
RESOLUTION

of the 13th Synod of the Protestant Church in Germany

at its 3rd Session

on

An Ambitious European Supply Chain Act

of 9 November 2022

The Synod welcomes the European Commission's proposal for a Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence ("European Supply Chain Act") as an important step towards respect for human rights and environmental protection along the global value chain. It asks the Council of the EKD, with regard to the political negotiations at EU level, to advocate vis-à-vis the Federal Government and the European institutions that

1. the EU legislation proposed by the European Commission is adopted before the end of this legislative period,
2. human rights and environmental due diligence obligations along the entire value chain are introduced in a binding manner so that companies cannot evade their obligations,
3. all companies and the financial sector are covered on the basis of a risk-based and proportional approach,
4. workers, trade unions, local communities, human rights defenders, environmentalists and other affected stakeholders are effectively consulted and involved at all stages of due diligence processes;
5. comprehensive support measures are provided to companies, especially to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs);
6. the rights of persons affected are improved by establishing clear civil liability regimes, strengthening access to litigation and compensation and providing for a fair distribution of the burden of proof in court,
7. an effective regulatory oversight structure is established with sufficient resources and expertise to ensure consistent enforcement of the rules across the EU.

Magdeburg, 9 November 2022

The President of the Synod of the Protestant Church in Germany

Anna-Nicole Heinrich