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Live from Geneva

Report on the negotiations for a UN Binding Treaty on business and human rights

Online briefing via Zoom

October 22, 2025, 6:30-7:30 p.m. CEST

Registration

From October 20 to 24, 2025, negotiations on a legally binding instrument on business and human rights will take place in Geneva. The UN treaty aims to establish binding rules for companies to respect human rights and provide better access to justice for victims of human rights violations. If adopted, it will pave the way for comprehensive legislation to regulate supply and value chains at the global level, including liability rules for more companies and effective legal protection for all people.

At our online briefing, participants will report live from the Palais des Nations in Geneva on the status of the negotiations. What progress has been made in the negotiations so far? How are countries and groups of states (especially Germany, the EU, and South Africa) performing in the negotiations? What positions are civil society groups and trade unions taking?

There will also be a brief outlook on how the UN treaty process will continue after this round of negotiations and how the Chair intends to use the additional resources for 2026 and 2027.

Interviewees include:

Melanie Wündsche, research associate in the International Human Rights Policy Department of the German Institute for Human Rights (DIMR).

Gabriele Köhler, board member of WECF Germany

Ruwan Subasinghe, Legal Director at the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)

Siviwe Rikhotso, Program Manager Labour, Economic Alternatives, Communications Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, Southern Africa Regional Office

Moderator: **Celia Sudhoff**, Project Manager, Global Policy Forum Europe

Please register by October 20, 2025

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