

OECD GUIDELINES FOR MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES ON RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONDUCT

NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS FOR RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONDUCT (NCPS FOR RBC) are agencies established by governments. Their mandate is twofold:

• TO PROMOTE AND RAISE AWARENESS OF THE **OECD** GUIDELINES FOR MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES AND RELATED DUE DILIGENCE GUIDELINES

To ensure that the community of companies and stakeholders are aware of what is expected of governments adhering to the <u>Guidelines</u>, NCPs for RBCs are required to spread awareness of the Guidelines and related general as well as sectoral due diligence guidelines. The mandate also includes the promotion of the Guidelines within governmental and non-governmental agencies as well as policy coherence. The NCP network is becoming increasingly important in terms of its involvement in RBC-related policies in the development of the National Action Plans for Business and for Human Rights, as well as their important role of providing answers to questions on a wide variety of regulatory changes relevant to RBC.

• TO HANDLE CASES (REFERRED TO AS "SPECIFIC INSTANCES") AS A NON-JUDICIAL GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

All 51 governments adhering to the OECD Guidelines have the legal obligation to set up an NCP. Today, NCPs make up a network and a community of practitioners, dealing with a wide array of impacts involving companies either through their operations or their supply chains. In 2020, NCPs celebrated 20 years as non-judicial grievance mechanisms. To this day, NCPs have collectively handled over 600 cases addressing a wide variety of business impacts. Cases, whereby NCPs provide access to remedy, are known as specific instances. The specific instance process is governed by a 'Procedural Guidance' attached to the Guidelines and is designed to be simple and flexible.

Slovakia has been a member of the OECD since 2000 and the NCP was established here on the basis of Decree No.3/2016 of the Minister of Economy of the Slovak Republic in 2016 as a permanent working group under the Ministry of Economy. The NCP is assisted in its work by the Secretariat, which is established at the European Affairs and Trade Cooperation Department.

Find out more about <u>NCPs' structures and activities</u>

NCP Secretariat

Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic Foreign Trade Policy and European Affairs Section European Affairs and Trade Cooperation Department

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