impact

Lending Fund

Swen Capital partners

Sycomore AM

Taaleri

Tribe Impact Capital LLP

Trill Impact AB

Trillium Asset Management

Trinetra Investment Management LLP

Triodos Bank

Trusteam Finance

UAB INVL asset management

Van Lanschot Kempen

Vert Asset Management

WERTGRUND Immobilien AG

WHEB Asset Management

Zencap Asset Management

Asset owners

Aberdeen City Council Pension Fund (NESPF Pension Fund)

AkademikerPension

AMF

AP Pension

APICIL Group

BANK IM BISTUM ESSEN eG

Brunel Pension Partnership

BVV Versicherungsverein des Bankgewerbes a.G.

Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec

CCOO, FP

Church of Sweden

EIRIS Foundation

Ethos Engagement Pool International

Fair-finance Vorsorgekasse AG

Fondo Pensione PREVIBANK

Friends Fiduciary Corporation

GM Pensiones, FP

Groupe VYV

Hkk - Krankenkasse

Ircantec

KLP

LD Pensions

MAIF

Maryknoll Sisters

Mikro Kapital

Multifondo 2000, FP

Mutual Médica

Mutualitat dels Enginyers, MPS

New Zealand Superannuation Fund

NN Group

Pensioenfonds Vervoer

PKA

Plan de empleados de Telefonica de España

Plan de pensiones de promocion conjunta del grupo Bridgestone Hispania

Rentes Genevoises

Sampension Administrationsselskab A/S

School Sisters of Notre Dame Collective Investment Fund

Segulah Medical Acceleration

Signal Iduna

Steyler Ethik Bank

Stichting Pensioenfonds APF

Stichting Pensioenfonds Medisch Specialisten

United Church Funds

University Pension Plan (UPP)

Velliv, Pension & Livsforsikring A/S

Service Providers

Aequo, Shareholder engagement services

Aguja Capital GmbH

Artus Wise Partners

Asset Advisor Fondsmæglerselskab A/S

BB Alternatives GmbH

Bolena Impact Investments e.U

Carne Global Financial Services Limited

CORPORANCE Asesores de Voto

Ddcap

Dominican Sisters of Sparkill

ECUBE SOLUTION

ESG Portfolio Management GmbH

EthiFinance GmbH

European Quality Assurance Spain, S.L.

FINANCE@IMPACT

Flins Capital Partners

Green Growth Futura GmbH

Heartland Initiative

Prime Advocates

SDG Invest

ST Consultores Inmobiliarios

Thaddeus Martin Consulting

ValueCo

Other supporting organisations

AERI

Agéa - Fédération nationale des syndicats d'agents généraux d'assurance

CDP

Centre for Sustainable Finance, CISL

Ceres

Congregation of St. Joseph

Daughters of Charity, Province of St. Louise

Ellen MacArthur Foundation

FAIR

GSIA

Impact Europe

Impact Finance Belgium

Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility

Investor Advocates for Social Justice

Investor Alliance for Human Rights

National Trust

Northwest Coalition for Responsible Investment

ökofinanz-21 e.V.

RealAlts

ReseauCEP

Responsible Investment Association of Australasia

Seventh Generation Interfaith, Inc.

Sisters of Mary Reparatrix

Social Impact Agenda per l'Italia (SIA)
Sustainable Banking Coalition
The Local Authority Pension Fund Forum

DISCLAIMER:

This statement was developed in collaboration between IIGCC, Eurosif, PRI and their members, but does not necessarily represent the views of their entire memberships, either individually or collectively.

Eurosif – **the European Sustainable Investment Forum**, is the leading pan-European association promoting sustainable finance at the European level. Its membership is comprised of national Sustainable Investment Fora (SIFs) from across the EU, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Most of these SIFs have a broad and diverse membership themselves, including asset managers, institutional investors, index providers and ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) research and analytics firms. Eurosif and its members are committed to the growth and development of sustainable finance and support the ambition of European and global policymakers in enabling a fully transparent and high-quality sustainable investment market through appropriate and well-designed regulation and industry best practice. More information at www.eurosif.org.

The Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) works with its international network of more than 5000 signatories with USD 120 trillion assets under management to put the six Principles for Responsible Investment into practice. Its goals are to understand the investment implications of environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues and to support signatories in integrating these issues into investment and ownership decisions. The PRI acts in the long-term interests of its signatories, of the financial markets and economies in which they operate and ultimately of the environment and society as a whole. The six Principles for Responsible Investment are a voluntary and aspirational set of investment principles that offer a menu of possible actions for incorporating ESG issues into investment practice. The Principles were developed by investors, for investors. In implementing them, signatories contribute to developing a more sustainable global financial system. More information at www.unpri.org.

The Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change's (IIGCC) is an investor-led membership organisation. We bring the investment community together to make progress towards a net zero and climate resilient future. We work with our members to create guidance, tools, frameworks and resources that can help them, in their individual contexts, in managing climate-related financial risk within their portfolios and making the most of opportunities presented by the transition towards a decarbonised global economy and the realities of a changing climate. We have 400+ members across 20+ countries. More information at www.iigcc.org