

# THE EUROPEAN VOICE OF DIRECTORS

## #EUALERT WEEK 2



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### EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS DEVELOPMENTS

#### EC: Expecting EU deal on rules for women in boardrooms ([Financial Times](#))

The European Commission president is increasingly optimistic that Europe will unblock long-delayed legislation this year aimed at boosting women's representation in corporate boardrooms. The proposed directive sets a target for 40% of non-executive directors in listed companies to be women. France is ready to push for the directive during its EU presidency, while Germany, one of the blocking countries, is reconsidering its position on the file.

#### EP: Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) - Update

In a debate Monday, the legal affairs committee exchanged about the 600 plus amendments received on the CSRD. Among the issues raised:

- There is no consensus regarding an extension of the scope to SMEs;
- Some are asking for more information to be disclosed by companies such as wage gaps, working conditions, working time...
- Some MEPs regret the absence of penalty mechanisms to sanction companies that will not comply with the legislation;
- A representative from the European Commission raised doubts about the possibility to ask non-EU companies operating in the Single Market to comply with the legislation.

The final report is slated to be adopted in mid-March.

#### EFrag: Extension of the deadline for the consultation on disclosures

EFrag is inviting preparers of financial statements to participate in a [survey](#) on the International Accounting Standards Board Exposure Draft Subsidiaries without Public Accountability: Disclosures. Inputs received will inform EFRAG's cost-benefit assessment of the IASB proposal. The deadline of this survey has now been extended to 20 January 2022.

## INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

**ISSB: Upcoming consultation on sustainability-related disclosure standards**

The International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) is planning to launch a public consultation on its prototype sustainability-related disclosure standards so they can be adopted before the end of this year.

**B Lab: Top stories on how B Corps are pursuing positive benefits for all stakeholders**

In an [article](#), 21 B Corps share testimonials on how they are pursuing climate justice, racial equity and a stakeholder-driven economic system. They also elaborate on challenges, and opportunities that the B Corp community encountered in 2021 as it continues to work collectively to carve a path toward a more resilient and inclusive future.

## ARTICLES / PUBLICATIONS

**NACD: 2022 Governance outlook**

The NACD (The American National Association of Corporate Directors) 2022 [Governance Outlook: Projections on Emerging Board Matters](#) provides corporate directors and senior executives with a forward-looking view of business and governance risks that will require board focus over the coming year (embracing greater investor interest in ESG, how purpose is changing the board, board responsibilities in mitigating risks...).

**Reclaim shareholder power and reshape companies ([Financial Times](#))**

In an article based on Merryn Somerset's book, *Share Power: How ordinary people can change the way that capitalism works — and make money too*, the author explains how individuals owning shares should take their responsibilities back from the giant fund management companies. Indeed fund managers have expanding control: global assets under management have risen from around \$35tn at the start of the millennium to over \$100tn now. And those fund managers very rarely ask owners what they want to say or vote. The author is therefore calling for a re-engagement of owners instead of reimagining the Capitalist system and instead of allocating more powers to stakeholders.

## ecoDa's NEWS

- **17th January:** ecoDa will meet Mazars to discuss the ongoing EC consultation on corporate reporting;
- **21st January:** ecoDa Policy Committee meeting;
- **21st of January:** ecoDa Audit Committee Working Group meeting.