

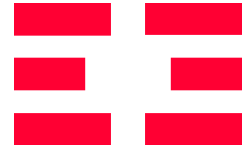


Merck & Co.

Locations: New Jersey (HQ)

Industries: Health Care Equipment and Services

RISK LEVEL:



High Risk

DESCRIPTION:

Merck vets vendors according to LGBTQ policies and does not provide its employees with protections against viewpoint discrimination, but has not publicly terminated business relationships based on views or beliefs. The company indirectly funds Planned Parenthood and pledged \$20 million to BLM and related causes. The company will not donate to religious organizations and supports and funds LGBTQ causes and organizations. For these reasons, Merck 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**

Merck has not publicly terminated business relationships due to religious beliefs or political views. The company received a score of 100 on the Corporate Equality Index from the Human Rights Campaign. Among other requirements, this means Merck has pledged to vet vendors based on LGBTQ policies (1).

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

Merck will not permit donations to "religious organizations or groups whose activities are primarily sectarian in purpose" (1).

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

Merck does not protect its employees from viewpoint discrimination (1).

Corporate Governance and Public Policy

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

Merck has signed letters supporting the Equality Act and opposing state-level elections security bills (1)(2)(3). CEO Robert Davis is a member of the Business Roundtable, but has not supported ideological initiatives (4).

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

Merck does both, directly and indirectly, fund Planned Parenthood through partnering with affiliate groups and organizations such as the Family Planning 2020 program (1)(2). Merck has pledged over \$20 million to the Black Lives Matter movement and related causes, though it is unclear which organizations received funding (3)(4). Merck is a copper sponsor of Out & Equal and a corporate partner of the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce (5)(6).

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

Merck donates in a bipartisan manner (1). Merck did make a donation to the Equality PAC (2)(3).

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