

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Michaela Zhirova



Michaela Zhirova is an ESG and corporate governance specialist with Hermes Equity Ownership services, where she is in charge of shareholder engagement, voting, and public policy in Central and Eastern Europe. She engages with indexed companies on corporate governance, environmental and social issues, and advises senior executives and board members of companies on ESG risks.

She is part of the public policy group at IIGCC (Institutional Investor Group on Climate Change), and sits on the UNPRI steering committee on water risks in agricultural supply chains. Besides corporate engagement activities and public policy work, she is working on furthering the integration of key ESG factors within the investment process at Hermes.

She holds a law degree with a specialisation in European and competition law from the University of Heidelberg. She graduated with an LLM in Corporate and Commercial Law from the London School of Economics (LSE). During her studies, she worked as a research assistant on projects relating to European competition law and practice. Prior to joining Hermes, she interned at Ashurst and Clifford Chance, focusing on restructuring and litigation. She is fluent in German, English and Bulgarian with a working knowledge of Russian.