

# Open Letter Calls upon EU to Allow UK Assession to Lugano Convention

In response to the EU Commission's formal refusal to allow the UK to accede to the Lugano Convention, a coalition between several NGOs and legal scholars, lead by the European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ) has issued an open letter, calling upon the EU to reverse this decision. In essence, they argue that a full return to the common-law rules on jurisdiction, including the *forum non conveniens* doctrine, will reduce access to the UK courts in cases of corporate human-rights abuses, which has only recently been rendered much more attractive by the UK Supreme Court's decisions in *Vedanta v Lungowe* [2019] UKSC 20 and *Okpabi v Shell* [2021] UKSC 3.

The full letter can be found [here](#). It is still open for signatures (via e-mail to [christopher.patz\[at\]corporatejustice.org](mailto:christopher.patz@corporatejustice.org)).