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Advancing Social Science Through Corporate Social Responsibility: Future Directions

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Abstract

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) has become a catalyst for advancing social science by promoting ethical governance, environmental sustainability, and inclusive socio-economic development. As globalization, digital transformation, and stakeholder expectations continue to reshape the business landscape, CSR has evolved from a voluntary corporate initiative into a strategic framework that supports sustainable development and social innovation. This paper explores how Corporate Social Responsibility contributes to the advancement of social science through a qualitative review of recent academic literature, international policy reports, and industry best practices. The study examines future-oriented CSR approaches, including Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practices, circular economy, digital responsibility, climate action, responsible artificial intelligence, stakeholder engagement, and inclusive growth. The findings indicate that organizations integrating CSR into their core strategies not only strengthen stakeholder trust, organizational resilience, and innovation but also contribute to evidence-based social science research and the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The paper concludes by identifying future directions for CSR, emphasizing interdisciplinary collaboration, responsible digital transformation, sustainable leadership, and policy innovation as essential drivers for advancing social science and creating long-term societal value.

Keywords: Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR); Social Science; Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG); Sustainable Development; Stakeholder Engagement; Social Innovation; Digital Transformation; Ethical Governance; Responsible Artificial Intelligence; United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).