

# The Rights & Responsibilities of Institutional Investors

MARCH 8-9, 2018 | NH GRAND HOTEL KRASNAPOLSKY | AMSTERDAM

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## Shareholder Engagement in an Era of Uncertainty: Proactive or Reactive?

Improving engagement with the companies they invest in has become an increasingly accepted strategy among an ever-broader and more diverse group of institutional active shareholders, with many entities making large strides towards improvement on several key issues. But the global macro environment today is in an unprecedented state of volatility. Uncertainty is possibly the one common denominator, given what investors are confronting on the macroeconomic, geopolitical, regulatory and legal landscapes in most major markets.

And sustained uncertainty, to misquote Frank Herbert, is the mind killer. Will 2018 see a further deepening of expansion and forward momentum within the realm of shareholder rights in Europe, Canada, and possibly even the US while progress is made within the increasingly important markets in Japan and Asia? Or will active shareholders retrench and use this time to re-evaluate their priorities and their engagement strategies?

The 13th Annual Rights & Responsibilities of Institutional Investors will again be held in Amsterdam and co-sponsored by Institutional Investor and Kessler Topaz Meltzer & Check LLP. The pressing issues for investors and shareholders covered in this agenda will consider the ways that legal, investment, and compliance officers from European and selectively, global public pension, insurance funds and mutual fund companies, are paving a path forward to meet their responsibilities and to leverage their rights as active investors.

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For further information, please contact  
Ann Cornish at **+1 (212) 224-3877** or [acornish@iiforums.com](mailto:acornish@iiforums.com)