



Joint Statement: Call on EU governments to support the EU's Regulation to prohibit forced labour products



Monday, 11 March 2024

In light of the EU co-legislators reaching an [agreement](#) on the Regulation prohibiting products made with forced labour on the Union market, following the conclusion of trilogue negotiations on 5 March, the undersigned Civil Society Organisations and Trade Unions **call on the governments of EU Member States to support the agreed text**, ensuring the legislation enters into force without delay.

The Regulation has substantial potential to address forced labour, a crime that impacts [27.6 million people](#) globally. Being the first of its kind in a European context, the law could close the EU's Single Market to products tainted with forced labour. It would prevent EU consumers from buying products linked with forced labour by ensuring these products cannot be sold on the EU market, and would protect companies from the unfair trading practices of competitors who exploit their workers.

Unfortunately, forced labour is not limited to distant corners of the world, nor is it an exception. It is also present inside the EU, and thus directly affects European citizens. The Regulation rightfully bans products made from forced labour inside and outside the European Union, sending a clear signal that goods stemming from exploitation, regardless of their origin, have no place on the EU single market.

We call on the EU 27 Member States to now unite behind this law by adopting it in COREPER, which would pave the way for its swift adoption in the European Parliament and entry into force.

Signatories:

Arbeitskreis München-Asháninka des Nord Süd Forum München e.V.	CorA-Netzwerk für Unternehmensverantwortung	FIAN Deutschland e.V.	La Strada International
Anti-Slavery International	Dachverband Entwicklungspolitik Baden-Württemberg e.V.	Finnwatch	mehr Wert! e.V.
Association of Ethical Shareholders Germany	Environmental Justice Foundation	Global Legal Action Network	Plan International Deutschland e.V.
Berlin Working Group on Environment and Development BLUE 21 e.V.	European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights	Human Rights Watch	SÜDWIND-Institut für Ökonomie und Ökumene e.V.
Brot für die Welt Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e.V.	European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ)	Informationsstelle Peru e.V.	terre des hommes Deutschland e. V.
Business & Human Rights Resource Centre	European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)	Initiative Lieferkettengesetz	The Remedy Project
CCC European Coalition	Facing Finance e.V.	INKOTA-netzwerk e.V.	Transparency International Deutschland e.V.
Chalana Esperança	Fair Trade Advocacy Office	Instituto Democracia e Sustentabilidade - IDS Brasil	Weltladen-Dachverband e.V.
Christliche Initiative Romero e.V.	Fairtrade International	Kampagne Bergbau Peru	Werkstatt Ökonomie e.V.
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