# Carrots & Sticks

## The world's most comprehensive ESG and sustainability policy database

#### **Overview**

Carrots & Sticks is an online database and document repository of mandatory and voluntary public policies that shape businesses' sustainability and environmental, social and governance (ESG) impact.

The data comprises **2,463** policies in **132** countries, **76** international and regional organizations, in **38** languages, which range from 1897 to the present day.

Regular updates ensure that C&S has the most up-to-date policies from all around the globe. The 2023 edition of the Carrots & Sticks report will provide an analysis based on the updated dataset of policies.

### Carrots & Sticks development

In April 2023 the partners of C&S expanded to also include the University of Edinburgh and King's College London as part of the development of the database – joining GRI, Stellenbosch University and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

The online repository now offers the original policy documents (in PDF and txt formats). All policies are available in their original language as well as high quality English translations.

Each policy is analyzed using advances in natural language processing and machine learning and a range of relevant metrics at different levels are presented.

### **Policy instrument metrics**

Each policy is coded according to the following indicators:

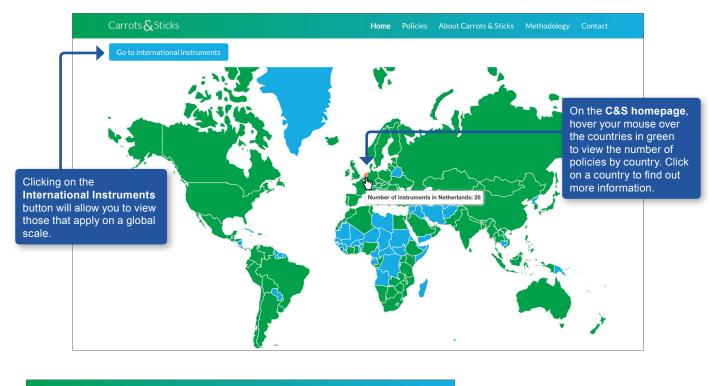
Summary	Provides a short, written summary of the policy	
Policy title	Specifies the title in English and, when the original policy is in another language, in that language	
Year	Details when the policy was issued	
Issuer	Names the specific public authority that authored the policy	
Disclosure	Shows whether the policy requires firms to disclose information about their sustainability activities or not	
Mandatory/Voluntary	Indicates if the policy legally requires compliance or is it voluntary	
Restrictiveness	Breaks down the policy by its proportional use of the language of compellence and deterrence around firms' sustainability activities	
Restrictions on business	Measures how the language of 'restrictiveness' applies directly to business and business actors	
ESG	Analyzes the policy by its proportional focus on Environmental, Social and Governance issues, with a list of key ESG terms per policy	
Sustainable Development Goals	Lists all SDGs mentioned in each policy	
Most targeted industries	Classifies the policy by its proportional focus on 21 sectors of economic activity (e.g., agriculture, finance, healthcare, manufacturing, retail trade)	
GRI	Identifies all GRI Standards mentioned in each policy	







#### How to use the Carrots & Sticks Database



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