### ENGAGEP

# How to Vote & Engage as a Citizen owning Listed Equity

Legal owners of equities have important rights to engage directly in leading the company and matters of corporate policy:

- ✓ The shareholder is entitled to participate in the general meeting (in person or mail) and vote at it!
- ✓ The shareholder have the right to convene the General Meeting of Shareholders in case of >5% share capital holdings (in most cases).
- ✓ The shareholder is entitled to request and receive at the general meeting from the company an explanation of matters concerning the company or AGM decisions
- ✓ The shareholder is entitled to apply proposals and counterproposals to matters included on the agenda of the general meeting
- ✓ The shareholder have the right to notify censors and auditors on certain topics;



However, only a few can engage and vote as 'beneficial owners' and most depend on 'agency' owners

 □ Beneficial owners (or end investors) bear the risks, costs and rewards of ownership





☐ Agency owners are financial intermediaries who bear none of the risk, losses or rewards

The Bucharest Stock Exchange (BVB) developed an information tool for ESG parameters from issuers listed on the BVB – the scores are based on calculations from the reports and are available for the public.



In the case of unlisted equities, it might be even more challenging to engage, execute your rights and express your preferences

## How to Vote & Engage when you are only the beneficial (legal) owner?

#### Who decides on voting rights?

You have the legal right to vote or to give a proxy to another shareholder to vote on your behalf. Whether you can easily exercise this legal right is another story...

#### **Stock Exchange Members**

You can check the annual reports and statements of the company and express - if any - your preferences associated with the shares.

How can you engage as owner?

The investment fund management company.

#### **Stock Investment Funds**

You can check the fund's portfolio, contact the fund management company, inquire its voting policy, and express - if any - your preferences associated with the shares.

You have the right to vote, you can also e.g., appoint or dismiss the Board etc.

#### **Employee Share Ownership**

You can check the annual reports and statements of the company, control the management, and express your preferences associated with the shares.