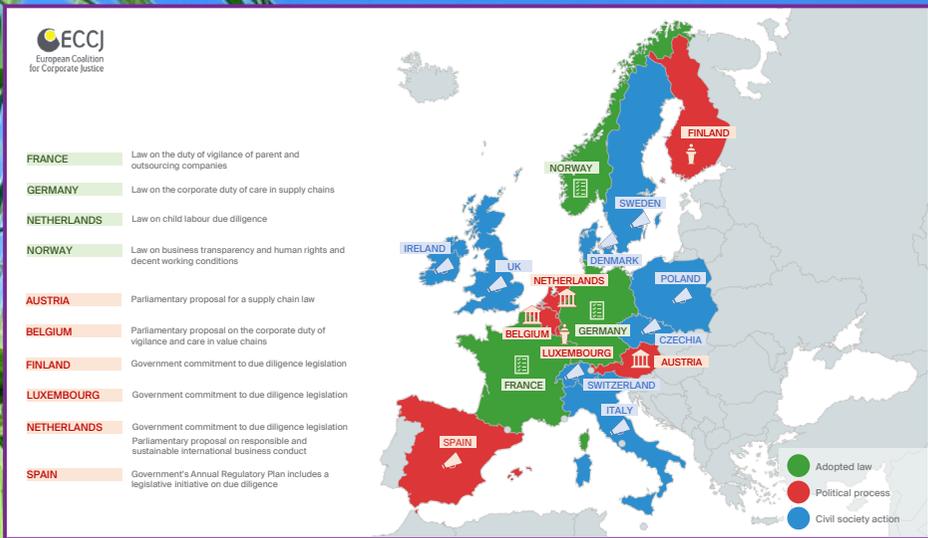


Status RBC policy OECD forum



Bron: ECCJ (European Coalition for Corporate Justice)

Status relevant directives

Conflict Minerals Regulation

Into force

The EU Conflict Minerals Legislation was adopted by the EP and CIE in 2017 and requires importers of certain volumes of the so-called conflict minerals (Tin, Tantalum, Tungsten and gold (3TG)) to ensure that their minerals are sourced responsibly and that their supply chains do not aid in the funding of armed conflict or other illegal practices. The legislation is currently under review.

Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive

In place since January 2023; implementation in 2024

The corporate sustainability reporting directive amends the 2014 non-financial reporting directive. It introduces more detailed reporting requirements and ensures that large companies are required to report on sustainability issues such as environmental rights, social rights, human rights and governance factors.

The application of the regulation will take place in three stages:

- 1 January 2024 for companies already subject to the non-financial reporting directive.
- 1 January 2025 for large companies that are not presently subject to the non-financial reporting directive.
- 1 January 2026 for listed SMEs, small and non-complex credit institutions and captive insurance undertakings.

Battery Directive

Last step plenary vote June 2023, introduction 2024; implementation in 2025

In its work programme for 2020, the Commission announced its intention to revise the EU Batteries Directive, with the aim to better factor in circularity, improve sustainability and keep pace with technological developments. The ENVI Committee adopted its report on 10 February 2022, raising the level of ambition of the Commission proposal.

Interinstitutional negotiations started, the last trilogue meeting was on 9 December 2022 concluded with a provisional agreement. Member States ambassadors to the EU endorsed it on 18 January 2023. The ENVI Committee approved it on 24 January. The next step is the vote in plenary, possibly in June 2023. Sustainability requirements will be introduced gradually from 2024, while provisions on extended producer responsibility will start applying in mid-2025.

Regulation on deforestation-free products

Agreement reached, formally adoption expected in 2023

On 6 December 2022, the European Parliament and the Council have reached an agreement on an EU Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains. The new Regulation will guarantee that the six commodities (cattle, wood, palm oil, soy, cocoa and coffee) and their derivative products are placed on the EU market or exported from the EU, and will no longer contribute to deforestation

and forest degradation. Once the Regulation is in force, large companies and operators will have 18 months to implement the new rules, and micro and small companies will have 24 months and other specific provisions.

Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive

The EP is expected to adopt negotiating position before the summer, followed by trilogue negotiations

European Commission adopted a proposal for a directive on corporate sustainability due diligence (CSDD). This proposed directive contains obligations for companies regarding the impact of their own activities, the activities of subsidiaries and the activities of chain partners on human rights and the environment. The proposal has been submitted to the European Parliament and the Council for approval. The Council adopted its negotiating position ('general approach') on the directive on 1 December 2022. The European Parliament is expected to adopt a negotiating position before the summer, followed by trilogue negotiations between the Commission, Parliament and Council. If the proposed directive is adopted, EU member states will have two years to transpose it into national law.

Critical Raw Materials Act

Proposal

On 16 March 2023, the commission presented the Critical Raw Materials Act, with an external dimension focusing on strategic partnerships with resource rich countries and promoting ESG standards.

Forced Labour Act

Proposal in first phase of approval

The proposal now needs to be discussed and agreed by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union before it can enter into force.

Dutch RBC legislation

Preparation on hold, new proposal submitted

The Dutch cabinet's preparations for national RBC legislation have been put on hold after the submission of the RBC initiative proposal by six Dutch political parties on 1 November 2022. Talks between the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the initiators to explore the possibilities for supported legislation are ongoing.