



Ethos Proxy Services

Ethos makes proxy voting easy for your institution. Ethos offers a complete proxy voting analysis service for listed companies. This includes profound analysis with voting recommendation and administrative support.

Ethos' voting recommendations are based on its proxy voting guidelines based on the codes of best practice in corporate governance. Several institutional clients have already chosen the services of Ethos.

Swiss law (BVV/OPP 2 art. 49a) requires that pension funds specify how they intend to exercise their shareholder voting rights

The **Swiss Association of Pension Funds (ASIP)** encourages its members to actively exercise their voting rights

Ethos -
the vote that
counts

Exercise Your Voting Rights



In addition to a financial return, investing in shares gives the owner a right to information and the possibility to actively influence the strategic orientation of a publicly listed company. To this effect, institutional investors systematically vote their shares at shareholder general meetings. By voting, long term shareowners fully assume their responsibilities.

Ethos Voting Guidelines

Ethos' voting recommendations are guided by the concept of sustainable development and are based on international best practice principles in corporate governance. Shareowners take part in company decisions by voting on proposed resolutions at general meetings. This participation is essential, in particular when it comes to elect the board of directors, to approve the financial statements and accounts, to amend the articles of association and the capital structure of a company.

A Team of Experienced Analysts

A team of analysts with extensive experience carries out the proxy analyses by rigorously applying the principles of corporate governance and voting guidelines of Ethos. Ethos' analysts are well trained and have an in-depth knowledge of the markets.

International Networks

Over the years, Ethos has become a reference in Switzerland with regard to the exercise of shareowner rights. In parallel, Ethos in its capacity as Swiss member of Expert Corporate Governance Service ECGS, the European network of consultants in corporate governance, is also an active shareowner internationally.

Why exercise shareowner voting rights?

- To invest in a responsible manner also means to exercise your voting rights.
- Shareowners have the last word on strategic issues and operational choices: elections of the board of directors, capital structure, dividends, ...
- Shareholding voting rights have an economic value: the decisions of the general meeting can have an influence on share price.
- Voting means protecting the investor's capital in the long term. Ethos offers a comprehensive service of proxy voting analyses and can assist you with the exercise of voting rights.

Ethos' services

- Proxy voting analysis with voting recommendations
- Administrative support for the exercise of voting rights
- Proxy voting for subscriber of funds

Proxy Voting Analysis and Voting Recommendations

The analysis of the different items on the agenda of general meetings is complex and time consuming. Few institutional investors have the internal resources to accomplish this task without the support of external specialists. This is why Ethos proposes a service of proxy voting analysis of Swiss listed companies.

Ethos' analysis include a detailed review of each item on the agenda as well as voting recommendations. The recommendations are based on Ethos' corporate governance principles and voting guidelines. Moreover, the analysis include a series of information on the company, in particular its board of directors. Ethos delivers a quarterly report presenting the highlights of the meetings.

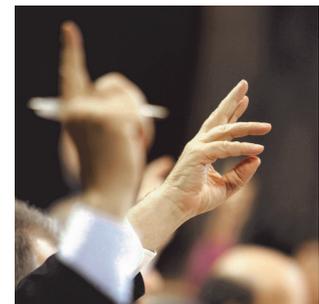
Did you know that Ethos votes its shares at each and every general meeting of the companies included in its own investment funds? For those investors who invest in Ethos' funds, the proxy voting analysis service is free (minimal investment required).

Administrative Support for the Exercise of Voting Rights

For institutional investors that have subscribed to the proxy voting analysis service, Ethos also offers a service of administrative support for the exercise of voting rights. This service relieves investors of all administrative tasks related to proxy voting.

Proxy Voting for Subscriber of Funds

Several investment funds for qualified investors and various investment foundations allow for the exercise of shareholder voting rights. Ethos offers a specific proxy voting service for this type of investment. The voting positions are reported quarterly to the investors.



The **Ethos Foundation** is composed of more than 130 Swiss pension funds and non-profit organisations. Ethos was founded in 1997 and aims at promoting socially responsible investment as well as a stable and prosperous socio-economic environment.

The Foundation owns the **company Ethos Services SA** which conducts all investment and consulting activities in the field of socially responsible investment (SRI). To institutional investors Ethos Services offers a range of SRI-funds, analyses of general meeting agendas including voting recommendations, a shareholder engagement program with listed companies, as well as sustainability ratings and analyses of listed companies.

To allow private individuals to benefit of and take part in the activities of Ethos, the Foundation launched the **association Ethos Académie** in 2012. This non-profit organisation conducts outreach activities in the field of socially responsible investment, including organising conferences and debates, funding of studies and supporting the exercise of shareholders' voting rights.

www.ethosfund.ch
www.ethosacademie.ch

Signatory of:



info@ethosfund.ch
www.ethosfund.ch

Place Cornavin 2
PO Box
CH - 1211 Geneva 1
T +41 (0)22 716 15 55
F +41 (0)22 716 15 56

Zurich Office:
Gessnerallee 32
CH - 8001 Zurich
T +41 (0)44 421 41 11
F +41 (0)44 421 41 12