

# Dear European Union,

This is a decisive moment for putting a stop to conflict minerals.

Today, European citizens cannot be sure that smartphones, cars and other hi-tech products they buy were not produced using minerals associated with human rights violations. To tackle this, a European law on conflict minerals was proposed in 2014 and it is currently in final negotiations. **At this crucial moment, EU Member States must show their citizens they support a mandatory regulation on conflict minerals along the entire supply chain.** This is fundamental for the regulation to make a difference for people living in areas affected by conflict and to give guarantees to EU citizens!

One year ago the European Parliament voted in favour of a strong regulation that would help fight the trade in conflict minerals. But several Member States have been looking to weaken the plans. High-level negotiations have taken place behind closed doors in a trialogue process where the regulation is being watered down and rendered almost meaningless to those affected by this bloody trade. If the governments' proposals are adopted, the EU law would fall well short of global standards on conflict minerals as well as similar initiatives in the U.S., China and various African countries. The EU has already shown a great leadership in many other areas such as climate change, environmental protection and consumer safety standards. **It's now time to show leadership on conflict minerals!**

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