Rakuten Group Human Rights Policy

Human Rights are fundamental and universal rights to all human beings regardless of their origin, background, or any other status. Guided by the Code, we respect human rights of all our stakeholders throughout our operations, including group employees regardless of their employment status, customers, and business partners including: joint-ventures, contractors, suppliers of goods and services, investees and any third party that engages in a business relationship with the Rakuten Group. As we provide a wide range of online and off-line services all over the world, Rakuten is fully aware that ensuring and respecting human rights of all stakeholders involved and impacted by our business activities is challenging yet crucial.

The requirements related to human rights apply to all employees of the Rakuten Group regardless of their employment status, including executives, permanent staff and contract staff. We also request our business partners to understand and make efforts to adhere to these requirements, for the respect and advancement of human rights throughout the Rakuten Group's value chain.

Respect for internationally recognized human rights standards
We strive to make positive contributions to human rights advancement and uphold all recognized international standards on human rights, including The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. We are committed to applying the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Privacy, access to information, and freedom of expression
We are committed to respecting and protecting our stakeholders’ rights to privacy and freedom of expression, and rights to hold opinions without interference, and to access information and ideas of all kinds. For more details on privacy policy for employees, please read Rakuten Group Guidelines and Instructions within RGR (Rakuten Group Regulations).

Ethical use of technology
Although we recognize the potential adverse impact that technology may cause in our rapidly changing environment, we strive to leverage the power of technology to promote human rights. We strive to ensure that technology is developed and used ethically in ways that respect human rights and that help empower people and society.
Non-discrimination and equal opportunities
We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all employees. We do not discriminate based on ethnicity, nationality, gender, marriage history, presence or absence of children, religious and political beliefs, age, disabilities, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other factors.

Zero tolerance for inhumane treatment
We ensure that our stakeholders are treated with dignity. We prohibit bodily, physical, verbal or any other harassment or abuse of a sexual nature between individuals of different genders or the same gender or bodily, physical, verbal or any other harassment or abuse that takes advantage of the harasser’s or abuser’s post, position, or employees’ categories. The company also prohibits any harassment related to pregnancy, childbirth, childcare leave or family-care leave, or any other factors.

Fair wages
We are committed to complying with all applicable laws and regulations of the countries and regions where we do business concerning wages. In addition, we strive to meet appropriate wage levels that satisfy the basic needs of employees.

Working hours
We are committed to complying with all applicable laws and regulations of the countries and regions where we do business concerning working hours. In addition, we strive to reduce excessive working hours.

Safety and health
We consider the health and safety of all stakeholders connected to Rakuten to be of the utmost importance. To ensure a healthy and safe working environment for employees and to prevent occupational illness and injuries, we strive to create action plans for maintaining and improving employee health and safety, to investigate causes of workplace accidents and illness, and to prevent their recurrence. In addition, we are committed to making continuous efforts to offer safe products and services to our customers.

Prohibition of child labor
We do not use child labor in our business operations, and we have zero tolerance for use of child labor by any third party that engages in business relations with the Rakuten Group. Child labor refers to the exploitation of children who are at under 16 years of age or the applicable minimum legal age, whichever is higher, through any form of work that deprives children of their childhood, hinders them from receiving universal education, and is harmful mentally, physically, socially or morally.
Prohibition of forced labor
We will never force anyone into labor through any means, including but not limited to confinement, restraint, slave labor, coerced overtime work, or human trafficking. In addition, we have zero tolerance for use of forced labor by any third party that engages in business relations with the Rakuten Group.

Human rights due diligence
In order to identify and address potential human rights risks and actual impacts in our business activities, and to set priority areas, we strive to conduct human rights assessment in our existing operations, supply chains, and business relationships, as well as for new investments, business activities or relationships, prior to major decisions and changes in operations.

Stakeholder engagement
We are committed to promoting human rights through active multi-stakeholder engagement. To ensure the human rights of all individuals involved in our operations, we strive to collaborate and engage with both affected and potentially affected stakeholders, other companies, civil society, academics, and governments.

Grievance mechanisms
In order to detect and resolve human rights disputes appropriately, we have confidential whistleblowing mechanisms in place, which handle voluntary reports from the Rakuten Group employees on illegal acts, violation of company rules and regulations including this human rights policy, fraudulent acts or other ethical misconducts. The Rakuten Group is committed to investigating, addressing and responding to the concerns received and to taking appropriate action in response to any violation reported and identified.