

Global Elections 2024:

A Potential Turning Point for the ESG Landscape

2024/24



This year, approximately half of the world's population will be heading to the polling stations in an unprecedented convergence of elections around the globe. In a time of geopolitical and economic upheaval, the results of these elections will have material influence on international stakeholders, investors, political actors, and the ESG landscape. «

Sam Sweeney

Sustainability Executive at FuturePlus
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19 Jan 2024 – Statista
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Countries Holding 2024 Elections Around the World

“Many people are already aware of the U.S. presidential and legislative elections set to be held on November 5th, especially due to American influence on the global political stage and media coverage.

But two governments affecting larger populations, India and the European Union, are also slated to have elections in 2024.

A few notable elections have already occurred. Taiwan held general elections on January 13th, with the more anti-China Democratic Progressive Party retaining the presidency but losing its majority in the legislature.

Pakistan also held elections on February 8th, with former Prime Minister Imran Khan’s party and affiliates winning a plurality of seats but losing power to a military-backed coalition.

Pakistan’s election results were cast into doubt by foreign observers and media, with Khan having been arrested and sentenced to prison on corruption charges. It is far from the only country holding controversial and potentially undemocratic elections in 2024.

Bangladesh’s landslide January 7th elections were boycotted by the opposition and voters, and Russia’s March 15th elections had three anti-war presidential candidates barred from competing, including Alexei Navalny before his controversial death in February.”

27 Feb 2024 – voronoi
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Advancing Sustainability Amid 2024 Elections

“In 2024, countries representing more than half of the world’s population will host major elections, all with profound implications for efforts to advance sustainable business. The elections themselves are fraught with risks of misinformation, disinformation, civil unrest, election irregularities, and more. The outcomes of the elections will play an important role in determining the future of global commerce and cooperation.”

23 Apr 2024 – BSR.
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Our first thoughts on the US election and the potential impact on Europe and markets

“President Biden has repeatedly stated that his intention for a second term is to “finish the job”. The social policy thrust will likely centre on abortion rights and improving access to education and childcare accompanied by renewed efforts on substantial student debt relief. ESG will also remain a key theme for his administration, with support for clean energy, environmental protection, and continuing climate change mitigation. Improved relations with allies and trade partners will be maintained despite somewhat more protectionism, as illustrated by the US Steel takeover intervention and the failed negotiations to include European carmakers in the Inflation Reduction Act’s support for electric vehicles. China and Russia will continue to be viewed with distrust, while support for Ukraine and Taiwan will continue.”

11 Apr 2024 – ING
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2024 US Elections and Climate Policy Impact

“The impact of the 2024 elections on the decarbonization theme is of paramount importance, considering that the year marks a significant electoral period globally with 64 countries and the European Union - representing nearly half of the global population - heading to the polls. The US election stands out for its potential to shape future climate policy and the pursuit of decarbonization. On November 5th, US citizens will cast their votes to elect a new president, the entire House of Representatives, and one-third of the Senate.

The Biden administration has made notable strides in climate policy with the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), aiming to reduce US greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 40% by 2030 compared to 2005 levels. This legislation, with an estimated budget of \$400 billion[2], seeks to decarbonize and revitalize the US economy through regulations, tax incentives, and government support. However, the actual cost might exceed initial estimates due to the open-ended nature of the tax credits involved.”

13 Mar 2024 – CANDRIAM
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Europe stands firm against US-driven ESG backlash

“Steady investor demand in Europe for environmental and socially responsible investments and wide-ranging regulation are helping Europe’s finance industry withstand political pressures that have pushed some U.S. peers to backtrack on their green agendas.

In the United States, conservative politicians have been successful in tamping down environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) product marketing, in diluting regulations that promote ESG disclosures, and in discouraging financial firms from coordinating on curbing greenhouse gas emissions. But Europe has so far largely resisted the anti-ESG tide, due to greater political and consumer support for greener products and a swathe of regulations that underpin the operations of the finance industry and companies in the real economy.”

12 Apr 2024 – REUTERS
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BECEPTUM is a boutique consultancy focused on sustainable business and corporate development. Founded in fall 2019 with offices in Munich and Berlin, BECEPTUM integrates holistic sustainability management with the levers of corporate value creation. Through expertise and various services in the field of ESG, we accompany our clients in the operationalization of their sustainability strategy - from the appropriate management system to strategic partnerships and financing. With certified experts for LkSG and climate risks, regular ESG monitoring and an individual training offer, we are a reliable partner for our clients in all aspects of sustainability.

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