BREACH OF CANADA’S EXTRATERRITORIAL OBLIGATIONS: CORPORATE ABUSES IN ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA, ECUADOR, GUATEMALA, MEXICO, PERU AND DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Establish a comprehensive law on due diligence, corporate legal responsibility, and access to justice that regulates Canadian companies and financial institutions. This law should include measures to prevent, reduce, and sanction any form of corporate abuse by Canadian companies in their global supply chains, as well as the banks that finance those operations.

2. Adapt the CORE mechanism to international human rights standards to determine legal accountability. This includes broadening its mandate, providing it with autonomy and resources to guarantee the full protection of Human Rights Defenders, and giving it powers to effectively sanction Canadian corporate abuses abroad. These mechanisms should be an integral part of the Free Trade Agreements between Canada and the countries in the region.


4. Ensure access to justice, reparation and non-repetition of human rights and environmental violations for those impacted by Canadian business activity abroad. Access to justice must include reverting the burden of proof to the party responsible for the harm in order to ensure full reparation.

5. Develop effective mechanisms for access to information, transparency, and social participation, accessible to impacted communities, civil society, and human rights defenders, in Canada and in the State where the Canadian companies operate.

6. Adopt policies to eliminate and prevent the criminalization of human rights defenders and protesters, considering that Canadian extractive companies operating in Latin America and the Caribbean have encouraged the persecution of human rights defenders.

50+ organizations from Latin America and the Caribbean, mapped 37 Canadian projects located in 9 countries.

20 projects impact Indigenous Peoples, 11 Local Communities, and 6 both.

26 projects violate Indigenous Peoples rights, 16 violate Civil, and Political Rights, 19 violate Economical, Social, and Cultural Rights, and 32 impact the environment, 27 are in fragile ecosystems.

13 projects violate the right to participation and 14 the right to information.

35.14% 13 projects violate the Right to participate

37.84% 14 projects violate the right to Information

In 8 projects, criminalization cases exist and in 15 projects, there is an evident lack of access to justice for the victims in the host country.

21.62% 8 criminalization cases

40.54% 15 lack of access to justice
RECOMMENDATIONS

7. Refrain from implementing, participating in or financing projects when Indigenous Peoples and local communities living in areas under the direct or indirect influence of the project have not given their Free, Prior and Informed Consent, in accordance with international human rights standards such as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas.

8. Ensure that Canadian companies in the process of closure fully remediate their environmental impacts and the damage caused to Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

9. Establish regulations that require gold suppliers to demonstrate the legality of gold origin, in addition to being able to trace the origins of gold supply to Canada.

10. Regulate public and private investment by Canadian institutions that finance extractive activities in accordance with international human rights standards. Committing to end funding and investment in the exploration and expansion of fossil fuel operations, especially in relevant and important ecosystems such as the Amazon and glaciers.

11. Design a just energy transition plan until 2025, respecting human rights and involving the rapid and progressive abandonment of extractive industries that threaten the balance of the planet, in order to establish urgent measures aimed at combating climate change.

Design and development by Amazon Watch