

### Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP



Locations: New York (HQ) Industries: Legal



#### **DESCRIPTION:**

Willkie Farr & Gallagher is High Risk. The company yields to political activism in shaping corporate governance, potentially alienating consumers, dividing employees, and harming shareholders. The company implements race and identity-based policies that replace merit, excellence, and integrity with preferential treatment and outcomes. Willkie Farr & Gallagher embraces corporate initiatives that redirect its central focus from business goals to partisan policies and divisive issues. This approach fails to safeguard free exercise, free speech, and free enterprise.

### **Corporate Weaponization**

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

Willkie Farr & Gallagher's HRC 2023 CEI rating indicates the company recruits employees based on sexual identity issues. The company discriminates against vendors that do not promote divisive sex and gender policies, indicating it prioritizes sexual issues over merit (<u>1</u>)(<u>2</u>). However, the company has not publicly canceled customers, suppliers, or vendors based on political views or religious beliefs.

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

Willkie Farr & Gallagher's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company will not donate to non-religious charities unless they embrace controversial sexual identity policies (<u>1</u>)(<u>2</u>). Willkie Farr & Gallagher does not appear to discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or beliefs (<u>3</u>).

Employment policies fail to protect against viewpoint or other discrimination and/or are High Risk ideological in nature.

Willkie Farr & Gallagher's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company forces employees to attend multiple, controversial trainings on gender identity, sexual orientation, transgender issues, and divisive racial ideology. The company provides gender transition guidelines for its employees and a specific benefits guide with a comprehensive explanation of transgender services funded by the company (<u>1</u>)(<u>2</u>). Willkie Farr & Gallagher is Mansfield Certified, indicating its support of DEI in its recruitment, hiring, promotions, and leadership composition (<u>3</u>)(<u>4</u>). The company does not provide viewpoint protections for its employees (<u>5</u>).



#### **Corporate Governance and Public Policy**

# Uses corporate reputation to support causes, organizations, or policies hostile to freedom of High Risk expression.

Willkie Farr & Gallagher's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company agrees to allow a controversial stakeholder group focused on sexual identity issues to dictate marketing or advertising strategy (<u>1</u>)(<u>2</u>). By doing so, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. Willkie Farr & Gallagher supports ESG within its business practices, including a commitment to reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The firm stated that "members of our practice are actively involved in community and industry-wide efforts to support ESG-related initiatives" (<u>3</u>)(<u>4</u>). Willkie Farr & Gallagher has a Diversity and Inclusion Committee, which is chaired by the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer (<u>5</u>).

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

Willkie Farr & Gallagher's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company provides a benefits package for employees which covers transgender medical procedures for covered employees and dependents, including children. This includes paid short-term leave, puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, chest surgeries, genital surgeries, medical visits and lab monitoring, travel and lodging. Additionally, the company has pledged philanthropic support of at least one organization or event that promotes sex and gender ideology (<u>1</u>)(<u>2</u>). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company increases health care costs and risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders (<u>3</u>).

## Uses corporate political actions and/or financial contributions for ideological, non-business High Risk purposes.

Willkie Farr & Gallagher's HRC 2023-2024 CEI rating indicates the company publicly advocated for controversial sex and gender ideology through local, state or federal legislation or initiatives (1)(2). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. Willkie Farr & Gallagher does not operate a PAC or engage in lobbying at this time (3)(4)(5). The company is a partner of the Center for Reproductive Rights, building case law, advocating before policy makers, and engaging in litigation to challenge bans and restrictions on access to abortion (6). Willkie Farr & Gallagher is a part of the Law Firm Antiracism Alliance, committed to work on initiatives that fight "systemic racism" ( $\underline{7}$ )(8).

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