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BlackRock Is Getting Used to Being in the ESG Crossfire.

Republicans have been ramping up their attacks on the money manager—but so have progressives.

Since the beginning of the year, Republican politicians in the US have been ramping up their anti-ESG messaging.

The strategy started gaining real attention in May after former Vice President Mike Pence criticized investor-activist campaigns aimed at forcing fossil-fuel giant Exxon Mobil Corp. to follow socially conscious investing principles. The potential 2024 presidential candidate said they elevate “left-wing” goals over the interests of businesses.

Pence’s position has received support from numerous other Republicans, including far-right governors of two of the biggest states—Greg Abbott of Texas and Ron DeSantis of Florida—who have threatened to take state business away from corporations that support initiatives or regulations aimed at fighting things like global warming.

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By Tim Quinson

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