



# Modern Slavery Act 2015: Statement

## Introduction

Nordic Office of Architecture is an organization guided by a strong set of values. We are dedicated to upholding the highest professional, legal, and ethical standards. As part of our commitment to ethical standards and our adherence to the Norwegian Transparency Act, we firmly support the protection of internationally recognized human rights, the eradication of all forms of forced and compulsory labour, and the effective elimination of child labour. We are resolute in ensuring that there is no modern slavery or human trafficking within our supply chain or any facet of our operations.

## Our Approach to Modern Slavery

As a member of the Norconsult Group, we wholeheartedly embrace the principles outlined in the Norwegian Transparency Act and follow a rigorous ethical code. For further insight into our ethical standards and guidelines, please refer to our approach to social responsibility, accessible via the following links:

<https://nordicarch.com/norwegian-transparency-act>

<https://norconsult.com/about-us/ethics-and-integrity/>

## Our Organization

With over 400 architects and studios spanning Norway, Denmark, and Iceland, the Nordic Office of Architecture stands as a premier architectural practice in the Nordics, with a global presence and diverse clientele.

## Risk Assessment within Our Organization

Given the nature of our services and the calibre of our professional workforce, we evaluate the risk of modern slavery and human trafficking within our own organization to be minimal.

## Our Supply Chain

Our supply chain primarily consists of services, including professional advisory services, travel services, IT services, and office supplies. After a comprehensive review, we believe that the overall risk of modern slavery within our supply chain is low, owing to the following factors:

- The predominantly service-oriented nature of our procurements, involving skilled professions.
- Procurement from locations, primarily in developed markets.
- Adherence to reasonable terms and punctual payment in our procurement practices.

While the overall risk level is low, these criteria also enable us to pinpoint areas where the risk may be higher. We ensure that our business partners sign a Code of Ethics, which articulates defined standards for human rights and working conditions. In countries with a

high risk of corruption and violations of human and employee rights, we conduct further assessments as part of the supplier background check.

### **Policies on Slavery and Human Trafficking**

We are unwavering in our commitment to preventing modern slavery and human trafficking throughout our supply chain and within all facets of our business. Our internal policies mirror this dedication to ethical and integral conduct in all our business relationships. We implement and enforce effective systems and controls to guarantee that slavery and human trafficking are eradicated from our supply chain.

### **Preventing Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking**

We have taken steps to raise awareness of these issues among colleagues responsible for procurement and supplier vetting. Our staff is well-trained to identify and evaluate the risk presented by potential suppliers, and those identified as high or medium risk undergo further scrutiny and evaluation tailored to their specific circumstances. All our suppliers are required to adhere to a Supplier Code of Ethics.

### **Ongoing Commitment**

Nordic Office of Architecture vehemently condemns slavery, forced labour, and human trafficking in any form and expects our suppliers to uphold the same standards. We remain committed to:

- Continuously implementing our Code of Ethics, which addresses modern slavery and outlines grievance mechanisms, setting expectations for the behaviour of all our members and those acting on our behalf.
- Sustaining our human rights-related policies and our Code through regular awareness and training. Every member of our organization has the right to report concerns about values, ethics, and professional conduct without fear of retaliation. In addition to internal channels, a global hotline within the Norconsult Group allows colleagues to confidentially, and where legally permissible, anonymously raise concerns regarding potential violations of laws, our firm's policies, professional standards, and values.
- A relentless pursuit of improvement to ensure there is no modern slavery or human trafficking within our supply chains or any part of our business.

### **Conclusion**

This statement is issued in compliance with section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and serves as our declaration regarding slavery and human trafficking for the financial year ending on the 31st of December 2023.



Eskild Andersen, Chief Executive Officer  
Oslo, 01.01- 2023