

We promote the fast-moving Environmental, Social, Governance (“ESG”) regulatory landscape to drive global compliance and performance in the business world. We advise clients on how to shape and respond to hard and soft law and meet the demands of crowd reg to credibly deliver on their ESG commitments.

The issue



It is increasingly important for companies to have a purpose that promotes impact in ESG with an authentic brand. Consumers are demanding it, voters – and therefore governments – are demanding it, and it is an increasingly important deciding factor among prospective new talent when deciding whether to join an organization. Through the power of social media and consumer choice, businesses that do not “walk the walk” will struggle in a world that values social impact. We call this “crowd reg”.

Globally, soft non-binding laws, such as the UN SDGs or the UK Corporate Governance Code, are crucial in encouraging companies to be receptive to ESG commitments and accountable through ESG reporting. Governments are equally responding to crowd reg and soft law with hard laws such as the Social Value Act or the Equality Act in the UK.

Through these three aspects, a new ESG framework is asking companies to perform with purpose and integrity. This is a demand, but also an opportunity.

What we do

We have a leading global regulatory practice dedicated to working with governments, companies and stakeholders. We advise on all aspects of the fast-moving ESG landscape, from energy regulation to shifts in political thinking, to brand authenticity and global compliance.

From the UN SDGs to the Global Reporting Initiative, from the Clean Air Act to the Social Value Act, hard and soft laws are placing demands on companies to perform better in ESG.

We advise on:

- Engaging with policy officials in the development of new ESG soft and hard laws, and subsequent compliance, including reporting requirements, social impact best practice, the incorporation of UN SDG commitments, delivering on those commitments and more
- Incorporating purpose and integrity into business models and corporate governance, from supply chain to brand authenticity
- Understanding consumer demand and responding to that demand with ESG performance

We strive to deliver best-practice in our own ESG performance. We actively support the UN SDGs and prioritize delivering on our sustainability commitments. We strive to promote responsible business and diversity and inclusion throughout the firm.

Our impact

Our representative experience includes advising:

- Multiple governments on sustainability, social impact principles and best practices
- Tech platforms on developing their corporate culture, governance models, systems and policies as they mature to reflect their social and community impacts
- A major wireless provider on integrating sustainability commitments into its business against the evolving backdrop of crowd reg and sustainability initiatives such as the EU Green Deal and UN SDGs
- Caterpillar on brand authenticity and social purpose
- UK Government on the establishment of new social inclusion funds
- EDF on the environmental, social and governance aspects of an indexed €4 billion credit facility
- Pool Re on their financing of a counter-terrorism crowdsourcing platform and ESG
- A social enterprise coffee business on the application of government guidance on social value in UK public procurement

Useful links

- [UK2030](#)
- [Business Integrity Group](#)
- [Administrative and Public Law](#)
- [Energy Regulatory](#)
- [Global Regulatory](#)

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