

**The 5<sup>th</sup> session of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development  
Item 4 of the Provisional Agenda**

**Implementation of the mandate and programme of work - Meeting with non-  
governmental organizations**

Wednesday 9 March 2022, 15h – 17h Eastern Time

**The Right to Development and Peace and Security  
Concept Note**

The Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (EMRTD) would like to invite you to share your expertise on how operationalizing the right to development may best contribute to achieving progress on disarmament and international peace and security.

The Expert Mechanism has identified the enhancement of the ability of grassroots organizations to understand and support implementation of the right to development as an overarching objective. The EMRTD therefore attaches great importance to the interaction with non-governmental organizations during both its formal and informal sessions.

At its fifth session, held virtually in New York time, the EMRDT will discuss various issues including a draft Commentary on Article 1(1) of the Declaration on the Right to development; global health in the Covid era; the duty to cooperate; and progress made in its thematic studies, particularly at the upcoming session, the study on The Right to development in international investment law. The EMRDT welcomes the contribution of NGOs to all these discussions.

At the section specifically dedicated to NGO's, the EMRDT would like to engage with you on the relevance of the right to development to peace and security issues.

The 2030 Agenda acknowledges that “Sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security; and peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development” (par. 35). Article 7 of the United Nations Declaration on the Right to Development provides, quite uniquely for a human rights instrument that “All States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries.”

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