

European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights

Statement on article 5.

Thanks Mr. Chair for providing the floor.

On Art. 5.2. it contains protections for different groups and could be further strengthened by adding a specific reference to trade unionists as human rights defenders which seems necessary on the face of persistent and growing risk of threats and attacks to unions and workers.

In addition Art. 5.2. should integrate “harassment and retaliation” at the end of the provision to protect victims human rights and workers’ rights defenders against such conduct by businesses and States as proposed by the honorable delegates of Panama / South Africa. Article 5.3 propose to move under article 7 due to its procedural nature.

Finally, Art. 5.3., due to its procedural nature could be considered under Art. 7.

Thank you very much,

B.

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