



Taking Legal Action to Mitigate Climate Change

In 2021, the Federal Constitutional Court made a ruling on the constitutional complaint we supported: climate change mitigation is a human right. Nevertheless, appropriate measures have not been taken. Following a further weakening of the Federal Climate Change Act in 2024, we have once again lodged a constitutional complaint together with over 54,000 people. We call for a Climate Change Act that complies with the constitution and includes effective, socially just measures – especially in the transport sector.
www.germanwatch.org/zukunftsklage



Historical Precedent

For ten years, we have supported Peruvian farmer Saúl Luciano Lliuya in his lawsuit against the energy company RWE, which has emitted more CO2 than the whole of Peru. It was worth it: although Saúl's individual claim was dismissed, the groundbreaking ruling by the Higher Regional Court of Hamm decided that large emitters can be held liable for climate risks. It paves the way for affected people worldwide to hold those responsible for the climate crisis accountable.
rwe.climatecase.org/en



Protecting Human Rights

Germanwatch successfully coordinated 125 organisations in the Supply Chain Law Initiative. The German Supply Chain Act came into force in 2023. For the first time, it obliges companies to comply with human rights and environmental standards in their supply chains. People around the world are already using the law to assert their rights. The EU Supply Chain Act ensures that corresponding rules will apply throughout Europe in the future. Now it is important that they are maintained in the long term and implemented effectively, even in the face of opposition.
www.germanwatch.org/lieferkettengesetz

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Help us make an impact!

Changing structures requires perseverance. By making a donation or becoming a member, you can strengthen our impact:

- **Scientific research** to enable politicians, business, and society to implement sustainable development.
- **Lobbying for the common good** in order to promote and enforce sustainable development.
- **Educational work** to embed ecologically and economically sustainable goals and solutions in our society.
- **Independent public relations work** to shape public discourse constructively based on facts and science.
- **Strategic litigation** to claim fundamental rights such as intact livelihoods when political dialogue reaches a dead end.



Membership (in German):

www.germanwatch.org/mitglied-werden



Donations:

www.germanwatch.org/en/donations



Newsletter (in German):

www.germanwatch.org/GermanwatchKompakt

Germanwatch Donations Account

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leistungsstarke
Organisation.
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For a Future Full of Possibilities

Preserving Livelihoods, Strengthening Democracy and Human Rights



About Germanwatch



Germanwatch is an **independent environmental, development, and human rights organisation**. We advocate **sustainable global development** based on social equity, respect for nature, and economic stability. To ensure that everyone can lead a good life, we are committed to preventing dangerous climate change and protecting human rights.

We stand for **sustainable agriculture, a responsible financial market, a resource-efficient circular economy** – and all of this in a way that promotes **a strong and vibrant democracy**.

Our Topics

- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Human rights in the supply chain and circular economy
- Strategic climate and human rights litigation
- Sustainable agriculture and fair trade
- Sustainable finance
- Education for sustainable development



How we Work



Changing Structures

Our work aims at nothing less than structural change. Because the time we have left to preserve our livelihoods and avert an ever-escalating climate crisis is limited. That is why we focus on areas in politics, the economy, and society where changes have long-term effects.

We operate where important decisions are made. We engage in dialogue with key decision-makers from politics and business – in Germany, Europe, and internationally. Often confidentially in meeting rooms, sometimes vocally in public.



Sound Analysis – Effective Solutions

Our solutions are based on sound analysis. We combine strategic thinking with expertise to develop concrete, viable recommendations for action.

Although our goals are ambitious, we are **guided by what is politically, socially, and economically feasible** – without losing sight of what absolutely has to be achieved. We are convinced that this is the only way to organise majorities and thus achieve genuine structural progress.



Network and Trust as Leverage

Our particular strength lies in the combination of **scientific expertise, strategic thinking, and a network that has grown over many years.** Our work and carefully constructed alliances give rise to innovative approaches that serve the common good in the long term – often in areas where no solutions were previously in sight.

Our access to decision-makers at all levels is the result of decades of trust-based networking. Not least thanks to our constructive maxim of **'cooperation where possible – confrontation where necessary'**, we are highly valued as a competent discussion partner.



Visit our website:
www.germanwatch.org/en

Success Stories and Examples of our Work



Enlarge Your Handprint

Germanwatch encourages and empowers people to actively contribute to necessary social change. With our handprint concept, we show how everyone can effectively increase their commitment. The handprint is well established and is mentioned several times, for example, in the Framework for Global Development for upper secondary school of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs.
www.germanwatch.org/handprint



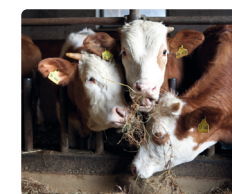
Making Climate Action and Risks Measurable

Since 2005, the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) published by Germanwatch has been evaluating and comparing the climate policies of 63 countries and the EU on an annual basis. The Climate Risk Index (CRI), published since 2006, analyses the impact of climate-related extreme weather events on countries worldwide. Both indices are among the most internationally renowned climate rankings, creating much-needed transparency and reaching a wide audience. www.germanwatch.org/en/cri and www.ccpi.org



Engaging in Climate Talks

For over 30 years, Germanwatch has been working at all levels to find solutions for global climate justice, climate change mitigation, and resilience. We have been actively and effectively involved in the UN climate negotiations from the outset: Germanwatch even made a significant contribution to the successful conclusion of the Paris Agreement in 2015. www.germanwatch.org/en/climate-policy



Sustainable Agriculture

We advocate for EU agricultural and trade policies that protect the environment, climate, and human rights worldwide, guarantee high animal welfare standards, and restrict industrial livestock production, while enabling fair incomes for farmers and vibrant, liveable rural regions.
www.germanwatch.org/en/food-and-agriculture