

**Rotman**

Michael Lee-Chin Family  
Institute for Corporate Citizenship

# International Investor Governance Associations

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Australia, Canada, EU, Scandinavia, U.K., U.S.

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The [Michael Lee-Chin Family Institute for Corporate Citizenship](#) at the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto, helps current and future business leaders integrate sustainability into business strategy and practices.  

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## International

**International Corporate Governance Network:** An investor-led organization of governance professional. Its mission is to inspire and promote effective standards of corporate governance.

- <https://www.icgn.org/about>

## Australia

Australian Council of Superannuation Investors (ACSI) is the largest and the most comprehensive investor governance association. It accrues members from diverse jurisdictions, including Europe, U.K., and Asia, but most of its activity is based in Australia. Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees (AIST) is also a robust organization focused on providing professional training to fund staff, and Investor Group on Climate Change (IGCC) represents inter-country association of investors focusing on climate change.

**Australian Council of Superannuation Investors (ACSI):** <http://www.acsi.org.au/>

- Board Composition and Non-Executive Director Pay research reports: <http://www.acsi.org.au/board-comp-a-ned.html>
- CEO Pay in Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) 200 companies: <http://www.acsi.org.au/ceo-pay.html?layout=blog>
- Sustainability Reporting Practices of Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) 200 companies: <http://www.acsi.org.au/sustainability-reporting.html>
- ACSI members: <http://www.acsi.org.au/section-heading/membership.html>

**Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees (AIST):** National not-for-profit organization that champion strong governance and sustainability.

- <http://www.aist.asn.au/>

**Investor Group on Climate Change (IGCC):** Collaboration of Australian and New Zealand Investors focusing on the impact that climate change has on financial value of investments.

- <http://www.igcc.org.au/about>
- Publications: <http://www.igcc.org.au/publications/>

## Canada

**Canadian Coalition for Good Governance:** A pre-eminent corporate governance organization in Canada and represents the interests of institutional investors to promote good governance practices in Canadian companies.

- <http://www.ccg.ca/>

## European Union

European Fund and Asset Management Association (EFAMA) represents the biggest investor association in Europe. Although its focus is not solely based on ESG integration, it is the leading voice in ESG promotion and corporate governance in Europe. Italy is an active jurisdiction in corporate governance activity.

**European Fund and Asset Management Association (EFAMA):** Representative association for the European investment management industry. It represents EUR 19 trillion in assets under management.

- <http://www.efama.org/about/SitePages/Home.aspx>
- EFAMA Code for external governance:  
<https://www.icgn.org/sites/default/files/EU%20Code.pdf>

**Association for Financial Markets in Europe:** This association advocates stable, competitive, and sustainable European financial markets that support economic growth and benefit society.

- <http://www.afme.eu/>
- Industry guidelines and best practices guides: <http://www.afme.eu/Documents/Industry-guidelines-and-best-practice-guides-2147483118.aspx>

## The Netherlands

**Eumedion:** Non-profit forum that promote adherence to ESG guidelines for listed companies and institutional investors, especially in the Netherlands and Europe.

- <https://www.icgn.org/partners/eumedion>
- Members: <http://www.eumedion.nl/en/participants>
- Best practices for engaged share-ownership:  
[https://www.icgn.org/sites/default/files/Netherlands\\_Code.pdf](https://www.icgn.org/sites/default/files/Netherlands_Code.pdf)

**APG:** The Dutch pension system (<https://www.apg.nl/en/apg-as-pension-provider/about-apg>)

- Responsible Investment Report 2014: <https://www.apg.nl/en/apg-as-asset-manager/responsible-investing>
- Responsible Investment Report 2013: <https://www.apg.nl/en/apg-as-asset-manager/vvb2013>
- APG provides transparency to stakeholders: <https://www.apg.nl/en/apg-as-asset-manager/about-apg/corporate-governance>

## Italy

**Assogestioni:** Representative association of the Italian investment management industry. -

- <http://www.assogestioni.it/>
- Stewardship Principles for the Exercise of Administrative and Voting Rights in Listed Companies 2013: <https://www.icgn.org/sites/default/files/Italian%20Code.pdf>

**Sodali:** A global leader in corporate governance consulting, shareholder and bondholder transactions and instructional investor relations.

- <http://www.sodali.com/>

## Scandinavia

Ethos represents the most active investor governance association in terms of its net national and global impact. Swiss is an active jurisdiction, with numerous corporate governance associations and networks (see Ethos networks link).

**Ethos:** The foundation for socially responsible investment and active share-ownership. Ethos focuses on institutional investors and offers a wider range of SRI-funds.

- <http://www.ethosfund.ch/e/ethos-foundation/>
- Guidelines for institutional investors: [https://www.icgn.org/sites/default/files/Switzerland\\_Code.pdf](https://www.icgn.org/sites/default/files/Switzerland_Code.pdf)
- Publications: <http://www.ethosfund.ch/e/news-publications/reports-publications.asp>
- Networks: <http://www.ethosfund.ch/e/ethos-foundation/partnerships-networks.asp>

**Scandinavian Impact Investment Network:** Convening platform for investors and funders of social business. By building a community of practice investors, the association seeks to increase impact investment.

- <http://www.impactinvest.se/membership/>

## U.K.

Financial Reporting Council's UK Stewardship Code is globally influential, with many associations aligned as signatory of the code.

**Financial Reporting Council:** UK's independent regulator responsible for promoting high quality corporate governance and reporting to foster investment. It promotes high standards of corporate governance through the UK Corporate Governance Code.

- <https://www.frc.org.uk/About-the-FRC.aspx>
- The UK Stewardship Code: [https://www.icgn.org/sites/default/files/UK\\_Code.pdf](https://www.icgn.org/sites/default/files/UK_Code.pdf)

**Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC):** Forum for collaboration on climate change for investors. IIGCC provides investors with a platform to encourage public policies, investment practices, and corporate behaviour that address risks and opportunities associated with climate change.

- <http://www.iigcc.org/about-us>

**The Investment Association:** Represents investment managers in I.K. It has over 200 members who manage over £5.5 trillion for clients around the world.

- <http://www.theinvestmentassociation.org/>
- Members: <http://www.theinvestmentassociation.org/about-the-investment-association/members/full.html>

**Institute of Business Ethics:** IBE's purpose is to encourage high standards of business behaviour based on ethical values, and to raise awareness of business ethics through the dissemination of knowledge and good practice.

- <http://www.ibe.org.uk/>

**Pension and Lifetime Savings Association:** Represents over 1,300 pension schemes for over 17 million people with more than £900 billion of assets. PLSA is a forefront of promoting good corporate governance.

- <https://www.icgn.org/partners/pensions-and-lifetime-savings-association>

## U.S.

Ceres is the most notable non-profit sustainability advocacy organization. It has been named as one of the 100 most influential players on corporate governance by Directorship magazine, and was a recipient of the Skoll Foundation Award for Social Entrepreneurship in 2006.<sup>1</sup>

**CERES:** Non-profit organization advocating for sustainability leadership by mobilizing a network of investors:

- <http://www.ceres.org/>

**CDP:** CDP investor initiatives represent more than 822 institutional investors and an asset value of US \$95 trillion.

- <https://www.cdp.net/en-US/WhatWeDo/Pages/investors.aspx>

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ceres\\_\(organization\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ceres_(organization))

**Council of Institutional Investors:** Non-profit non-partisan association of employee benefit funds and endowments, and a leading voice in the U.S. for effective corporate governance standards and strong shareholder rights.

- <http://www.cii.org/>

**Boston Common Asset Management:** An employee-owned investment management firm specializing in U.S. and international responsible investing. The firm integrates ESG framework in its investment analysis.

- <http://www.bostoncommonasset.com/>

**Deloitte's Global Center for Corporate Governance:** The Global Center collaborates with Deloitte member firms to promote dialogue and activity on corporate governance and its impact on corporations and their boards.

- <http://www2.deloitte.com/global/en/pages/risk/topics/dttl-global-center-for-corporate-governance.html>