

Mr. Chairperson-Rapporteur, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, an educational NGO for sustainability, iuventum, appreciate this opportunity to speak.

The report, A/HRC/33/40, by the Independent Expert on the Promotion of Democratic and Equitable International Order, Mr. Alfred de Zayas, shows the possibility that ISDS (investor state dispute settlement) seriously violates UN Charter and human rights.

From the viewpoint of sustainability, we also see such a dispute settlement procedure beyond state control and sovereignty will go in the opposite direction from good state practices. Many of the current state regulations based on the public consensus on various living standards such as of food safety, health care, labour and environment are the achievements of the humanity's constant effort to improve our living standard to the highest attainable level. Do we have to make a compromise that ruins the cumulative effort of our species with such privately owned court system? The standards of the member states of trade agreements containing ISDS will be aligned to the worst practice among the member states, instead of being pushed up to the level of the best or good among them.

If we keep cutting our rights to make the TNCs more profitable, sooner or later, not only in some lagging behind states, but also in some relatively better states, our human rights and living standard will be pulled down to the lowest attainable. We will walk our history backward.

The legally binding instrument to regulate the TNCs' behaviour should prohibit ISDS and other similar extrajudicial settlement systems.

Thank you very much for your attention.