

## CRIC press release

30 March 2022

Report on the research project Status quo of Engagement

## Dialogue strategies need collaborative action, diversity and quality

**Berlin/Frankfurt-on-Main, 30 March 2022** – A lively and active engagement culture has not yet really established itself in this country. This is a central conclusion from the results of a CRIC project that looked at various aspects of sustainable investment strategies that tie in by dialogues or shareholder rights. Among other things, the following findings were obtained from own research and expert interviews:

- Political and regulatory measures under discussion focus, in addition to legal barriers, on increased transparency obligations and more quality.
- Collaborative engagement is considered very important. Corresponding platforms are in demand.
- With a view to service providers, there are complaints about a lack of diversity. There is a need for individualised, tailored, and innovative services.
- NGOs are seen as important actors in the field of engagement. A more active role is desired.
- The top engagement topic is climate change. Otherwise, there are hardly any trends in terms of engagement themes.

Gesa Vögele, member of the management at CRIC: There have been significant developments in engagement in recent years. However, there is still ample room for improvement. The current debates could be an indication that a further evolutionary leap is imminent which would be, amongst others, desirable simply because engagement, due to its original dialogical character, is able to contribute to a stronger understanding of necessary processes of transformation among various actors and even in society as a whole.

The report on the research project was published on 30 March 2022 at a <u>Twitter Press Conference</u> in cooperation with <u>SRI Event</u>.

## Download the report (in German with an English executive summary):

Recherche Ist-Stand Engagement. Eine internationale Analyse mit Schwerpunkt auf dem deutschsprachigen Raum

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CRIC (Corporate Responsibility Interface Center) CRIC is a non-profit association for the promotion of ethical and sustainable investment and sees itself as both an information platform and a centre of competence. The aim of CRIC's activities is to encourage business and the economy to give greater weight to environmental, social and cultural considerations. To promote ethical/sustainable investment, CRIC engages in dialogue with representatives from the economy, politics and society. The association sees itself as a mouthpiece for the idea of ethical and sustainable investment and actively interfaces with the various stakeholder groups. CRIC is the largest investor community for the promotion of ethical and sustainable investment in the German-speaking countries. CRIC was founded in 2000 as a follow-up initiative to the Frankfurt-Hohenheim Guidelines, has around 130 members, predominantly in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, and is based in Frankfurt-on-Main. More information under <a href="https://www.cric-online.org">www.cric-online.org</a>, <a href="https://www.cric-online.org">Twitter</a> and <a href="https://www.cric-online.org">LinkedIn</a>.