

GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR A BINDING TREATY
MOVIMIENTO GLOBAL POR UN TRATADO VINCULANTE

Communication Toolkit
Join the Treaty Alliance for the 3rd IGWG Session
Geneva, 23-27 October 2017

The UN Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group (OEIGWG) on Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises with Respect to Human Rights is holding its [Third session on October 23-27, 2017](#). Please find here the [programme of work](#) (incl. with name of speakers) and the [Side events table](#). With two successful sessions behind it, negotiations will now focus on the basis of a [draft elements paper](#) presented by the OEIGWG Chair-Rapporteur.

[Click here to watch the livestream](#)

As discussions are expected to get more detailed and concrete, constructive and cooperative States' participation is needed. To be successful, the third session should encourage constructive negotiations between States about concrete and detailed elements of the future treaty, so too for the establishment of a road map for their completion.

We invite you to synergize with the [Treaty Alliance](#) movement and join its advocacy activities in support of a binding treaty during the session.

Please find below a selection of communication tools and key suggested actions to strengthen our collective efforts for a **#Binding Treaty** to **#StopCorporateAbuse**

- Sign the Treaty Alliance statement
- Ask your government to support the treaty
- Join the week of mobilization

The Treaty Alliance has been working together towards a legally binding instrument since 2013, when it first released a series of demands, including the passage of a UN Human Rights Council Resolution to establish an IGWG with a mandate to develop the treaty. More information: www.treatymovement.com

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Sign the statement in support of the UN binding treaty on business and human rights

[English](#) | [French](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Bahasa](#) | [Italian](#) | [Ungarian](#)

We call States to participate actively in upcoming negotiations of the international treaty to ensure protection of human rights from the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises

We welcome the two successful sessions (2015 and 2016) of the United Nations open-ended intergovernmental working group (OEIGWG) on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights exploring the nature, scope, and elements that could be included in a “legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights”. The OEIGWG will hold its next session in October 23-27, 2017, to begin negotiating the content and scope of the new instrument.

Globally, corporations are engaged in operations that result in environmental pollution and degradation, land grabbing, use of slave labor, threats to access to medicines and public health services, disrespect of labor standards, and cases of violence against people and human rights defenders, among others. For these abuses, corporations must be held accountable. Currently, there are a series of regulatory gaps, some due to the fact that corporations operate internationally, while the laws regulating them have a national character. In this context of impunity, business corporations more easily capture international as well as national institutions. Trade and investment agreements signed by States guarantee corporations ample rights and privileges and profit making, but there is no corresponding international regulation by States to ensure that the operations of corporations are conducted without incurring human and environmental rights abuses. The introduction and regulation of corporations’ liabilities nationally and internationally is needed so that States finally start meeting their obligations to protect human rights and the environment against harmful activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises.

We believe that the rich debate that has taken place at the OEIGWG so far has shown the need for an international, legally binding instrument to (1) enhance the protection of affected individuals and communities against violations related to the operation of transnational corporations and other business enterprises, and (2) provide them with access to effective remedies, in particular through judicial mechanisms.

The sessions included exchanges and debates between representatives of affected communities, experts, jurists, activists, and parliamentarians from different regions and sectors, with State representatives. The sessions have contributed to the identification of a common ground for further progress in the elaboration of the treaty based on the primary obligation of States to protect human rights, including extraterritorially.

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The mobilization of movements and national and international civil society organizations has significantly grown. Their constant, constructive advocacy at national level and presence in the United Nations deliberations has been key to supporting the process and shown the importance of the prospective treaty for the struggles for social justice and human rights in the world.

The new legally binding instrument should be a step forward in the promotion and protection of human rights, building on previous efforts, and establishing a complementary framework to the existing international human rights instruments. A set of binding obligations and enforcement mechanisms is the next necessary and logical step in the process that started several decades ago. The treaty must stipulate the primacy of human rights law over corporate rights and privileges which are enshrined in the biased and unfair framework created in trade and investment agreements. It must also establish a strong international framework for corporate legal accountability to ensure access to justice for affected individuals and communities and thus put an end to business impunity. International cooperation among States must be strengthened to address these global regulatory challenges.

To be successful, the third session of the OEIGWG should encourage: (1) A substantive, cooperative, and constructive negotiation between States about concrete and detailed elements of the treaty concerning its content and scope, (2) A participatory approach to ensure diverse civil society perspectives, and (3) The establishment of a road map for the completion of the negotiations within a short period of time.

We underline our strong commitment to the process, urging all States to focus on the negotiation of the content of the treaty at this occasion. We call on the public to pay attention to this critical process and actively mobilize in support of it at the national, regional and international level.

Ask your government and politicians to support the treaty

- Ask your government and politicians to support the treaty process using template letters available [here](#)
- Connect with the mainstream media using template statements [here](#)
- Support the [European interparliamentary initiative](#) for a UN Binding Treaty on TNCs with respect to Human Rights
- Write to your government to ask them to include a *Conflict of Interest* provision into the treaty that will help stop corporations wielding undue influence over states when they develop national laws and policies designed to protect human rights. You can use the draft template letter [here](#).

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Join the week of mobilization 23-27 October 2017



@Treatyalliance

#bindingtreaty #TratadoVinculante #stopcorporateabuse #EU4UNTreaty

- We need a #BindingTreaty to #StopCorporateAbuse. Say NO to human rights crimes <http://www.treatymovement.com/statement>
- #TNCs engage in operations that result in environmental harm, #landgrabbing, use of #slavelabor <http://www.treatymovement.com/statement>
- Our government must protect us from #CorporateAbuse and engage @Oct #Binding Treaty negotiations <http://www.treatymovement.com/statement>
- Negotiations on a #BindingTreaty are around the corner, our future is at stake. Join the mobilization! <http://www.treatymovement.com/statement>
- #UNWorkingGroup must encourage the establishment of a #roadmap for the completion of the negotiations <http://www.treatymovement.com/statement>
- Governments: STOP #CorporateCapture of our societies @ October UN #IGWG Treaty negotiations <http://tinyurl.com/yahuywqr>

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Target twitter handles

Human Rights Council	@UN_HRC
UN Office at Geneva	@UNGeneva #UNOG
EU delegation to the UN in Geneva	@EU_UNGeneva #EU #UN #Geneva
Belgium	@BELatUNGeneva
Cyprus	@UN_CYPRUS
Denmark	@DKUNmisgva
Finland	@FinlandGeneva
France	@FranceONUGeneve
Germany:	@GermanyUNGeneva
Greek mission	@GRUN_NY
Ireland	@irishmissionun
Italy	@ItalyUN_Geneva
Latvia	@LatviaUN_Geneva
Luxembourg	@luxembourgUN
Netherlands	@NLinGeneva
Poland	@PLMissionGeneva
Sweden	@SwedenGeneva
UK	@UKMissionGeneva
Switzerland	@swiss_un
Norway	@NorwayinGeneva

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Civil Society Twitter handles

Treaty Alliance	@treatyalliance
Dismantle Corporate Power Campaign	@StopTNCImpunity
Friends of the Earth Europe	@Foeeurope
Friends of the Earth International	@FoEint
TNI	@TNIInstitute
SID	@SID_INT
FIAN	@FIANista
CIDSE	@CIDSE
FIDH	@fidh_en @fidh_eu
AWID	@awid
International Commission of Jurists ICJ	ICJ_org
ESCR-net	@ESCRNet
CETIM	@CETIM_CETIM
IBFAN-GIFA	@IBFAN_GIFA
Poder	
PAN AP	@PANAsiaPacific
Corporate Accountability	@StopCorpAbuse
Center for Constitutional Rights	@theCCR
European Coalition for Corporate Justice	@corpjust

Collective material

Please share your video, interviews, blogs, pictures and any other relevant resource developed in support of your advocacy work for the binding treaty process at the following email addresses:

azarro@sidint.org and srozalen@escr-net.org

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Useful links to mobilize and synergize

- [Treaty Alliance website](#) week of mobilization
- Treaty Alliance [webinar](#) on why we do need a legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights
- Treaty Alliance [online library](#)
- Treaty Alliance Photo on [Flickr](#)
- [Dismantle Corporate Power Campaign](#) communication toolkit

Additional links:

- [Friends of the Earth International Campaign](#)
- [CIDSE advocacy page](#)
- [ESCR-Net](#) resource page
- [La Via Campesina](#) resource page
- [TNI resource page](#) on corporate power

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Media contacts

**Communication and media enquiries
Treaty Alliance**

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Angela Zarro (SID) azarro@sidint.org

Treaty Alliance website

Sergio Rozalén (ESCRnet) srozalen@escr-net.org

**Press office and contacts with the journalists
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Press Contact

Dismantle Corporate Campaign

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Sol	Trumbo Vila	TNI
Anne	Van Shaick	FoEE
Angela	Zarro	SID

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