

RESOLUTION
SUBMITTED TO THE 27TH CONVENTION OF THE
LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA

September 20 – 23, 2026

**RESOLUTION ON RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT
AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS**

Submitted pursuant to Article V, Section 13 of the International Union Constitution

WHEREAS the LIUNA International Union Constitution commits this Union, at Article II, Section 1(p), to “promote better understanding and improve the conditions of life of the laboring peoples of all countries”; and requires, in its Oath of Office, the steadfast pursuit of “justice, dignity, respect and equality for all working people”; and at Article VIII, Section 2(l), grants the General Executive Board with the authority to establish the investment policy of the funds of the International Union and regulate the manner and method in which these investments shall be made;

AND WHEREAS the General Executive Board may invest funds in corporate entities, and may invest funds in sovereign bonds – debt instruments issued by or in support of national governments;

AND WHEREAS LIUNA members and staff depend upon the LIUNA National Industrial Pension Fund, the LIUNA Staff and Affiliates Pension Fund, the LIUNA Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada, and affiliated benefit funds for their retirement security;

AND WHEREAS the United Nations Global Compact establishes ten principles on human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption; among them being the principle that businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights, and the principle that businesses should make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses;ⁱ

AND WHEREAS the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations and the highest court of international law; its determinations define what is lawful and unlawful under international law, and are relied upon by institutional investors worldwide as authoritative indicators of legal and reputational risk;ⁱⁱ

AND WHEREAS the Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global – the world's largest sovereign wealth fund, exceeding \$2 trillion in assets with stakes in approximately 8,500 companies across 70 countries – maintains a publicly available exclusion list based on both product and conduct criteria that is widely relied upon by pension funds and institutional investors globally as an authoritative benchmark for responsible investment;ⁱⁱⁱ

AND WHEREAS the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights maintains a database of 158 business enterprises across 11 countries involved in activities related to settlements in occupied territories, and applies a methodology based on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;^{iv}

AND WHEREAS the North American labour movement has an established tradition of applying ethical and responsible investment principles to union pension and benefit funds, including the successful campaign by ILWU, AFSCME, and other unions in the 1980s to screen union pension fund holdings against companies doing business with apartheid South Africa;^v

AND WHEREAS this tradition continues, with the United Auto Workers amending its constitution at its 39th Constitutional Convention in June 2026 to prohibit certain sovereign bond investments on human rights grounds;^{vi} such an approach reflects the reality that norms-based investment screening is a necessary and well-established practice within the labour movement;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the delegates assembled at the 27th Convention of the Laborers' International Union of North America, that:

1. REVIEW OF FUND HOLDINGS AND ADOPTION OF A RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT POLICY: LIUNA directs the General Executive Board to develop, within twelve (12) months of adoption of this resolution, a model Responsible Investment Policy that screens fund holdings against the following instruments:

- a. the OHCHR Database of Business Enterprises Pursuant to Human Rights Council Resolutions 31/36 and 53/25;
- b. the exclusion list of the Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global Council on Ethics on conduct-based grounds; and
- c. companies that derive material revenues from the manufacture, supply, or maintenance of military systems and components deployed in operations subject to binding orders of the International Court of Justice.

The General Executive Board shall direct a comprehensive audit of the holdings of all affiliated pension and benefit funds against these criteria, and shall instruct

LIUNA's trustee representatives on each fund to pursue adoption of the model policy through that fund's legitimate governance processes. The Responsible Investment Policy and the results of the audit shall be made available to the membership.

- 2. NO INVESTMENT IN GOVERNMENT BONDS OF STATES SUBJECT TO ICJ ORDERS:** No LIUNA funds – including the LIUNA National Industrial Pension Fund, the LIUNA Staff and Affiliates Pension Fund, the LIUNA Pension Fund of Central and Eastern Canada, and any other affiliated benefit and investment funds – shall purchase or hold sovereign bonds, government-issued debt instruments, or state-guaranteed securities issued by or on behalf of any state that is, at the time of investment, subject to binding provisional measures orders of the International Court of Justice. Where such investments are currently held, the relevant fund trustees are directed to develop and execute an orderly plan to liquidate those holdings within six (6) months of adoption of this resolution. LIUNA directs its trustee representatives on all jointly-trusted funds to pursue adoption of this prohibition through each fund's legitimate governance processes as a matter of priority.
- 3. ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND REPORTING:** LIUNA directs that all affiliated pension and benefit funds, regardless of jurisdiction, shall make a complete schedule of current investment holdings available to the General Executive Board and to the membership on no less than an annual basis, in sufficient detail to permit assessment against the screening instruments identified herein. LIUNA further directs the General President to appoint a working group to oversee implementation of this resolution, to monitor compliance, and to report to the General Executive Board no less than annually. A full implementation report shall be presented to delegates at the 28th Convention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the delegates to the 27th Convention of the Laborers' International Union of North America, and shall be binding upon the General Executive Board, all officers, and all affiliated subordinate bodies in accordance with Article I, Section 2 and Article II, Section 2(d) of the International Union Constitution.

SUBMITTED BY

Delegate Name: Shane Martínez

Local Union: Local 3000

Delegate Signature: _____

Date of Submission: August 7, 2026

ENDNOTES

ⁱ UN Global Compact, Ten Principles on human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption. Online: <https://unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/mission/principles> Over 16,000 participating companies from 166 countries. Norms-based screening using UNGC principles is applied by leading environmental, social, and governance (ESG) data providers including Sustainalytics (Global Standards Screening), MSCI ESG, and ISS STOXX ESG.

ⁱⁱ The International Court of Justice is established by Chapter XIV of the Charter of the United Nations as “the principal judicial organ of the United Nations” (Art. 92). Online: <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text> See also ICJ, LaGrand (Germany v. United States of America), Judgment of 27 June 2001, I.C.J. Reports 2001, p. 506, para. 109. Online: <https://icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/104/104-20010627-JUD-01-00-EN.pdf>

ⁱⁱⁱ Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global (GPFG), Council on Ethics. The fund exceeds US\$2 trillion in assets and holds stakes in approximately 8,500 companies across 70 countries. Exclusion criteria include product-based criteria (weapons, tobacco, coal, cannabis) and conduct-based criteria (serious violations of human rights, severe environmental damage, acts of corruption, and sale of weapons to certain states). Online: <https://www.nbim.no/en/about-us/about-the-fund/> The GPFG has been described as a “model for sovereign wealth, pension, and endowment funds worldwide” whose exclusion decisions carry “systemic influence” in global markets (Duke University, “The Portfolio Construction of the Norwegian Sovereign Wealth Fund,” June 6, 2025).

^{iv} OHCHR, Database of Business Enterprises Pursuant to Human Rights Council Resolutions 31/36 and 53/25, updated 26 September 2025 (UN Document A/HRC/60/19). Online: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/thematic-reports/ahrc6019-database-all-business-enterprises-involved-activities-detailed> The OHCHR applied a globally applicable methodology based on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Online: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/business/bhr-database>

^v ILWU, “Death of Nelson Mandela Recalls Decades of ILWU Support for Anti-Apartheid Struggle,” December 6, 2013. Online: <https://www.ilwu.org/death-of-nelson-mandela-recalls-decades-of-ilwu-support-for-anti-apartheid-struggle/>. AFSCME 26th International Convention (1984) Resolution 105. Online: <https://web.archive.org/web/20251002061856/https://afscme.org/about/governance/conventions/resolutions-amendments/1984/resolutions/105-south-africa>

^{vi} United Auto Workers (UAW), 39th Constitutional Convention, Detroit, Michigan, June 18, 2026. Amendment to UAW Constitution Art. 7, Sec. 2. “UAW Closes Out 39th Constitutional Convention with Unified Vision for the Fights Ahead,” UAW.org, 18 June 2026. Online: <https://uaw.org/uaw-closes-out-39th-constitutional-convention-with-unified-vision-for-the-fights-ahead/>