



**FIAN**  
INTERNATIONAL



**Franciscans International**  
A voice at the United Nations



**icj**  
International  
Commission  
of Jurists

## **50<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

### ***Item 3: Dialogue with the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity***

*24 June 2022*

*Check against delivery*

Mr. President,

This statement is on behalf of Franciscans International, FIAN International, and the International Commission of Jurists. We note with appreciation the Independent Expert's focus on the extraterritorial application of human rights obligations, and particularly aspects relating to business and human rights.

Our organizations have all worked closely with local communities that have had their human rights, including their right to a healthy environment, adversely impacted by transnational extractive companies as well as local operations that are part of global value chains. Irrespective of the scale of activities, we often see failed promises for development and the equal distribution of benefits, degraded natural environments, and impunity for related human rights violations and abuses including attacks and harassment against environmental human right defenders.

As noted in the report, there has been an increase in "domestic (and regional) legislation to regulate the global value chains of transnational corporations." While mandatory due diligence legislations that are developed by home States are increasing in number, we must not forget the need to deliver robust accountability measures.

An international legally binding instrument on business and human rights, both as a tool for prevention and accountability, which levels the playing field and ensures effective access to justice, including across borders, is urgently needed. We call on all States to engage proactively and in good faith in the current process towards a UN legally binding instrument on business and human rights.

Thank you Mr. President.