

## RISK LEVEL:



Medium Risk

## DESCRIPTION:

Caterpillar does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees. However, it has not publicly terminated business relationships based on views or beliefs. Caterpillar discriminates against religious organizations in its charitable giving. The company is a signatory of the Business Roundtable's 2019 Statement on the Purpose of Corporation, which promotes stakeholder capitalism. Caterpillar pledged \$1 million to BLM and related causes and supported Planned Parenthood in 2019. However, it has not used its political contributions for ideological purposes. For these reasons, Caterpillar receives a Medium Risk rating.

## Corporate Weaponization

**Has denied service to customers, suppliers, or vendors due to their political views or religious beliefs OR corporately boycotts, divests, or sanctions regions, people groups, or industries.** Lower Risk

*Caterpillar has not publicly fired customers, suppliers, or vendors based on political views or religious beliefs.*

**Charitable giving (including employee matching programs) policies or practices discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs.** High Risk

*Caterpillar does not match gifts to "tithes, church-related commitments, religious organizations classified by the IRS" [\(1\)](#).*

**Employment policies fail to protect against discrimination based on political affiliation/views and/or religion.** High Risk

*Caterpillar does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees [\(1\)](#).*

## Corporate Governance and Public Policy

**Uses corporate reputation to support ideological causes and/or organizations hostile to freedom of expression.** High Risk

*Caterpillar has posted a brief public statement under the "Political Engagement" section of its website affirming its support for equal access to the right to vote in response to election security laws in various states [\(1\)](#). The CEO of Caterpillar, James Umpleby III, is a member of the Business Roundtable and signed its 2019 Statement on the Purpose of Corporation, which promotes stakeholder*

capitalism over traditional obligations to shareholders and customers [\(2\)](#)[\(34\)](#).

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**Uses corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of expression. High Risk**

Caterpillar provided donor support to Planned Parenthood through its charity trust/foundation in 2019 [\(1\)](#). The company has also pledged \$1 million to the Black Lives Matter movement and related causes [\(2\)](#)[\(3\)](#).

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**Uses corporate political contributions for ideological, non-business purposes.**

**Lower Risk**

Caterpillar has not used its PAC donations or lobbying for ideological purposes [\(1\)](#)[\(2\)](#)[\(3\)](#).

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