



Human Rights 75 Pledges

Guidance for businesses

What can a pledge be based on?

- Already existing efforts to promote corporate respect for human rights.
- Commitment to implement a recommendation made by international, regional or other human rights mechanisms, within a certain time frame and with an action plan.
- Asks from the HC's [monthly thematic spotlights](#)

One of the key objectives of the [Human Rights 75 Initiative](#) is to generate pledges that bring about concrete change towards greater enjoyment of human rights for all from State institutions (executive, legislative and judicial authorities), local and regional authorities, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society, UN entities, international financial institutions, business, young people and others.

What are Human Rights 75 pledges?

Businesses have an impact on the lives of a multitude of groups and individuals, from workers to consumers and local communities. Therefore, pledges can have a meaningful influence on the enjoyment of human rights for all.

Human Rights 75 pledges are commitments to take a specific action, with the aim of promoting and respecting human rights.

The High Commissioner invites pledges that are transformative, innovative and catalytic at the local, country, regional, or international level.

What can a business do?

- Make pledges
- Join up with other businesses and pledge together!
- Participate in Human Rights 75 country and regional dialogues

Pledges should be SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound). Pledges can involve one or more of the following actions:

A. Legal, institutional and policy changes, e.g.

- Abide by the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).
- Develop a new human rights policy commitment per Principle 16 of the UNGPs.
- Introduce or review human rights due diligence, conducting regular human rights impact assessments in all its operations and business relationships.
- Increase budget allocation to address, prevent, mitigate, and communicate adverse human rights impacts within your business operation and value chain.



- Establish or strengthen human rights complaint, oversight, and redress mechanisms. Develop targeted programmes to respect the rights of stakeholders in vulnerable and marginalized situations, including grievance mechanisms and whistle-blowers.
- Establish a human rights team or position responsible for assessing human rights impacts.
- Modify policies to avoid repetition of human rights abuses caused or contributed to, including future risks or negative business impacts on communities.
- Commitment to improving consistency in business practices and implementation of the UNGPs.
- Join the Global Compact.

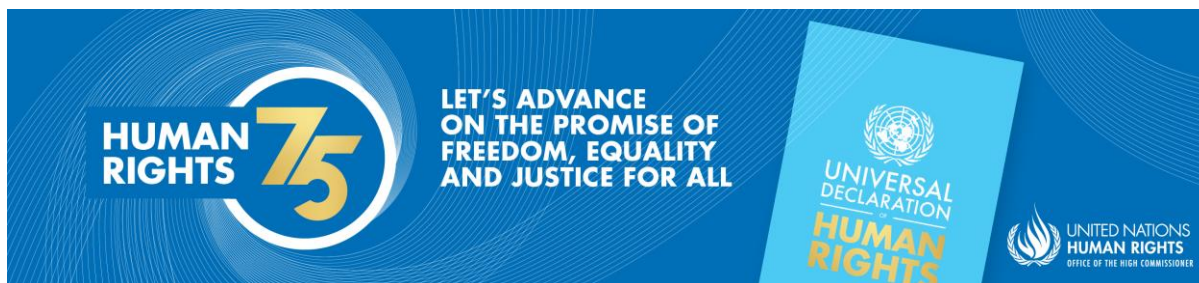
B. Practices and activities, e.g.

- Instate/promote a human rights-based approach in projects and relationships, applying participatory methodologies in human rights risk assessments and stakeholder consultations.
- Hold consultations on specific projects/with specific groups and potentially affected stakeholders.
- Adopt a gender-sensitive approach when conducting human rights impact assessments.
- Meaningful consultation with potentially affected groups and other relevant stakeholders.
- Train employees, suppliers and other stakeholders on business-related human rights risks and grievance mechanisms.
- Communicate externally how human rights impacts are addressed, to individuals or groups who may be impacted and to other relevant stakeholders.
Support OHCHR in the establishment of a business and human rights helpdesk to provide authoritative interpretive advice on the UNGPs.

C. Advocate for financial contributions at national level, &/or to the UN Human Rights Office

Work with others!

- OHCHR field presence and UN Country Team
- National human rights institution or local human rights commission
- Civil society organizations, women's groups, human rights defenders, faith-based actors, youth, and academia
- Victims
- Other Businesses
- Labour Unions, Chambers of Commerce
- Other international organisations and UN Agencies such as ILO, UNDP, OECD, etc



Pledges should support the goals of Human Rights 75 to:

- 1) revitalise a worldwide consensus on human rights
 - E.g., what commitment can be made to revitalise a global consensus on human rights?
- 2) look to the future, 25 years down the line
 - what commitment can be made to address issues that are expected to escalate in the coming years – e.g. impact of climate change, new technologies, or inequalities?
- 3) bolster the human rights ecosystem
 - what contribution can be made to strengthen the human rights ecosystem (e.g. to establish or strengthen business respect for human rights; to foster collaboration with a national human rights institution or international and regional human rights mechanisms; to strengthen support to the UN Human Rights Office)

Once you have your pledge(s) submit it through the [online platform](#) dedicated for this purpose.

All pledges will be made public during the December 2023 high-level event.

For all questions and comments, please write to: ohchr-pledgeshr75@ohchr.org

Reference material:

[OHCHR work with Business](#)

[Building economies that place people's human rights at the center](#)

[United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#)

[OHCHR and business and human rights](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions on the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#)

[Working group on the issue of transnational corporations and other business enterprises](#)

[The Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights: An Interpretive Guide](#)

[Principles for Responsible Contracts: Integrating the Management of Human Rights](#)

[Risks into State-Investor Contract Negotiations - Guidance for Negotiators](#)