

**DESCRIPTION:**

Springer Nature often yields to political activism in shaping corporate governance, potentially alienating consumers, dividing employees, and harming shareholders. The company elevates merit, excellence, and integrity ahead of race and identity-based policies. Springer Nature occasionally embraces corporate initiatives that redirect its central focus from business goals to partisan policies and divisive issues at times. 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 corporately boycotts, divests, or sanctions regions, people groups, or industries. Medium Risk

Springer Nature promotes divisive sex and gender policies. Its Business Partner Code of Conduct requires international vendors to include sexual orientation and gender identity in their nondiscrimination policy (1). The company integrates ESG into all of its business practices and screens suppliers using environmental criteria (2)(3). However, Springer Nature 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 against charitable organizations based on views or religious beliefs. Lower Risk

Springer Nature does not appear to discriminate against charitable organizations based on views or beliefs (1).

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

Springer Nature does not publish a nondiscrimination policy (1)(2).

Corporate Governance and Public Policy

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

Springer Nature has compiled a Black Lives Matter collection of literature which is publicized on its website. The collection features

subcollections featuring works on systemic racism, social unrest, gender, etc. (1). The company compiled a similar collection in celebration of Pride Month (2). Springer Nature regularly supports LGBTQ Youth causes (3)(4).

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

Springer Nature donated \$50,000 to The HBCU Foundation for scholarships "as a positive response to the Black Lives Matter movement" (1). Otherwise, there are no publicly known cases of Springer Nature using corporate funds to advance ideological causes, organizations, or policies (2).

Uses corporate political actions and/or financial contributions for ideological, non-business purposes. N/A

Springer Nature does not operate a PAC at this time and has not reported on its lobbying (1)(2)(3).

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