

## NEW REPORT SHEDS LIGHT ON WHAT GOVERNMENTS, BUSINESS AND THE UNITED NATIONS NEED TO DO IN CONFLICT-AFFECTED AREAS: BUT WHAT'S NEXT FOR THIS FIELD?

TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2020, 16:00 - 17:30 (CET)  
ONLINE

Join us for this online event, co-organized with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the Quaker United Nations (UN) Office to discuss the new report of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights on how to address business-related human rights abuse in conflict and post-conflict contexts.

This event relates to the presentation of the UN Working Group's report at the current 75th session of the UN General Assembly.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

**FRIEDRICH  
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NEXT DECADE | 10+

**BUSINESS AND  
HUMAN RIGHTS**  
UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES



*‘What is now required is more decisive action to integrate business and human rights into peace and security frameworks’*

While it is well documented that the worst forms of business-related human rights abuse tend to happen in conflict-affected contexts, a better understanding of the practical measures that States and business enterprises should take to implement the [United Nations \(UN\) Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#) (UN Guiding Principles) to prevent and address business-related human rights abuse in conflict and post-conflict contexts is still needed.

To start addressing this gap, and as part of its mandate to promote the [UN Guiding Principles, the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights](#) (UN Working Group) launched a project in 2018 and developed recommendations to governments, business actors and the UN system that are now out in a [report to the UN General Assembly](#).

In the report, the UN Working Group identifies and clarifies a range of policies and tools that could be employed in conflict-prone regions to help ensure that business activity does not lead to human rights abuse and in turn stimulate or exacerbate conflict or negatively impact peacebuilding.

This [online discussion](#) – co-organized with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the Quaker United Nations Office – will explore the UN Working Group’s findings and identify what is missing from their analysis, where the field should go next and how to move from guidance to action. Members of the UN Working Group will present their new report, while representatives of Swedwatch and Amnesty International will offer their own reactions to the report. This presentation will be followed by an informal discussion amongst speakers and participants.

## WELCOME

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- **Felix Kirchmeier**, Executive Director, Geneva Human Rights Platform
- **Ira Gibson**, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Geneva Office

## REPORT PRESENTATION

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- **Anita Ramasastry**, Project Lead and Chair, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights
- **Gerald Pachoud**, Project Advisor, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights

## MODERATOR

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- **Florence Foster**, Representative, Peace and Disarmament, Quaker United Nations Office in Geneva

## OPEN DISCUSSION

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- **Hannah Peters**, Researcher, Swedwatch
- **Patrick Wilken**, Arms Control and Human Rights Researcher, Amnesty International