

The logo consists of the letters 'AK' in a bold, red, sans-serif font, centered within a white square that has a red border. The square is tilted slightly to the right.

AK

The word 'ÖSTERREICH' is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font, centered on a red rectangular background. The rectangle is tilted slightly to the right.

ÖSTERREICH

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DUE DILIGENCE FROM A WORKERS AND TRADE UNION PERSPECTIVE

SARAH BRUCKNER | SEPT 12, 2023

THE CHAMBER OF LABOUR „ARBEITERKAMMER“

- The **Austrian Federal Chamber of Labour** is the statutory representative body which represents the interests of approximately **3.8 million employees and consumers** in Austria.
- It represents its members on all social, educational, economic and consumer policy-related issues at the national level and in Brussels at the European level.
- Close collaboration with **Austrian Federal Trade Union (ÖGB)**
- Websites:
<https://www.arbeiterkammer.at/> (in German)
<https://www.akeuropa.eu/> (in German and in English)

STARTING POINT

- **European companies going abroad...**
- **Outsourcing** to reduce labor and production costs (subsidiaries or suppliers) to countries where laws are less strict or enforcement is deficient
- **Exploitative working conditions** and environmental damage along value chains
- European companies directly cause or contribute to human rights abuses and environmental damage by unfair purchasing practices, unfair payment practices, unfair delivery conditions....
- The Austrian Chamber of Labour and the Austrian Trade Union **have been demanding binding rules** for corporations at the national level, EU level and UN level for a long time.
- We want **workers' rights to be respected** in Austria and worldwide.

GLOBAL RIGHTS INDEX 2023

The 2023 ratings



Improved rating:

Australia 3
Chile 3
Côte d'Ivoire 3

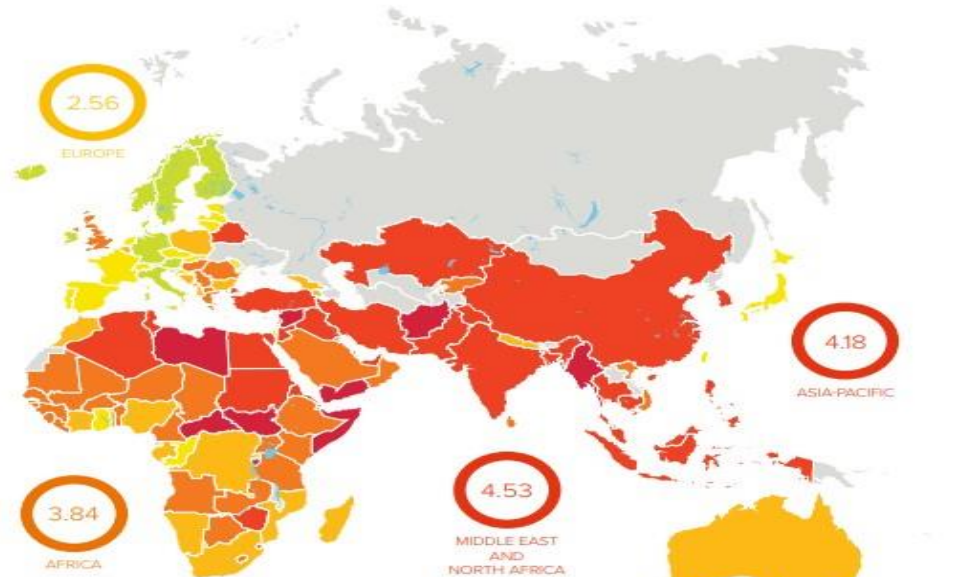


Worse rating:

Republic of Congo 3
El Salvador 4
Haiti 5+
Liberia 4
Montenegro 3
Namibia 3
North Macedonia 4
Togo 3
United Kingdom 4

New in 2023:

Guinea-Bissau 4



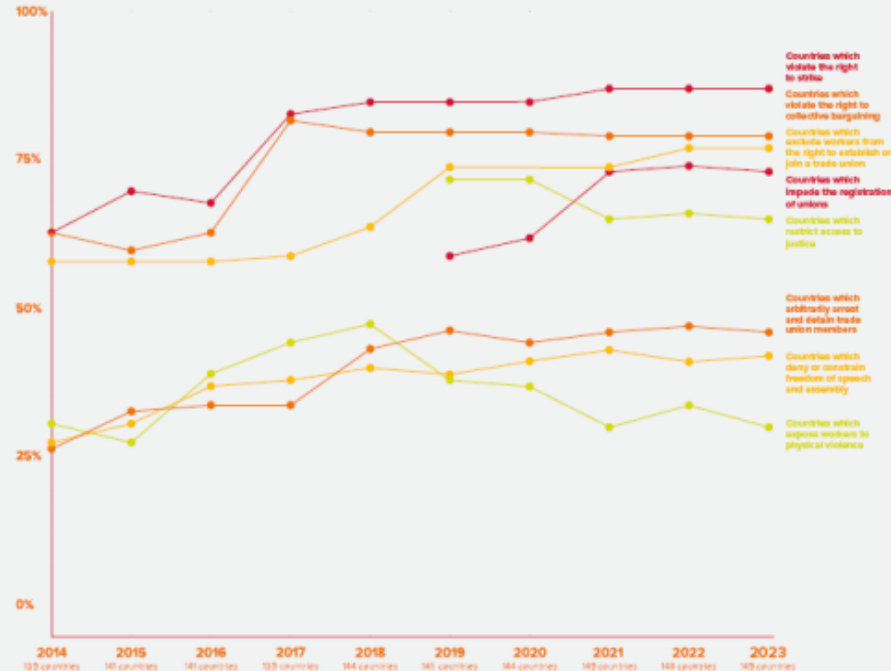
GLOBAL RIGHTS INDEX 2023

- The **International Trade Union Confederation** (ITUC) is a confederation of national trade unions. It represents 200 million workers in 168 countries.
- The ITUC **Global Rights Index** depicts the world's worst countries for workers by rating 149 countries on a scale from 1 to 5+ on the degree of respect for workers' rights.
- The **2023 edition** of the Global Rights Index shows that the global cost-of-living crisis has been met with a **crackdown on the rights of working people** in every region of the world.
- <https://www.globalrightsindex.org/en/2023>

GLOBAL RIGHTS INDEX 2023

2023 Global Rights Index

10-YEAR TRENDS: VIOLATIONS OF WORKERS' RIGHTS



Violation of

- Right to strike
- Right to collective bargaining
- Right to establish a trade union
- Registration of trade union
- Restriction of access to justice
- Arbitrary arrest and detention of trade union members
- Denial or constraint of freedom of speech and assembly
- Exposure to physical violence



ITUC CSI IGB

#RightsIndex23

THE CSDDD

- The Chamber of Labour welcomes the CSDDD proposal. We **recommend improvements** regarding the following issues, however:

Scope (companies covered by the Directive)

Definition of value chain

Access to justice for victims of corporate abuse (including reverse burden of proof)

Stakeholder engagement (trade unions and others)

Due diligence obligation on climate change

Strict rules on social audits and certifications

- **Support the campaign for an effective CSDDD!**

Check out the website

<https://justice-business.org/>



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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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