

**11<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business  
enterprises with respect to human rights**

*20 October - 24 October 2025*

**General statement**

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Thank you Mr. Chair,

Corporate human rights abuses are not gender-neutral. And so I deliver a statement on behalf of the Feminists for a Binding Treaty- a network that has been working collectively to advocate for a gender-responsive and feminist treaty since 2016.

We express concern over how narratives fueling an anti-rights agenda are impacting the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and LGBTIQ+ communities, creating pushback on climate agendas, and enabling profiting from genocide, as we see happening in Palestine. We call on the international community to uphold accountability and ensure that human rights are not sacrificed for political or economic gain.

The UN liquidity crisis and the ongoing wave of defunding and deregulation are impacting civic space, communities and civil society's participation worldwide. As a woman human rights defender, standing alongside my feminist comrades, I speak today knowing many of us may not have this chance next year.

We continue to see ideological resistance to equal rights and dissent, where several actors, including some states and business lobbies, have mobilized against the inclusion of gender-responsive language, including in these treaty negotiations.

Corporate impunity does not affect everyone equally. Women, girls, and gender-diverse people face disproportionate harm from extractive industries, sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, land dispossession, labor exploitation, and environmental degradation linked to operations of a transnational character.

A legally Binding Treaty that addresses corporate abuses and violations while centering the primacy of human rights as well as the voices, rights, experiences and visions of women and gender diverse people, affected communities, human rights defenders, especially in the Global South, is urgent.

We aim to challenge colonial legacies, corporate greed and capture and patriarchal institutions, because corporate human rights abuses are not gender-neutral. Therefore, as feminists we demand that throughout the treaty:

- Gendered impacts are recognized and addressed.
- Intersectional vulnerabilities are considered, and
- Women's voices and leadership are central to decision making, accountability and remedy mechanisms.

Thank you,