

**Minutes of the meeting between Commissioner McGuinness with [redacted] of companies member of the European Round Table for Industry (ERT) – 10/01/2023**

**Participants EC:**

1. Commissioner McGuinness
2. Florian Denis, member of the Cabinet
3. [redacted] (sustainable finance unit – DG Fisma)

**Participants ERT:**

1. [redacted] BMW Group [redacted] (TR: 7193977808-18)
2. [redacted] – Air Liquide (TR: 94857385769-70)
3. [redacted] BASF (TR: 7410939793-88)
4. [redacted] Royal Philips (TR: 035366013790-68)
5. [redacted] Leonardo (TR: 02550382403-01)
6. [redacted] Michelin (TR: 1413466815-09 )
7. [redacted] Nestlé (TR: 15366395387-57)
8. [redacted] Norsk Hydro (TR: 45060553191-59)
9. [redacted] SAP (TR: 639117311617-01)
10. [redacted] Smurfit Kappa Group (TR: 03607212990-30)
11. [redacted] bp (TR: 3394026642-58)
12. [redacted] Ferrovial (TR: 644208348566-01)
13. [redacted] Siemens (TR: 4266797770-31)
14. [redacted] Telefónica (TR: 52431421-12)
15. [redacted] ABB (TR: 7790041608-14)
16. [redacted] AkzoNobel (TR: 365563511941-15)
17. [redacted] Saint Gobain (TR: 892857311821-20)
18. [redacted] Heineken (TR: 827688315793-86)

**ERT Secretariat (TR: 25487567824-45)**

19. [redacted]
20. [redacted]

**Listening in silent mode:**

[redacted], BMW Group  
[redacted], BMW Group  
[redacted] ERT  
[redacted] ERT

**Topics:** Taxonomy, ESG ratings, CSRD

## Minutes:

### ERT:

- Quite worried about the competitiveness. Lots of declarations but little actions to ensure competitiveness of EU companies.
- **Corporate sustainability reporting standard (CSRD):** Important to have global alignment of the various standards to avoid fragmentation. The SEC is also preparing climate disclosure, which is a concern for EU companies which are dual-listed. We appreciate engagement to reduce the number of disclosure requirements. This is a step in the right direction. However the draft EFRAG standards (with 82 disclosure requirements and 1,000 data points) can be still a significant burden for companies. ERT members calls for a disclosure framework only on the most relevant data points. 3 levels of concerns: 1/ high ambition of regulators but the issue is the practicality 2/timing of regulation.
- **ESG ratings:** Need for comparable ESG ratings. Appreciate the COM public consultation. Key concerns on ESG ratings: 1/ several mergers and acquisitions led to a small number of sustainability rating agencies. 2/ High level of heterogeneity and low degree of comparability; 3/ Risks of green washing. We appreciate the introduction of rules on ESG ratings.
- **Taxonomy:** one ERT member raise a concern of the COM FAQ for the IT sector.

### CSSR:

- competitiveness is very important and this is high on our agenda. This is part of the agenda of the College seminar tomorrow. We want the economy to be strong, despite the RU war and energy crisis.
- **CSRD:** we hear that we need alignment/comparability. If companies meet the ESRS, this should cover for the ISSB standards as well. We need to avoid duplication of works for companies as much as we can but in some instances, it will not be possible. We encourage you to discuss with the ISSB and other regulators on global alignment.
- **ESG ratings:** we don't want greenwashing but at the same time we don't want a market controlled by only a small number of market participants.
- Commissioner proposes to ERT members to raise their specific and detailed issues in writing.