



2020/2129(INL)

7.8.2020 **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on International Trade

for the Committee on Legal Affairs

with recommendations to the Commission on corporate due diligence and
corporate accountability
(2020/2129(INL))

Rapporteur for opinion (*): Bernd Lange

(Initiative – Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure)

(*) Associated committee – Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on International Trade calls on the Committee on Legal Affairs, as the committee responsible:

- to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:
 1. regrets the current low levels of supply chain due diligence;
 2. is convinced that mandatory due diligence is necessary to create a level playing field and avoid unfair competitive advantages arising in international trade;
 3. is convinced that due diligence obligations should aim to prevent human, labour and environmental rights violations, make supply chains more robust and avoid disruption of international trade;
 4. welcomes the fact that the EU conflict minerals regulation has become a benchmark for binding due diligence legislation in supply chains;
 5. is convinced that the future regulation should be based on UN Guiding Principles and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises;
 6. stresses that the capacity constraints of SMEs need to be duly taken into account in the future due diligence legislation; notes that certified industry schemes are not a replacement for legislation;
 7. emphasises that engagement with trade partners is crucial to ensure due diligence undertakings effect change; requests that financial instruments such as Aid for Trade are used to support responsible business conduct;
 8. emphasises the importance of addressing and enforcing due diligence obligations within FTA Trade and Sustainable Development chapters and bodies established by FTAs;
 9. requests that trade instruments and EU Delegations be linked to the monitoring of the application of the due diligence regulation;
 10. stresses that civil society actors, trade unions and social partners should be part of risk prevention and should be given the right to file complaints in cases of infringement;