



PROGRAMME

About the 2017 UN Forum: The UN Forum on Business and Human Rights is the global platform for yearly stock-taking and lesson-sharing on efforts to move the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#) (UNGPs) and the “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework from paper to practice. The central theme of the 2017 Forum is **“Realizing Access to Effective Remedy”**. The programme will include two plenary sessions, and more than 60 “parallel” sessions organized in simultaneous tracks throughout the three days. These are organized by both UN and external organizations, and are based on extensive consultations and submissions. In addition, the Forum will include a “developments and tools snapshots” track, where organizations wishing to highlight relevant work may be able to sign up for brief presentations.

Background documents:

- [Concept note](#)
- [Reflections on the theme](#)
- [2017 Forum blog series](#)

Other links

- [Speakers](#)
- [Map](#)
- [‘Snapshot’ presentations](#)
- [Networking, refreshments and other activities \(including welcome/networking coffee\)](#)
- [‘Post-Forum’ events](#)

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Background: *The Forum was established by the UN Human Rights Council in 2011 “to discuss trends and challenges in the implementation of the [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#)” and promote dialogue on business and human rights” (resolution 17/4, paragraph 12). The Forum is guided and chaired by the [UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights](#) (UNWG) and organized by its Secretariat at the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).*

Day 1 – 27 November

09:30-11:00 (parallel sessions)*

Introductory sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to the UNGPs (XXII)• Introduction to the access to remedy pillar (XX – E/F/S)• Introduction to the UNGPs and the SDGs: separate, related, or integrated? (XXI)
Operationalizing the UNGPs: regional experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human rights due diligence in investment and supply chains of Chinese business (XIX – E/C)
Stakeholder perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building bridges for indigenous peoples' access to remedies to address impacts of multinational industries in the Americas (XXIII – E/S)

11:30-13:00 (plenary)

Opening plenary	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Opening statements• Part 2: Keynote panel featuring women leaders from different backgrounds (Assembly Hall – A/C/E/F/R/S)
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13:30-14:45 (parallel sessions)

Exploring new solutions and the role of “shapers” of corporate practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legal counsel, disputes and respect for rights (XXIII)• Business and human rights remedy Hague style: a smart collaborative mix from dialogue to mediation and arbitration (XXII)
Operationalization of the UNGPs in a sector context	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementing the UNGPs in the commodities trading sector (IX)
Private sector standing up for human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promoting inclusion and countering anti-migrant narratives: the role of business (XX)
Rights issues in focus and collaborative solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Living wages in international supply chains (XXI)

15:00-18:00 (parallel tracks)

Exploring elements of effective remedy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Conversation with the UNWG Chair: The UNWG report to the UN General Assembly – realizing access to effective remedy• Part 2: Victims' perspectives concerning effective remedy (case studies) (XIX – E/F/S)
Implementing the UNGPs through policy and regulation – Trends and case studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Where is government regulation heading?• Part 2: The French duty of vigilance law – companies and stakeholder perspectives• Part 3: Rule of law reform in the Indonesian fishing industry: ensuring company responsibility to respect human rights (XX – E/F/S)
Operationalizing corporate respect for human rights: how far have we come?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Case studies on strengthening human rights performance over time• Part 2: How far have we come, and what is needed to move forwards (XXI – E/S)
A business and human rights lens on the SDGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Case studies on UNGPs-SDGs linkages• Part 2: Corporate respect for human rights and the SDGs: understanding and unleashing a powerful relationship (XXIII)
Technology and human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Addressing access to remedy in the digital age: Corporate misconduct in sharing and processing personal data• Part 2: The proposal for a ‘Digital Geneva Convention’ – Implications for human rights (XXII)
‘Snapshot’ track	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ‘Snapshot presentations’ (IX)

18:15-19:45 (evening sessions)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solid documentation as point of departure for access to remedy (XXIII – E/S)• Film screening: “Complicit” (XXII)• Multi-stakeholder debate (“Oxford Union style”): Can non-judicial remedy be effective? (Followed by reception) (XXI)• Academic book launch session: “Building a treaty on business and human rights” (XXVII)

* Session details can be accessed by clicking on session titles. Room numbers and available languages are indicated in brackets. If no indication of language, this means the session is English-only. Live streaming is only available in the Assembly Hall and Room XX. The live stream will be available on the Forum web page and uploaded in UN Web TV.

Day 2 – 28 November

08:15-09:45 (parallel sessions)

Access to remedy trends and stakeholder perspectives sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human rights remedies up and down the value chain – legal innovation and its practical impact (XXIII)• An African perspective to access to remedy – Regional challenges and needs (XXVII)• Challenges in accessing remedy for indigenous peoples in Asia (XXI)
Rights issues in focus and collaborative solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The right to information - Access to remedy for workers and communities affected by toxic waste (XXII)
Exploring conceptual and practical issues of international mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updates on the process of elaborating a legally binding instrument (XIX)

10:00-13:00 (parallel tracks)

Exploring elements of effective remedy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: How to integrate voices of the affected communities?• Part 2: Settlement agreements and international standards on right to effective remedy (XIX – E/F/S)
Improving effectiveness of non-judicial mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: State-based non-judicial mechanisms on corporate accountability and remedy: supporting actors or lead players?• Part 2: Reports from the field: the reality of remedy at national human rights institutions (XXII – E/S)
Frameworks for leveraging access to remedy in supply chains and business relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Access to remedy in global governance frameworks: new developments and building further convergence• Part 2: How can MNEs use their leverage to help enable remediation by their business partners? (XXIII)
Protecting and supporting human rights defenders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remediating, redressing and preventing attacks against human rights defenders working on business and human rights (XX – E/F/S)
Technology and human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Are emerging technology innovations driving better access to remedy in global supply chains?• Part 2: Remedy against the machine (XXI)
'Snapshot' track	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Snapshot presentations' (IX)

13:30-14:45 (parallel sessions)

Private sector standing up for human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UN corporate standards of conduct on tackling discrimination against LGBTI: bringing an LGBTI "lens" to the UNGPs (XX)
Exploring new solutions and role of "shapers" of corporate practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human rights benchmarks: what they tell us about access to remedy (IX)
Rights issues in focus and collaborative solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reimbursement of worker recruitment fees as remedy (XXI)• How lawyers can help communities access remedy (XXII)
Operationalizing the UNGPs: regional experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UN Global Compact Local Network experiences: implementing the UNGPs and human rights due diligence to achieve the SDGs (XXIII – E/R)

15:00-18:00 (parallel tracks)

Exploring elements of effective remedy: focus on women's rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Business-related impacts on women's rights – challenges and strategies for addressing them• Part 2: Women's rights and land intensive investment: what does meaningful access to remedy look like?• Part 3: Women workers in global supply chains: operational-level grievance mechanisms and access to remedy (XIX – E/F/S)
Effectiveness of judicial remedy – from paper to practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Increasing the effectiveness of domestic public law regimes• Part 2: The life cycle of a criminal prosecution: Overcoming challenges and increasing accountability for cross-border corporate human rights crimes (XXII)
Improving access to remedy in collaborative approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Role of business associations - joint remediation and collaboration• Part 2: Strengthening access to remedy in multi-stakeholder initiatives (XXI)
Improving effectiveness of non-judicial mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Lessons learned from the OECD peer review process• Part 2: The road to remedy: challenges and opportunities for communities accessing remedy in international development projects (XXVII)
Access to remedy through multi-stakeholder engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Multi-stakeholder perspectives on access to remedy for people affected by the Thilawa Special Economic Zone in Myanmar• Part 2: Resolving grievances in the mining industry in South Africa (XX – E/F/S)
'Snapshot' track	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Snapshot presentations' (IX)

18:15-19:45 (evening sessions)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural event (Assembly Hall)• Access to remedy: exploring a global network of pro bono lawyers (XXI)• Responsible Business Alliance evening reception (limited space – pre-registration via link)

Day 3 – 29 November

08:15-09:45 (parallel sessions)

<i>Rights issues in focus and collaborative solutions for improving access to remedy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Some like it hot: Financialization, housing and human rights (IX)• Bridging the remedies and reparations gap (XIX)
<i>Access to remedy through multi-stakeholder engagement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The role of effective mediation in achieving sustainable development (XXII)
<i>Making operational-level grievance mechanisms work</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making operational-level grievance mechanisms work for workers (XXI)
<i>Exploring new solutions and the role of “shapers” of corporate practice</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business lawyers, litigation and corporate human rights impacts (role play) (XXIII)
<i>Operationalizing the UNGPs: regional experiences</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Taking stock of UNGPs implementation efforts in Latin America (XXVII – E/S)

10:00-13:00 (parallel tracks)

<i>National action plans (NAPs) and access to remedy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: UNWG perspectives• Part 2: State presentations• Part 3: Multi-stakeholder dialogue – How to make NAPs work in improving access to remedy? (XX – E/F/S)
<i>The State-business nexus and access to remedy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Realizing access to remedy: Implications of the international investment regime• Part 2: The “State-business nexus” and the access to remedy pillar (XXII – E/F/S)
<i>Improving access to remedy in collaborative approaches</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Lessons learned from efforts to provide remedy to victims of industrial supply chain accidents• Part 2: The role of trade unions (XXIII)
<i>Making operational-level grievance mechanisms work</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Making operational-level grievance mechanisms work in practice• Part 2: Do operational-level grievance mechanisms in the extractive industries work? Companies’ and stakeholder perspectives (XXI)
<i>Exploring access to remedy in the bank sector</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Banks and remedy under the Dutch banking sector agreement• Part 2: Public-private partnerships for effective remedy: a case study on human trafficking (XIX)
<i>‘Snapshot’ track</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ‘Snapshot presentations’ (IX)

13:30-14:45 (parallel sessions)

<i>Private sector standing up for human rights</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70: the role of business (XX)
<i>Improving access to remedy in collaborative approaches</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaborative investor engagement on child labour in the cobalt supply chain (XXI – E/C)
<i>Improving access to judicial remedy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Addressing interference in access to justice: perspectives from the ground (XXVII)
<i>Operationalizing the UNGPs: regional experiences</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moving forward with NAPs and implementing Pillar III in Southeast Asia (XXIII)• Embedding respect for human rights in the Tokyo Olympics (XXII)

15:00-16:20 (parallel sessions)

<i>Addressing modern slavery</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improving access to remedy for victims of modern slavery in supply chains (XX – E/F/S)
<i>Childs rights and access to remedy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child rights in global supply chains – Practical case studies from the field (XXIII)
<i>Access to remedy through multi-stakeholder engagement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Case study: lessons from a NCP case (XXI)
<i>Role of regional human rights mechanisms</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional mechanisms as remedy – Case study of indigenous peoples affected by business operations (XXII – E/F/S)
<i>Ensuring access to remedy in post-conflict contexts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNGPs in Colombia: remediation as a tool in peacebuilding (XIX – E/S)

16:30-18:00 (plenary)

<i>Closing plenary</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Connecting the dots” and “calls for action” (XX – E/F/S)
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18:15-19:45 (Evening sessions)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Launching a resource website on business and human rights NAPs (reception – limited space – pre-registration via link)
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