



Preliminary Comments on the Updated Draft Legally Binding Instrument in preparation for the Ninth Session of the IGWG

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Introduction

In July 2023, the Chair of the UN Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group (IGWG) mandated to elaborate a Legally Binding Instrument (LBI) to regulate the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises published the Updated Draft LBI.¹ The elaboration of this instrument, mandated in 2014 by Resolution 26/9 of the UN Human Rights Council,² aims to complement and go beyond the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) which were adopted in 2011.

Ten years after the adoption of the UNGPs, rights-holders and victims of corporate abuses are still deprived of their fundamental right to effective remedy, whereas business operations continue to be responsible for human rights and environmental abuses in relative impunity.

Although the growing efforts to tackle the problem at the national and regional levels are commendable, they will not be able to address this global issue alone. What is more, too often the content and scope of new “business and human rights laws” do not meet the bar. The LBI constitutes the strongest and most tangible avenue available to eliminate the major accountability gaps that remain in the international framework.

Since the adoption of Resolution 26/9, eight sessions of negotiations of the LBI have already taken place in Geneva. They witnessed the participation and engagement of over a hundred States, experts and hundreds civil society organisations from around the world, including FIDH and its members. The draft text elaborated by the Chair of the IGWG had been enriched throughout the years as a result. For this reason, during last year’s session, [FIDH](#) together with many other civil society organisations and States insisted that the Third Revised Draft was the only legitimate basis for negotiation, rather than the Suggested Chair proposals put forward as a conference room paper in October 2022. We regret to see that the Updated Draft LBI relies, in a large number of its provisions, on the latter instead of the Third Revised Draft.

Overall, the Updated Draft contains significant changes compared to the Third Revised Draft. While the structure is generally more streamlined and the language in some articles clearer, the modifications made often lack coherence and at times create confusion. Moreover, several provisions are less protective of rights-holders than the previous versions of the draft, and key elements have disappeared. Important issues also remain unaddressed by the drafters. A number of positive additions or modifications cannot compensate for the fact that overall the text represents a step back. FIDH and its members call on States to reinforce the draft in the next session.

This publication summarises FIDH’s and 17 of its members’ main preliminary reflections on the Updated Draft. In addition to this comment, FIDH contributed or co-signed analyses of the Updated Draft published by the Feminists for a Binding Treaty coalition, which usefully complement the present text.

1. This Updated Draft, sometimes referred to as the “Fourth revised draft” is the fifth version of the text discussed by the IGWG, after the Zero draft, Revised draft and Second and Third revised drafts.

2. Human Rights Council resolution 26/9, *Elaboration of an international legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights*, A/HRC/RES/26/9 (14 July 2014), available from <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G14/082/52/PDF/G1408252.pdf?OpenElement>.

Key issues

The text in its current form contains many structural gaps that need to be filled in the course of the upcoming negotiations in order for the LBI to have relevance and represent a significant step forward in the protection of human rights from corporate abuses. These are the most essential or transversal issues which FIDH and its members identified in their preliminary reading of the Updated Draft:

- The text frequently defers to domestic law or administrative systems or otherwise suggests adaptation of the treaty provisions to accommodate domestic frameworks. This significantly weakens the effectiveness of the provisions and undermines the purpose of the instrument as a binding international treaty. Instead of setting universal international standards, these provisions leave it to States to set these standards in their national law.
- The text fails to duly reflect the difference between human rights impacts which a business enterprise may 'cause or contribute to through its own activities' (i.e. those requiring primarily prevention or cessation of the abuse) and which are 'directly linked to its operations, products or services' (i.e., those often taking place in the enterprise's supply and value chain and requiring the use of leverage to address the relevant abuse or the potential termination of the business relationship), as outlined in UNGP 19 and its Commentary.
- Although the text is generally more streamlined, changes have introduced new confusion or contradictions. For example, it is unclear whether Article 8 contains a Paragraph 7 on parent company liability for acts committed by entities in its value chain. Article 8.7 is included in a part of the track-change version of the text, but appears to be missing from the clean version. This is either a drafting mistake or a worrying step back. Regardless, Article 8.7 limits parent company liability to situations where human rights abuses are committed by entities in their value chain that they control, manage or supervise: this would exclude many types of business relationships, such as lead company-supplier relationships which are common in many sectors.
- In the previous sessions, FIDH suggested deleting references to "mitigation of abuses" or "mitigation of adverse impacts" in various parts of the text: due diligence obligations should not seek to "mitigate abuses", which could imply accepting a certain level of abuse, contrary to the objectives of this treaty. States like Mexico, Palestine, South Africa, Brazil and Panama suggested edits in this direction, which for a large part were taken into account in the Updated draft. In the Preamble, PP12 clearly makes the distinction between "avoiding causing or contributing to human rights abuses through [companies'] own activities" and "preventing human rights abuses or mitigating human rights risks linked to their operations, products or services by their business relationships". However, the new text could still more clearly separate the two terms in the definition of due diligence in Article 1.8 ("prevent and mitigate such adverse human rights impacts") and Article 2(e).
- Furthermore, we regret that the text refers merely to abuses and not violations. References to violations should be added to ensure that state-led violations are covered by the instrument.
- Many choices of terms have also gradually shifted from language typically used in international human rights law to "softer" terms used in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and other similar soft law instruments. Throughout the text, the "obligation" of businesses to respect human rights has become a "responsibility" or "responsibilities". Similarly, the use of "impact", whereas previous versions of the draft merely referred to "abuse", creates unnecessary confusion and could be detrimental to the strength of the text.
- Women and gender-diverse people face overlapping forms of discrimination and abuse in global supply chains, which in turn contribute to specific challenges when trying to obtain access to justice. As we outline in detail in a position co-signed by FIDH as part of the Feminists for a Binding Treaty coalition, it is essential that women in all their diversity be central to all stages of developing, implementing and monitoring the effective regulation of business activities. We therefore support the re-inclusion of specific provisions in Article 6 requiring consultation with potentially impacted women and gender-diverse people and women's organisations in order to integrate a gender perspective in human rights due diligence. We also call for the inclusion of provisions adding a requirement that any legal and non-legal assistance be gender-responsive. Furthermore, the protection of women rights defenders, many of whom are leaders in their communities in the fight for environmental protection and sustainable development, should

be explicitly included in the LBI as part of a general strengthening of language around rights defenders.

- Lastly, we strongly regret the attempts to restrict the substantive scope of the text. It would have been necessary to clarify that the draft adopts a broad interpretation of “human rights and fundamental freedoms” in Article 3 and throughout the text. However, it seems that the opposite approach was chosen. FIDH and its members particularly regret the elimination of multiple references to business impacts on the environment and climate, especially in the context of the ongoing triple planetary crisis - climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss. Given the inextricable connection between human rights and climate and the environment, and the essential role that businesses play in worsening such a crisis, it is fundamental that business responsibility in this context be addressed. Similarly, we regret the lack of references to peasants and other people working in rural areas in several provisions granting special attention to those facing heightened risks of business-related human rights abuses and additional barriers when seeking access to remedies. This is in contradiction with several States’ suggestions on the matter. We further strongly regret the lack of references to international humanitarian law and international criminal law despite amendments suggested by several countries. Several provisions related to conflict-affected areas were also deleted.

Beyond these general considerations, below are preliminary comments on the LBI provisions which will be further complemented and detailed in the upcoming negotiating session in October.

Article 1. Definitions

In Article 1, we regret the removal of the reference to a **collectively suffered harm** from the definition of a victim, as it is an important feature of corporate abuses especially in the context of Indigenous peoples' rights. Further, we maintain that the definition of a victim should equally not only refer to a human rights abuse but also a **violation**. Although the current definition of abuse and business activity would recognise states as potential perpetrators of abuses, the term "violation" is typically the one used to refer to state-led breaches of human rights.

Moreover, the proposed **two-step definition of human rights impacts and human rights abuses** adds more confusion to the text and differs from the common understanding of the term. This confusion is demonstrated by the text itself that for instance refers in Article 4.1, to "human rights abuses in the context of business activities", even though "in the context of business activities" is already included in the definition of a human rights abuse. In addition, it removes the **explicit reference to the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment**. The use of "results" in the definition of "human rights abuse" can also be interpreted restrictively as meaning that the harm must be the direct result of the relevant act or omission.

The definition of "business activity" at Article 1.4 is overly broad. It encapsulates "any economic *or other activity* undertaken *by a natural or legal person*". This could include virtually any possible human activity. An effort to elaborate a narrower definition would be necessary. Furthermore, the **definition of human rights due diligence** still departs from international standards such as UNGP 17 and OECD standards in several respects:

- i) It doesn't refer to "actual or potential" impacts, which could leave out potential impacts of the due diligence process altogether.
- ii) It makes no reference to the ongoing nature of due diligence.
- iii) When compared to OECD standards, the definition is missing two key steps of the due diligence process: Step 1, to embed responsible business conduct into policies and management systems; and Step 6, to provide for or cooperate in remediation when appropriate. The enumeration of the due diligence steps in Article 1.8 can also be read as a closed list. It would be beneficial to leave some flexibility to suggest that they could be complemented by other actions on the part of the company.
- iv) It makes no clear reference to "ceasing" actual negative impacts.

Importantly, as mentioned among the transversal issues, the definition of due diligence fails to reflect the difference between human rights impacts which a business enterprise may 'cause or contribute to through its own activities' (i.e. those requiring primarily cessation or prevention of the abuse, as foreseen in UNGP 19) and which are 'directly linked to its operations, products or services' (i.e. those requiring the use of leverage to prevent the relevant abuse or the potential ending of the business relationship, as foreseen in UNGP 19).

Article 2. Statement of Purpose

We welcome the addition of 'accountability' and removal of mitigation from Article 2(c). However, "mitigate" should also be removed from 2(e) for consistency. We further welcome the specification of justice as gender-responsive, child-sensitive and victim-centred.

Article 3. Scope

Article 3.3 is problematic. By restricting the scope to “internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms binding on the State Parties”, it restricts the scope to the instruments ratified by each state and excludes all non binding instruments such as UN Declarations. It also contradicts Article 4.1 that rightly stipulates that victims of human rights abuses should enjoy all internationally recognised human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Furthermore, “internationally recognized human rights” could be understood to refer merely to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the two Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. It should re-incorporate a non-limitative list similar to that of the Third Revised Draft, and mention the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, all core international human rights treaties and fundamental ILO Conventions. It should also add a reference to international humanitarian law, international criminal law, international environmental law, and customary international law.

Article 4. Rights of Victims

As a general rule, throughout the text, the use of “rights-holder” would be preferable to use of the term “victim”. The term victim may be kept in specific instances when it refers to a rights-holder whose rights have been violated or who alleges that their rights have been violated – as recognised in international human rights law and jurisprudence. In this respect, Articles 4 and 5 set out rights that concern all rights-holders. Their content and titles should be modified accordingly.

Article 4.2(g) is an important addition, based on an amendment by Palestine. It expressly articulates the right to participation, transparency, and independence in reparations procedures, and the need for procedures that respond effectively to differentiated impacts and needs.

Article 5. Protection of Victims

The addition of “harassment, or reprisals” to the list of possible impediments to the exercise of human rights as well as the obligation of States to adopt precautionary measures related to urgent situations that present a serious risk of or an ongoing human rights abuse are positive changes and also added to Article 4.4. However, such measures should not only be admissible within the context of an ongoing legal action.

Article 6. Prevention

We welcome the strengthening of some of the language used in Article 6, as well as the deletion of “mitigation of abuses” from all its provisions.

We also welcome the inclusion of measures to promote meaningful participation, but recommend using “ensure” or “guarantee” rather than the weaker and undetermined “promote”. The explicit reference in Article 6.4(e) to human rights defenders, journalists, workers, members of Indigenous peoples among those who need to be protected as they may be subject to retaliation is a positive change. The role of human rights defenders is also reflected in the Preamble, PP13.

In general, the text more adequately addresses the duties of the State to ensure human rights are upheld in the context of business activities. This includes: a duty to investigate allegation of abuse (Article 5.3); to take precautionary measures (Articles 4.4 and 5.4); to regulate to prevent abuses by businesses

(Article 6.2(b)); to ensure the practice of corporate human rights due diligence (6.2(c)); as well as a duty to remove barriers to remedy, to consult victims in the design of remedy, and to monitor and enforce it (Article 7). However, it could be clarified that the State has other duties that are independent from claims or allegations brought by third parties – such as to monitor business behaviour, inspect, enforce laws, investigate and sanction businesses.

Moreover, despite the explicit mention of State-owned enterprises in Article 1.4, the text still falls short of addressing the role of the State as an economic actor with a heightened duty to respect human rights. **It is key that the LBI better incorporates the obligation for a State to conduct due diligence** when it engages in economic activities or when it offers financial or other support to businesses, such as granting export licences or conducting commercial transactions with businesses.

Also, the **language of the provision should be further aligned with the due diligence steps in already existing international standards**, namely the UNGPs and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct. The draft should include:

- A reference to the ongoing nature of due diligence, as per UNGP 17;
- A reference to the ceasing of actual impacts when they are identified, as in the OECD Guidelines;
- Make the list of due diligence steps a non-limitative list and add the two missing steps of due diligence found in OECD standards:
 - Step 1: embedding responsible business conduct into policies & management systems;
 - Step 6: providing for or cooperating in remediation when appropriate.

Furthermore, the removal of a reference to **enhanced due diligence in conflict-affected areas**, including in situations of occupation, and the **elimination of the specific mentions of “labour rights, environmental and climate change impact assessments”** in Article 6 are problematic. Contrary to previous drafts, the provisions on due diligence also do not mention the obligations of companies in terms of reporting and transparency either.

Lastly, it seems that Article 6.5 introduces a general duty of care for companies to prevent harm caused by the entities they control, manage or supervise. **This constitutes a positive addition, but could be drafted more clearly:**

- (1) By clarifying the articulation between this provision, the due diligence duty (which seems to pursue the same aims) and the liability article (Article 8);
- (2) By extending the responsibility to the entire value chain rather than the entities that a company controls, manages or supervises;
- (3) By clarifying that this provision constitutes a requirement and not an option.

Article 7. Access to Remedy

We welcome the inclusion of language on the provision of appropriate, adequate, and effective legal aid in Article 7.3(a), as well as the more inclusive approach of the provision regarding accessibility of reliable information in Article 7.3(b).

Overall, Article 7 cites key elements to overcome barriers in terms of access to remedy, but in very general and vague terms. For example, provisions on disclosure of evidence, access to information or evidentiary burdens must clarify the conditions and modalities in which States are meant to implement them, or else they will likely be inoperable in practice. Additionally, the **requirement of consistency with its domestic legal and administrative systems** in Article 7.2 as well as the qualifier “to the extent applicable to the State agency in question” in Article 7.4 are highly problematic. So is **the elimination of the specific reference to *forum non conveniens* as a legal obstacle to be removed**. Moreover, the text of 7.2(b) should include the obligation to “remove” obstacles as opposed to “progressively reduce” them.

The provision on reducing evidentiary burdens on victims (Article 7.4(d)) is weakened compared to the Chair proposals which it draws from. Although it now refers to the principle of the dynamic burden of proof – a positive addition –, it only cites the reversal of the burden of the proof or the dynamic burden as

examples of possible measures. Furthermore, it no longer refers to the “application of presumptions as to the existence of certain facts” nor mentions the possibility of strict or absolute liability in appropriate cases.

Article 8. Legal Liability

The elimination of the **deference to States’ “domestic legal and administrative systems”** in Article 8.1 is positive. However, we regret that similar provisions persist in Articles 8.2, 8.4, and 8.5. They should be removed as they significantly weaken the instrument’s purpose. Equally, **the clause “subject to the legal principles of the State Party” substantially weakens the provisions** of Article 8.2 and should be removed.

The reference to criminal, civil “or” administrative liability in Article 8.2 is misguided, in that it suggests only one form of liability might apply whereas two or all three may be simultaneously applicable.

We welcome the wording of Article 8.5. However, it will never be properly implemented if the reference to “domestic legal and administrative systems” persists.

Furthermore, Article 8.3 addresses conspiring, aiding, abetting, and facilitating and counselling the commission of a human rights abuse, but **fails to explicitly mention situations of direct commission of a human rights abuse**. To address this issue, ‘also’ could be added before ‘established’ in Art. 8.3, which would make it clear that such liability is in addition to the liability for causing and/or contributing to a human rights abuse. The article also misses some forms of contribution or participation (e.g. inciting, knowingly benefitting from...). A more general term may be preferable to a list of offences.

Article 8.7 is included in the track-changes version of the Draft, but appears to be missing from the clean version, which could be a drafting mistake. The deletion of such a provision is extremely worrying as it would simply get rid of the provisions regulating parent company liability, one of the most important added values of the Treaty. It would thus risk making Article 8.3 the general - and extremely restrictive - standard for liability.

As written in the track-changes version, Article 8.7 wrongfully restricts the liability of enterprises for human rights abuses caused or contributed to by other enterprises to situations in which the former enterprise is in a situation of control, management or supervision of the latter enterprise. This excludes many types of business relationships as well as most of the situations in which the enterprise is directly linked to a human rights abuse through its operations, products or services. As a result, the instrument in its current form does not duly address the reality of human rights abuses in global value chains. **Liability should include the failure to prevent foreseeable human rights abuses to which enterprises are linked through a direct or indirect business relationship – as was provided under Article 8.6 of the Third Revised Draft.**³

The article could therefore be then drafted as follows:

8.7. States Parties shall ensure that their domestic law provides for the liability of a business enterprise, for harm caused or contributed to by another legal or natural person with which it holds a business relationship, when:

a. the business enterprise factually or legally controls, manages or supervises such other person, or

b. the business enterprise foresaw or could have foreseen the risk of harm to which it was linked through a business relationship not covered under 8.7.a, unless it can prove they took necessary measures to effectively prevent it.

Where two or more business enterprises fall under sub-paragraphs 8.7.a and 8.7.b, State parties should ensure their domestic laws provide for their joint and several liability.

3. In the Third Revised Draft, Article 8.6, the liability of legal and/or natural persons could be established for their failure to prevent another legal or natural person with whom they have had a business relationship, from causing or contributing to human rights abuses, “when the former controls, manages or supervises such person or the relevant activity that caused or contributed to the human rights abuse, **or** should have foreseen risks of human rights abuses in the conduct of their business activities, including those of transnational character, or in their business relationships, but failed to take adequate measures to prevent the abuse”. In the Updated Draft, Article 8.7, the “control, management or supervising” and foreseeability criteria are also used, but they are cumulative, not alternative criteria (the “or” becomes an “and”). This severely limits the scenarios in which parent or lead company liability may be established.

Furthermore, Article 8 does not cover liability for a failure to conduct due diligence, whether for activities resulting in harm or not.

Finally, specific reference to the need to establish criminal liability for serious human rights violations linked to business activities has also been erased. We believe that this is highly regrettable and should be reintroduced during the negotiations.

Article 9. Jurisdiction

While the removal of the **deference to domestic legal and administrative systems** from Article 9.1 is a positive change, a similar provision remains in Article 9.3 and should also be removed.

Article 9.1 **should refer not only to “abuse”, but also “violation”**. Moreover, **the phrase “a human rights abuse was carried out”** in Article 9.1.(c) is highly confusing as it does not reflect the fact that i) a human rights abuse can occur as a result of an omission; and ii) it does not have to be caused directly by the person alleged to be liable. We propose that “was linked to” could be used instead.

The new formulation concerning the use of the *forum non conveniens* in Article 9.3 is extremely convoluted and would not prescribe the use of this doctrine in practice. We propose **a more straightforward and simpler formulation regarding the use of the doctrine of *forum non conveniens*** in the form proposed in the Second Revised Draft: “States Parties shall ensure that the doctrine of *forum non conveniens* is not used by their courts to dismiss legitimate judicial proceedings brought by victims.”

The provision regarding the possibility of “connected claims”, namely for a court to be able to establish jurisdiction over claims against legal or natural persons not domiciled in the territory of the *forum* State, if the claim is connected with a claim against a legal or natural person domiciled in the territory of the *forum* State, is also unfortunately deleted.

Lastly, we strongly regret the removal of **a provision on *forum necessitatis***, included in the Third Revised Draft. It should be re-incorporated, but with a non-exhaustive list of grounds. We propose the following wording, largely based on the that of Article 9.5 of the Third Revised Draft:

Courts shall have jurisdiction over claims against legal or natural persons not domiciled in the territory of the forum State if no other effective forum guaranteeing a fair trial judicial process is available and there is a connection to the State Party concerned, such as:

- a. the presence of the claimant on the territory of the forum;*
- b. the presence of assets of the defendant; or*
- c. some activity of the defendant.*

Article 10. Statute of Limitations

We welcome the removal of the requirement that measures be consistent with States’ domestic legal and administrative systems.

Article 11. Applicable Law

We welcome and strongly support the inclusion of this article in the LBI. Article 11.2 could nonetheless be formulated in a simplified and more effective way.

Article 14. Consistency with International Law

We regret the removal of Article 14.5(b) requiring the consistency of all new bilateral or multilateral trade and investment agreements with international human rights law. Considering the frequent reliance of enterprises on these agreements to the detriment of human rights, it is essential that this article be re-incorporated.

Article 16. Implementation

Article 16.6 contains an important provision on the risk of corporate capture. However, “undue influence” may not be merely political in nature and goes beyond public policies and decision-making spaces. It often concerns judicial systems and other public institutions as one example. The language of the paragraph should be edited with this in mind. The use of the wording from the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which refers to “interference and influence from commercial and other vested interests”, would also be stronger and more authoritative.



Acción Ecológica is an Ecuadorian environmental organisation defending human rights and nature in the context of resistance struggles against extractivism, agro-business, the construction of mega-infrastructure projects, as well as the imposition of neoliberal mechanisms that increase the ecological and social debt of the Global North with the peoples, territories and nature of the Global South.



The **Albanian Human Rights Group** is one of the first organisations of human rights in Albania. The AHRG, is a non-governmental and non-profit organisation aiming to work intensively in the field of freedom and human rights in the country, and considering as a requirement all the alternatives contributing in the field of human rights.



The Association for Human Rights of Spain (APDHE), founded in 1976, is committed to defending human rights in all its dimensions and in all territories, ensuring compliance with those already proclaimed, and promoting the recognition and guarantee of those that have not yet been recognised. As part of their Business, Environment and Human Rights agenda, they urge the approval of an international Legally Binding Instrument (LBI) on transnational corporations and other businesses. Likewise, they ask for a demanding and ambitious European Directive and a Spanish Law on this matter.



The Austrian League for Human Rights is Austria's oldest NGO in the field of human rights. The organisation promotes and discusses the whole spectrum of human rights as laid down in the most prominent international human rights documents. The League monitors the human rights situation in Austria and publishes a yearly report on this topic. Other main areas of activity are the strengthening of human rights networks in Austria and on a European as well as on an international level and to lobby for prevailing human rights issues when they are being challenged.



The Bahrain Human Rights Society (BHRS) seeks to achieve, maintain, and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms contained in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. BHRS activities are focused on efforts to repeal the death penalty, improve prison conditions and defend detainees' rights, monitor and report local human rights violations, support human rights activists and their families, raise awareness of human rights issues related to business and the environment.



Centro de Investigación y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (CIPRODEH) is an organisation that generates change with the goal of creating a democratic and just state that respects human rights and civil liberties, in a manner consistent with the inclusive participation and needs of the Honduran population.



Colectivo de Abogados
José Alvear Restrepo

The Colectivo de Abogados «José Alvear Restrepo» (CAJAR) is a non-profit non-governmental human rights organisation in Colombia. It comprehensively defends and promotes human rights, environmental rights and the rights of peoples, from a perspective of indivisibility and interdependence, with the aim to contribute to the construction of a just, inclusive and equitable society.



Comisión Ecuemenica de Derechos Humanos (CEDHU) is an Ecuadorian civil society organisation concerned with the promotion and defence of human rights and nature.



Covenants Watch is a Taiwan-based human rights organisation that focuses on strengthening human rights mechanisms and monitoring the implementation of UN core treaties.



The Finnish League for Human Rights (FLHR) is a religiously and politically independent human rights organisation. Our principal objective is to monitor the human rights situation in Finland. The FLHR was founded in 1979 and pursues the work of the League for Human Rights, established in 1935. It is FIDH's member organisation in Finland.



The French League for the Defence of Human Rights (LDH) is a non-profit organisation whose goal is to reflect, discuss and act in defence of human rights in France and in its public sphere, through the work of its local chapters.



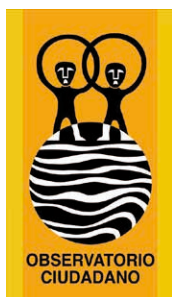
Justiça Global is a Brazilian non-governmental human rights organisation that works to protect and promote human rights and strengthen civil society and democracy. Founded in November 1999, their actions are aimed at denouncing human rights violations; influencing public policy-making processes based on fundamental rights and gender and racial equality; promoting the strengthening of democratic institutions; and demanding guaranteed rights for victims of violations and human rights defenders.



Justiça nos Trilhos is a human rights and rights-of-nature organisation that promotes various activities to problematise the hegemonic development model and its unbridled exploitation of natural resources, especially in the Carajás Corridor in the Brazilian Amazon.



The Lebanese Center for Human Rights (CLDH) is a local non-profit, non-partisan Lebanese human rights organisation based in Beirut. CLDH was created in 2006 by the Franco-Lebanese Movement SOLIDA (Support for Lebanese Detained Arbitrarily), which had been active since 1996 in the struggle against arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance, torture, and the impunity of those perpetrating gross human rights violations.



Observatorio Ciudadano is a Chilean non-profit and non-governmental organisation devoted to the advocacy, promotion and documentation of human rights. Although its work focuses mainly on domestic issues in Chile, it has increasingly focused on initiatives with a regional scope in Latin America.



The Observatory for Human Rights in Rwanda (ODHR) monitors and alerts on the human rights situation in Rwanda, mainly in situations of impunity, enforced disappearances, torture and inhuman treatment and violations of the right to life. In the Great Lakes region, it monitors global situations of insecurity affecting human rights - including those of Rwandan refugees and rights defenders - and the rule of law.



The Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression (SCM) is an independent, non-governmental, and non-profit organisation registered in France in 2004, governed by a non-remunerated board. It has held a special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since 2011. SCM's vision is for a world based on freedom, justice, and equality that respects personal dignity, human rights, and fundamental freedoms.

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For FIDH, transforming societies relies on the work of local actors.

The Worldwide Movement for Human Rights acts at national, regional and international levels in support of its member and partner organizations to address human rights abuses and consolidate democratic processes. Its work is directed at States and those in power, such as armed opposition groups and multinational corporations.

Its primary beneficiaries are national human rights organizations who are members of the Movement, and through them, the victims of human rights violations. FIDH also cooperates with other local partner organizations and actors of change.

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ABOUT FIDH

FIDH takes action for the protection of victims of human rights violations, for the prevention of violations and to bring perpetrators to justice.

A broad mandate

FIDH works for the respect of all the rights set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights: civil and political rights, as well as economic, social and cultural rights.

A universal movement

FIDH was established in 1922, and today unites 188 member organizations in 116 countries around the world. FIDH coordinates and supports their activities and provides them with a voice at the international level.

An independent organization

Like its member organizations, FIDH is not linked to any party or religion and is independent of all governments.