



## Western Union

Locations: Colorado (HQ)

Industries: Diversified Financials

### RISK LEVEL:



High Risk

### DESCRIPTION:

Western Union scored a 90 on the 2023 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a political stakeholder group. By complying with the HRC's controversial demands, Western Union increases the risk of dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. The company covers transgender-related medical costs for its employees and their children and provides specific sexual orientation and gender identity-based benefits. It also uses sex and gender ideology criteria in employee recruitment, vendor selection, marketing, and philanthropic support. Western Union forces employees to undergo multiple ideological trainings and uses its reputation, corporate funds, and political influence to support controversial sex and gender ideologies, organizations, and legislation. Western Union is a signatory of the Business Roundtable's 2019 Statement on the Purpose of Corporation, which promotes stakeholder capitalism. The company also partnered with the Coalition for the American Dream, which has supported DACA legislation. Western Union regularly supports LGBTQ Pride. The company is a member of the MCCA, indicating its focus on recruiting, retaining, and promoting employees based on race. For these reasons, Western Union receives a High 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.** **Medium Risk**

*Western Union received a score of 90 on the 2023 Corporate Equality Index (CEI) from the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), a political stakeholder group. 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 (1)(2). However, the company 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**

*Western Union's CEI rating indicates the company will not donate to non-religious charities unless they embrace controversial sexual identity policies (1)(2).*

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

*Western Union 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 (1)(2). Western Union(3).

## Corporate Governance and Public Policy

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

Western Union indicates the company agrees to allow a controversial stakeholder group focused on sexual identity issues to dictate marketing or advertising strategy (1)(2). By doing so, the company risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. Western Union(3)(4). The company's CEO is a member of the Business Roundtable and its former CEO signed the 2019 Statement on the Purpose of Corporation, which promotes stakeholder capitalism over traditional obligations to shareholders and customers (5)(6).

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

Western Union indicates the company covers transgender related costs for its employees and their children, including 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 (1)(2). By allowing a political stakeholder group to dictate operations, the company increases health care costs and risks dividing employees, alienating customers and harming shareholders. The company uses corporate funds to donate to ideological organizations, including Race Forward and Urban Leadership Foundation of Colorado (3). Western Union sponsors many LGBTQ events and organizations, including Denver's Virtual Pride Parade and Micro Rainbow, a nonprofit that provides asylum to LGBT individuals (4). The company is a member of the MCCA, indicating its focus on recruiting, retaining, and promoting employees based on race (5)(6).

### Uses corporate political contributions for ideological, non-business purposes. High Risk

Western Union 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. Western Union does not operate a PAC at this time but has not lobbied for ideological purposes (3)(4).

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