BUSINESSatOECD

Activity Update
2022

Governance and Regulatory Policy Committee

As the officially recognized voice of business to the OECD, *Business at OECD* (BIAC) conveys business perspectives and expertise to policymakers on a broad range of global economic governance and policy issues.

In the framework of our consultative status with the OECD, we keep the Organization informed of the private sector's response to different policy options, thus giving the business community the opportunity to shape the development of policies that impact business globally.

This update provides an overview of our activities in the areas of Governance and Regulatory Policy in 2022.

Governance and Regulatory Policy

Our mission

Our Governance and Regulatory Policy Committee contributes to the OECD's work on **good public governance and regulation**, with a view to improving policymaking processes across sectors and **increasing the quality of existing regulations**. It advocates **pro-competitive, transparent, predictable**, and **quality regulatory frameworks** that support **business**, **entrepreneurship**, and **innovation** with minimum **administrative burden**.

OECD work on Governance and Regulatory Policy

The OECD Directorate for Public Governance (GOV) supports both the OECD and partner countries, by providing a forum for policy dialogue and the creation of **common standards and principles**. The Directorate provides policy reviews and practical recommendations targeted to the **reform priorities of each government**. In particular, GOV provides **comparative international data** and analysis, to support **public sector innovation and reform**.

Programme of Work: The Directorate of Public Governance aims to address the **evolving challenges that governments face**. These challenges are constantly evolving due to the **speed of innovation** and include the impact of the **digital economy, robotics, climate change, erosion of trust in government, or ageing populations**. Hence, GOV seeks to analyze the implications, examine the evidence, and put forward ways of addressing the public governance-related dimensions of these challenges. The work programme is monitored and decided by **two committees** made up of **senior government officials** from every OECD member country and some partner countries: the Public Governance Committee and the Regulatory Policy Committee.

Recent OECD publications

- [Building Trust and Reinforcing Democracy Preparing the Ground for Government Action](#)

- [OECD Survey on Drivers of Trust in Public Institutions](#)

- [Better Regulation Practices across the European Union 2022](#)

- [Recommendation on International Regulatory Co-operation to Tackle Global Challenges](#)

- [Recommendation on Agile Recommendation to Harness Innovation](#)

- [OECD Regulatory Policy Outlook 2021](#)

- [Government at a Glance 2021](#)

Upcoming OECD meetings

OECD Public Governance Committee: 17-19 April

OECD Regulatory Policy Committee: 25 – 26 April

Publications and Topics: The most relevant publications by GOV are: 'Government at a Glance' and the 'Regulatory Policy Outlook'. Additionally, the directorate publishes country-specific reviews on topics such as regulatory reform, public governance, integrity, e-government and budgeting, and other crosscutting thematic reports.

Public Governance Ministerial: Building Trust and Reinforcing Democracy: In 2022, the [Global Forum and Public Governance Ministerial](#) on Building Trust and Reinforcing Democracy took place in Luxembourg. Ministers and high-level representatives [discussed concrete actions](#) to address the pressing challenges facing democracies today.

Why it matters for Business at OECD (BIAC)

Opportunity to shape the OECD GOV agenda:

Our Committee contributes to the OECD's work on good public governance and regulation, and advocates for transparent, predictable and quality regulatory frameworks that support business, entrepreneurship and innovation whilst reducing administrative burden.

Cross-sector topics that matter for businesses

Businesses are increasingly exposed to GOV issues since weak governance practices can significantly hinder their business operations. In particular, GOV seeks to provide analysis, insights, and recommendations to promote transparency and an open market approach that can foster private sector investment and international regulatory cooperation. GOV also provides cutting-edge analysis the following relevant topics:

- Impact of technology on society (e.g., Mis and Dis-information)

- The impact of artificial intelligence and blockchain on governments and societies

- The importance of international regulatory cooperation when implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)

2022 Activities

Active engagement in the OECD Public Governance Ministerial meeting in Luxembourg

The Business at OECD Governance and Regulatory Policy Committee actively participated in the **OECD Global Forum and Public Governance Ministerial on Building Trust and Reinforcing Democracy** that took place in Luxembourg in November 2022. The meeting gathered **Ministers and high-level representatives** from 38 OECD countries, including the European Union, as well as OECD accession candidate countries, discussed concrete actions to address the pressing challenges facing democracies today.

In advance of the Ministerial Meeting, we published our written contribution, which addresses two critical issues that are of particular concern to our member companies and organizations: addressing **Mis- and Dis-information** and **Rights in the Digital Age (digital rights).** Our policy paper included **input from fifty-four member companies and federations**.

Our delegation was formed by our Committee Chair, **Yilmaz Argüden**, our Vice *Chair Aidan Sweeney*, CEO and Senior Partner of PwC Luxembourg, **John Parkhouse**, EMEA Content Regulation lead for Meta, **Kathleen Stewart**, *Business at OECD* (BIAC) Policy Manager, **Jacobo Ramos Folch**, and *Business at OECD* (BIAC) Policy Advisor, **Hiroki Tamura**.

In addition to the active participation in the ministerial discussions, we held a bilateral meeting with the **Prime Minister of Luxembourg, Xavier Bettel**, and **Ireland's Minister for Public Procurement, eGovernment and Circular Economy, Ossian Smyth.**

Symposium on Reimagining Regulation to Support Innovation in Washington, DC

In April 2022, our Governance and Regulatory Policy Committee co-organized with OECD and George Washington University the **Symposium 'Agile Governance for Our Future - Reimagining Regulation to Support Innovation'** in **Washington,** DC featuring **business, government, academia, and civil society exploring** how to implement **agile governance** with more dynamic, flexible, and iterative regulatory principles. The narrative of the event was framed around the [OECD Recommendation on Agile Recommendation to Harness Innovation](#) that the OECD Council adopted in October 2021.

Our **Executive Board Chair Rick Johnston** delivered a keynote speech emphasizing business support to the OECD Recommendation on Agile Governance that seeks to promote innovation and technological change by also actively consulting with the private sector as a key stakeholder. Other speakers included **President, Global Affairs & Chief Legal Officer at Google and Alphabet Inc. Kent Walker, OECD Deputy Secretary-General Jeffrey Schlagenhauf,** and **Harvard Law School Professor Cass Sunstein.**

The **second day** of the event featured **workshop discussions** on the implementation of the Agile Governance Recommendation which featured policy experts and key stakeholders. Our **Governance and Regulatory Committee Chair Dr. Yilmaz Argüden** shared a panel with Head of the **OECD Regulatory Policy Division Nick Malyshev**, **Google** Director of Global Strategy **Michael Fitzpatrick,** and Executive Director of the **IBM Center for The Business of Government Dan Chenok**. In his remarks, Dr. Argüden emphasized the need for active engagement of the private sector in promoting international regulatory cooperation to foster business-led contributions towards economic growth.

Other activities:

OECD–EU Commission Conference on Measuring Regulatory Performance

- In June 2022, our Governance and Regulatory Policy Committee leadership participated in the **Conference on Measuring Regulatory Performance** that was organized by the **OECD and European Commission in Brussels**. Our Chair, **Dr. Yilmaz Argüden** and Vice Chair, **Aidan Sweeney**, participated in the discussions on **improving the quality of regulations**, with a particular focus on enhancing the efficiency of legislation and its capacity to address complex problems and be fit for tackling future challenges.

- The conference also included the launch event of the **OECD-EU joint report** on *Better Regulation Practices across the European Union 2022*. This report analyses recent developments and current practices for improving the quality of laws and regulations across all 27 EU Member States and the European Union.

OECD Regulatory Policy Committee meetings and written submissions

- Our Committee actively participated in the OECD Public Governance and Regulatory Policy Committee meetings. Our chair, **Dr. Yilmaz Argüden** intervened in these OECD meetings providing the **perspective of the private** sector on crucial topics for business such as **sustainability**, **better regulation**, and **innovation**.

- Business at OECD (BIAC) also submitted a *written statement on the OECD publication 'Better Regulation for the Green transition'* that was presented during the 27th Session of the OECD Regulatory Policy Committee in December 2022.

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Established in 1962, *Business at OECD* (BIAC) stands for policies that enable businesses of all sizes to contribute to growth, economic development, and societal prosperity. Through *Business at OECD*, national businesses and employers' federations representing over 7 million companies provide and receive expertise via our participation with the OECD and governments promoting competitive economies and better business.