

Manifesto of the International CSR Week

Preamble

The transformation of our societies in the face of climate, social, and economic challenges is not an option: it is a necessity. It requires everyone – businesses, institutions, associations, citizens – to commit wholeheartedly to inventing new models that are fairer, more sustainable, and more humane.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) lies at the heart of this dynamic. It is not a decorative add-on, but a method for linking organizational strategy to the needs of the planet and its people.

No organization, however committed, can succeed alone. The time of isolated initiatives is over. The power of the collective is our strongest response: it allows us to pool knowledge, build trust, and create irreversible dynamics of change. It is in this spirit that the International CSR Week was conceived: an annual gathering where local initiatives converge into a global movement.

This week is an invitation. An invitation to share our experiences, unite our voices, and channel our energies. An invitation to transcend borders so that CSR everywhere becomes both a lever for strategic transformation and a driver of shared progress.

This manifesto is the first cornerstone. It sets out the 7 founding principles that will guide this collective momentum every year. May it inspire, unite, and encourage each of us to act—wherever we are, with whatever means we have.

Together, we can transform the economy. Together, we can change the world.

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President of the CSR City

Introduction

The International CSR Week was created to respond to a conviction: in the face of urgent climate, social, and economic challenges, it is time to make Corporate Social Responsibility a global movement, shared and accessible to all.

Every year, during the third week of October, thousands of stakeholders—businesses, associations, communities, institutions, and citizens—are invited to mobilize around concrete initiatives. This week deliberately coincides with the International CSR Congress, which serves as its highlight, in order to connect global reflection with local action.

The International CSR Week is not just a series of events. It is a moment of convergence, where everyone can contribute, at their own level, to the responsible transformation of organizations and territories. It seeks to be an inclusive, open framework, enabling practices to be shared, knowledge to be disseminated, and collective dynamics to be accelerated.

This Manifesto lays the foundations for this mobilization. It presents the 7 founding principles that give it coherence and durability: a common banner, simultaneous events, an international thematic

program, a worldwide mobilization campaign, outreach to citizens, a strong anchor in the International CSR Congress, and the involvement of institutional and private partners.

By giving voice to all initiatives, large or small, the International CSR Week seeks to demonstrate a simple truth: transformation is possible—if we carry it together.

The CSR City & the Oïkos Foundation

The CSR City was born from a simple conviction: the sustainable transformation of organizations can only succeed if it is collective, shared, and supported. Created in 2016 in Toulouse, it has gradually established itself as a unique place—a space for reflection, training, and action, open to all those wishing to place CSR at the heart of their strategy.

It is now recognized as the **Resource and Competence Center for CSR**. A true platform of expertise, it provides organizations with tools, methods, and a network of practitioners to support their transformation. This mission is backed by a community of more than 300 representatives worldwide, spread across France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Morocco, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, and beyond.

This international dimension makes the CSR City not only a local network rooted in its territories, but also a global actor capable of connecting experiences, sharing best practices, and fostering a worldwide dynamic in pursuit of a common goal: transforming the economy to meet the challenges of our time.

The Oïkos Foundation for CSR complements this mission. Created to promote, disseminate, and experiment with CSR good practices, it acts as a catalyst for the common good. It supports projects, accompanies stakeholders, and ensures that transformations remain accessible, sustainable, and inclusive. As a shareholder foundation, it guarantees the proper functioning of all the CSR City's entities.

Together, the CSR City and the Oïkos Foundation carry an ambitious vision: that of an open, collaborative, international movement, where CSR is not only a regulatory requirement or a strategic opportunity, but a universal path to progress and responsibility.

It is within this framework that the International CSR Week was imagined, to give this dynamic a global resonance and to unite all those who wish to act.

The 7 Founding Principles

1. A common banner and a global rendezvous

Every year, the third week of October becomes a worldwide point of convergence, where local, national, and international initiatives unite under a single banner. A logo, a graphic charter, and a dedicated website ensure the Week's coherence and visibility.

2. Simultaneous events across countries

During the International CSR Week, every organization is invited to create or join an initiative: a conference, roundtable, collaborative workshop, company visit, or citizen gathering. This simultaneity of events creates a powerful echo.

3. A shared thematic program

The Week is structured around five major common themes:

- Day 1: Governance & Responsible Strategy
- Day 2: Environment & Climate
- Day 3: Social, Diversity & Inclusion
- Day 4: Stakeholders, Territories & Value Chains
- Day 5: Innovation, Sustainable Finance & Business Models

4. A global mobilization effect

The Week is an international campaign that showcases the power of collective action. Common hashtags, global challenges, and soon a worldwide interactive map of initiatives reinforce this sense of belonging.

5. Outreach to the general public

CSR must break free from expert circles. The Week opens participation widely: collaborative workshops, “fresques”, inspiring videos, testimonies, online and in-person events.

6. A strong link with the International CSR Congress

The Congress, held every October, is the highlight of the Week. It is phygital: local “CSR Cities” connected by video, speakers and participants joining remotely, cross-testimonies, and the publication of an “Annual CSR Manifesto.”

7. The involvement of institutional and private partners

International organizations (UN, OECD, ILO), national and European institutions, businesses, NGOs, student associations, professional federations, and media: all are called upon to relay and amplify the movement.

Conclusion

The International CSR Week is more than an annual rendezvous: it is a collective movement. It reminds us that transforming our economies, our organizations, and our ways of life can no longer wait—and will only succeed if we undertake it together.

This Manifesto sets out the 7 founding principles of a global mobilization: a common banner, simultaneous events, a shared thematic program, a worldwide campaign, outreach to the public, a strong anchor in the International CSR Congress, and the involvement of institutional and private partners.

These principles have value only through the commitment and action of all those who, everywhere in the world, believe in CSR’s power to build a sustainable future.

Together, let us make the third week of October the moment when the entire world celebrates and accelerates responsible transformation. Together, let us affirm that CSR is not only a requirement, but a promise for the future.

We call on all businesses, institutions, associations, communities, and citizens to join the International CSR Week, to share their initiatives, and to take part in this global dynamic.

Because change is only possible if we carry it collectively.

Because corporate responsibility concerns us all.

Because the future is written here and now.