# Policy Statement of B. Braun SE on Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence Obligations 2023

in accordance with the German Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations to Prevent Human Rights Violations in Supply Chains (Lieferkettensorgfaltspflichtengesetz, LkSG)

## Contents

F0	FOREWORD		
Ι.	P	PROCEDURE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DUE DILIGENCE OBLIGATIONS	3
	1.	Risk Management	3
	2.	Risk Analysis	3
,	3.	Preventive and Remedial Measures	4
	4.	Effectiveness Monitoring	4
ļ	5.	Complaints Procedure	5
(	6.	Documentation and Reporting Obligations	5
	7.	Responsibilities	5
II.	(	OUR EXPECTATIONS	5
Ш	F	INAL PROVISIONS	6

## **FOREWORD**

As a family company, we are committed to our responsibility to protect and promote human rights and to our social obligation to preserve an intact environment. We consider the protection of human rights to be a key element of our corporate responsibility. Our commitment to respect human rights is based on the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN UDHR), the Principles of the UN Global Compact, the International Labor Organization (ILO) core labor standards, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP), the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.

We are committed to upholding the prohibition of child labor; upholding the prohibition of human trafficking, slavery, and other forms of forced labor; ensuring occupational health and safety; respecting the freedom of association; treating workers without discrimination; providing suitable working conditions for employees, including adequate wages and maintaining employability; preventing the improper use of private or public security forces for business purposes; protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, and the prohibition of unlawful land seizure. As a company with energy-intensive processes, B. Braun is globally committed to energy efficiency and climate protection. We further intensified our activities to make a positive contribution to environmental and climate protection.

This Policy Statement illustrates our commitment to respecting human rights and protecting the environment, which is already reflected in other company guidelines. These include the B. Braun Code of Conduct and the Human Rights Declaration.<sup>1</sup> We always comply with applicable national law. In cases where international rights are restricted by local laws, we strive to promote the principles behind international standards without conflicting with local laws. In cases where local laws go beyond international laws, we will comply with the former.

As a company in the healthcare sector, we have the opportunity to strengthen the protection of human rights in a variety of ways. Our prime objective is to protect and improve the health of people around the world. Therefore, we have implemented procedures in our business processes to minimize, prevent, or put an end to these risks and violations of our human rights and environmental expectations.

Under Section 6 (1), 6 (2) sentence 1 of the LkSG, we are obliged to issue a Policy Statement if a human rights or environmental risk is identified as part of our risk analysis. This is a fundamental and overarching preventive measure that describes our commitment to fulfilling our due diligence obligations.

Management Board of B. Braun SE

1 https://www.bbraun.com/en/about-us/responsibility/compliance/code-of-conduct.html

## I. PROCEDURE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DUE DILIGENCE

## **OBLIGATIONS**

## 1. Risk Management

We take responsibility for our actions and apply this Policy Statement to our supply chain and our own business area. In the context of the LkSG, the supply chain encompasses all products and services of a company, including all the steps undertaken both domestically and internationally—from the extraction of raw materials through delivery to the end customer. Our own business area within the meaning of the LkSG includes all of our activities to achieve our corporate objectives, regardless of location.

This Policy Statement specifies the procedures as set out in our Human Rights Declaration for the supply chain and our own business area in accordance with the provisions of the LkSG. It also strengthens our obligation to fulfill environmental requirements. The Management Board of B. Braun SE adopted this Policy Statement in its present form at its meeting on February 7, 2024. It also applies to affiliated companies.

Respect for human rights and the implementation of corporate due diligence obligations in our business area and in our own supply chain are important contributions for us to improve the human rights and environmental situation along the global supply chains of our industry. We see this as an ongoing challenge and a continuous process that will evolve in line with changing conditions, our business activities, and the size and structure of our company.

We have established an appropriate and effective risk management system that is firmly embedded in relevant business processes in order to meet the protected legal positions. The identification and assessment of LkSG risks was carried out from the perspective of those (potentially) affected. The Management Board of B. Braun SE is responsible for this issue and for the protection and enforcement of human rights. Since 2022, the Group Compliance Office has been responsible for monitoring the responsibilities arising from the LkSG and reports directly to the Chair of the Management Board.

#### 2. Risk Analysis

As part of risk management, we carry out an annual and ad hoc risk analyses to identify human rights and environmental risks along our own supply chain, and in which risks in our industry are prioritized.

As part of our due diligence obligations, we strive to develop a comprehensive understanding of potential and actual adverse risks along our entire supply chain. In this context, we carry out regular annual risk analyses in our own business area and at our suppliers. In addition, we reserve the right to carry out situational risk analyses, particularly if we anticipate that the risk situation in the supply chain will change or evolve significantly due to the introduction of new products, projects, or a new business area.

To identify the risk situation, we first use an abstract risk analysis based on country- and sector-specific risk data. This analysis enables us to assess the likelihood of violations of human rights and environmental standards. We then take a closer look at those business areas and suppliers where an increased risk of violations of human rights or environmental standards has been identified.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 6 (2) sentence 3, no. 2 of the LkSG, the following priority human rights and environmental risks were identified in 2023, which are prioritized by B. Braun due to their potential severity and impact.

- o Occupational health and safety within the meaning of Section 2 (2) no. 5 of the LkSG
- o Environment and waste within the meaning of Section 2 (3) nos. 1–8 of the LkSG.

#### 3. Preventive and Remedial Measures

In order to fulfill our responsibility to respect human and environmental rights, we rely on the coordinated implementation of various suitable preventive and remedial measures. Our primary objective is to protect those potentially affected and to identify, prevent, or at least reduce negative impacts on their human and environmental rights. Preventive measures within our business area notably include:

- publication and implementation of this Policy Statement
- designation of responsibilities for monitoring risk management
- compliance with our Code of Conduct and Human Rights Declaration
- continuous training and raising employee awareness
- implementation of risk-based control measures
- consistent sanctioning of violations
- implementation of standards for sustainable procurement

We also implement appropriate preventive measures with direct suppliers. These notably include:

- consideration of human rights and environmental requirements when selecting new suppliers and their contractual commitment
- compliance with our ESG standards for suppliers<sup>2</sup>
- integration of contractual ESG clauses for suppliers
- implementation of training and development to ensure compliance with the contractual commitments
- implementation of risk-based control measures

We are committed to reviewing the effectiveness of our measures on a regular, demand-driven basis in order to prevent and minimize negative impacts from human rights and environmental risks. We also check compliance with our specifications. In the event that our company is directly involved in human and environmental rights violations, we will take immediate steps to end or minimize these actions and aim to redress the situation.

#### 4. Effectiveness Monitoring

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Investigations into the effectiveness of the measures taken are based on information from appropriate sources within and outside B. Braun and rely on suitable qualitative and quantitative indicators to measure effectiveness consistently (e.g., over a defined period). An essential part of our due diligence obligations includes taking into account the results and information from our

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.bbraun.com/en/about-us/responsibility/sustainability/transparent-supply-chain.html

effectiveness monitoring evaluation in internal guidelines and processes (e.g., performance assessments, surveys, and audits), as well as determining appropriate follow-up measures or adapting existing measures.

### 5. Complaints Procedure

Irrespective of the risk analysis and the risks identified here, our internal complaints procedure enables all affected persons to report human rights and environmental risks and violations of human rights and environmental obligations. The complaints procedure is publicly accessible and described in our rules of procedure<sup>3</sup>.

We inform employees and suppliers of the available reporting channels and hotlines. This notably includes use of the Code of Conduct and the ESG standards for suppliers.

The effectiveness of the complaints procedure is reviewed and developed on an ongoing basis, but at least once a year.

## 6. Documentation and Reporting Obligations

Efforts to implement the due diligence obligations effectively are ongoing. In addition, we undertake to publish an annual report on the fulfillment of due diligence obligations starting January 1, 2024. This will be published on the website no later than four months after the end of the financial year and will be available free of charge for a period of seven years. Further details will be published in due course.

## 7. Responsibilities

The Management Board of B. Braun SE is responsible for fulfilling corporate due diligence obligations for human rights and the environment. As part of compliance with the LkSG, the Group Compliance Office monitors suitable and effective risk management measures. The operational implementation of human rights due diligence processes is entrusted to the relevant specialist departments, in particular Human Resources and Procurement. These are supported by other specialist departments and experts.

## II. OUR EXPECTATIONS

Our expectations regarding compliance with human rights and environmental standards apply to both our employees and our suppliers. With regard to our employees, we emphasize the importance of respecting and promoting human rights. Our Code of Conduct sets out the principles of human rights and our commitment to uphold them.

In addition, our Human Rights Declaration—a key part of our corporate culture—describes our commitment to practicing integrity and clarifies existing rules of conduct, particularly with regard to human rights. This Declaration applies to all employees without exception, regardless of their position in the company. In order to comply with our due diligence obligations, we raise awareness among our employees to respect human and environmental rights and we equip them with the skills and knowledge required to implement appropriate due diligence processes effectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.bbraun.com/en/about-us/responsibility/compliance/human-rights.html

In our ESG standards for suppliers, we set out our principles on human and environmental rights for our suppliers worldwide and emphasize our commitment to uphold them. Our procurement standards set clear guidelines for ecological, social, and ethical requirements for suppliers. We expect them to comply with the specific human and environmental standards, and to ensure that their suppliers do likewise. If a supplier violates these standards, we reserve the right to terminate the business relationship.

## III. FINAL PROVISIONS

This Policy Statement was largely developed in dialog with the relevant business areas and industry associations in the pharmaceutical and medical technology sector. As the challenges that companies face in terms of respect for human rights and associated environmental rights are constantly changing, this Policy Statement and its implementation must be reviewed on an ongoing basis to ensure that it remains up-to-date and effective. This means that important changes in the immediate environment of B. Braun can be documented and our internal processes adapted accordingly.

This Policy Statement does not give rise to any rights of individuals or third parties. It is reviewed annually, as well as on an ad hoc basis, and is updated immediately if risks change or evolve.

## CONTACT

If you have any questions or comments on this Policy Statement or other human rights matters, please contact <a href="maintain:humanrights.scm@bbraun.com">humanrights.scm@bbraun.com</a>.

Complaints or reports of non-compliance with this Policy Statement can be sent to <a href="mainto:humanrights.scm@bbraun.com">humanrights.scm@bbraun.com</a> or to one of the whistleblower systems mentioned in the Complaint Mechanism section.