G4S Human Rights Policy

Understanding and Showing Respect for Human Rights
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Version date</th>
<th>Document history</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Live document</td>
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</table>

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G4S Human Rights Commitment

Human rights are the basic rights and freedoms that apply to everyone in the world from their birth to their death.

As a large scale integrated security group operating across the world, we must be vigilant when identifying human rights risks and violations. They can be complex and often hidden. Human rights risks in our industry may include the unnecessary or illegal use of force, modern slavery, limitations on freedom of movement, mistreatment of detainees, criminal and sexual exploitation, and child labour.

G4S is committed to the respect of human rights and the continued development of an ethical and sustainable business model. We will use our influence and geographical reach to encourage the improvement of industry standards, the provision of decent employment opportunities and to create secure and stable communities around the world.

Everyone at G4S, whether a director or frontline supervisor has a responsibility to respect and protect the human rights of the company’s employees, the people in our care, those that supply G4S, and those that live and work in the communities in which we operate.

Any human rights abuse is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

G4S will fulfil its responsibilities on human rights across all of its companies around the world by applying the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (2011).

The Guiding Principles affirm four international standards that have achieved broad international consensus as a human rights baseline for all businesses:

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1947)
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
- The International Labour Organisation Declaration on Fundamental Rights at Work (1998)

This G4S Human Rights Policy sets out our commitment to respect human rights and embodies our particular understanding of their significance for a global security company of our scale and diversity. It also sets our expectations for the conduct of all G4S business, our employees, and those with whom we do business.

Guidelines for our staff on how to implement the policy across our businesses can be found in our management guidance document: G4S Human Rights Guidelines. Together our Human Rights Policy...
G4S Human Rights Policy

and Guidelines make up the policies and principles by which G4S will hold its employees accountable for respecting human rights.

A Strategic Approach to Human Rights

We take a strategic approach to respecting human rights. This recognises the potentially positive and negative impacts of our operations, the particular nature of our business as a security company, the UN framework and the different geographies in which we operate.

Assessing Risk and Realisation

We recognise that G4S can play both a positive and negative role in respecting human rights around the world. Our businesses can contribute positively to the realisation of human rights by the range of services we offer to protect people and enable them to enjoy their rights.

We also recognise that we have a duty to ensure that we are not at risk of violating human rights through the services we provide, the customers we work with, the suppliers that we use and through the fair and appropriate treatment of our own employees and others who are in our care.

We will actively assess the impact of our business on human rights. We will encourage G4S colleagues to develop businesses that consciously and actively enable people to realise their rights and we will take special care to monitor the risks that aspects of our businesses could directly or indirectly contribute to the violation of human rights, or how we risk becoming complicit in violations by our partners, suppliers or customers.

Emphasising G4S Core Rights

As a global security company, we recognise that there are some human rights that are especially salient in the sector in which we operate.

In a rights sensitivity analysis of our business, we identified some core areas of human rights as particularly significant to the nature of our business and its impact on human rights.

These include: rights to life, liberty, security, due process, privacy, property, freedom of movement, freedom of expression, and asylum; as well as international standards around the use of force and international humanitarian law.

The International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers and the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights are already important standards for G4S, which have been embedded into the relevant parts of our businesses.
As a global employer, labour rights (including freedom of association and the right to engage in collective bargaining) and the right to an adequate standard of living are also central.

While we work to respect all human rights, our work in former conflict regions, care and rehabilitation services, security systems, data management, cash management, facilities management, and security services mean that we need to be especially focused on human rights that are related to security.

Adopting the “Protect, Respect & Remedy” Framework

We are committed to operating by the guiding principles of the UN framework for business and human rights with its particular emphasis on the state’s duty to protect human rights, the corporate responsibility to respect human rights, and joint state and corporate responsibility to ensure access to effective remedy for those who have experienced business-related human rights abuse.

Integrating Human Rights Due Diligence

In line with the UN Guiding Principles, human rights due diligence is an essential and integrated part of our business processes to assess actual and potential human rights risks. We act upon the findings of this due diligence to ensure that we prevent human rights violations wherever possible, and deliver appropriate and effective remedy if we fail to prevent abuses.

Being Consistent in Different Operational Contexts

We work in a very diverse range of states and operational contexts. In every context, we will make every effort to apply the same high standards of respect for human rights. In each context, we will develop a distinct understanding of particular human rights risks and comply with all applicable laws that protect human rights. When a state’s own capacity to protect human rights is weak, or when a state and other parties are actively abusing human rights, we will take great care to ensure that we do not exacerbate the situation and wherever possible and whenever this does not put our staff at immediate risk or bring us into dangerous conflict with local legislation, we will comply with international standards.

Management and Responsibility for Human Rights in G4S

In line with our company values, everyone at G4S has a responsibility for ensuring the respect and protection of human rights.

Our managers must be familiar with our G4S Human Rights Policy and Guidelines, as well as the standards set by our Ethics Code. They need to be able to demonstrate how they are actively
G4S Human Rights Policy

preventing or responding to human rights risks and abuses, and how they are deliberately managing operations that respect people’s human rights and contribute to their realisation.

Ultimate responsibility for G4S’s human rights performance lies with the Board and Executive Management of G4S who will actively ensure corporate accountability to this Policy and its related Guidelines.

Raising Concerns

Everyone at G4S has a responsibility to respect and protect human rights. There are no circumstances in which human rights abuses are acceptable.

Speak Out is G4S’s global whistleblowing service for raising ethical concerns, whether they be about human rights abuses, or other wrongdoing.

Speak Out is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, via a telephone number in each country or via the Speak Out website (g4s-speakout.com).

The contact details can also be found on all G4S intranets and websites. Further information may be found in the G4S Whistleblowing Policy.