

CORE is the leading UK civil society network on corporate accountability. We bring together expertise on international development, the environment and human rights from NGOs, academics, trade unions and the legal profession.

CORE's aim is to reduce business-related human rights and environmental abuses by ensuring UK-linked companies are required to operate to high standards and are held to account for their impacts both at home and abroad.

## How we work

We lead UK civil society advocacy work on corporate accountability issues. Current priorities include:

- the business and human rights agenda, with a focus on access to justice
- supply chain transparency and due diligence
- company law and corporate governance.

We also provide advice and information to member organisations on the latest developments in corporate accountability, in the UK and internationally. CORE is represented on the Board of the European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ) and is a member of the Equality and Human Rights Commission's Business and Human Rights Working Group.

## Successes

**EU non-financial reporting directive** – ratified by the European Parliament in April 2014, the directive will require large companies to provide information on social, environmental and human rights issues, including within their supply chains, in their annual reports.

**Human rights reporting in the Companies Act 2006** - secured an amendment in 2012 requiring quoted companies to report annually on human rights issues. CORE subsequently worked with the Financial Reporting Council to shape the guidance for companies on the new reporting requirements.

**Business and Human Rights Action Plan** – published a civil society response to the UK Government's plan.

**Corporate lobbying** – revealed how the UK government backed Shell and Rio Tinto in human rights court cases after the companies lobbied for support.

**Access to remedy research** – with ECCJ and the US-based International Corporate Accountability Roundtable, published 'The Third Pillar' a comprehensive survey of barriers to judicial remedy facing victims of transnational corporate human rights abuse, with a series of recommendations for policy makers.

## Current work

- **Modern Slavery Bill** – coordinating advocacy work on amending the bill so that large UK companies would be required to report on the steps they are taking to identify and address modern slavery in their supply chains.
- **Access to justice** for victims of corporate harm – advising member organisation Traidcraft on the development of a public campaign.
- **Conflict minerals** – supporting work led by Global Witness to secure an EU law compelling companies to source the metals they use responsibly, to stop the mineral trade fuelling some of the world's most brutal conflicts.
- Evaluation of **non-judicial redress mechanisms** – a major three year research project in partnership with the Universities of Melbourne and Essex. The project is due to report at the end of 2014.
- **CORE fringe events** – hosted at the conferences of the three main parties in autumn 2014.

## Member organisations

Members include Oxfam, Save the Children, Friends of the Earth, Christian Aid, WWF-UK, ActionAid, Traidcraft, CAFOD and Amnesty International. The latter three are represented on CORE's board, along with Leigh Day and two independent members.

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