

Joint oral statement

**“International solidarity: a powerful tool for addressing key global challenges”**

Mr President,

APG23 and other thirteen co-signing NGOs welcome the report of Ms Virginia Dandan, the Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity.

We agree with Ms Dandan in saying that international solidarity will be a powerful tool for addressing key global challenges to human rights.

Indeed, in the context of the sustainable development goals and the climate agreement to be forged in 2015, international solidarity would ensure a fair and just relationship between State and non-State actors engaged in the pursuit of common goals or in overcoming a common challenge.

Many recent events in the world such as, inter alia, the devastating Ebola’ epidemic and the phenomenon of forced migration in such a proportion can be interpreted as the result of a lack of preventive solidarity.

Time has come to move from the principle of international solidarity towards the recognition of the right of individuals and peoples to international solidarity. This is for the very survival of all humanity and for facing the challenges posed by our globalised and interconnected world such as, inter alia, climate change, increased inequities between and within countries and the threat posed to the concept of sovereignty and political power of States by the supremacy of finance and economics.

In the Evangelii Gaudium, Pope Francis affirms that “solidarity presupposes the creation of a new mind-set which thinks in terms of community and gives priority of the life of all over the appropriation of goods by a few.”

In its proper sense and implementation, solidarity is an obligation of all persons and of all nations to co-operate with one another in our globalized world and to work collectively towards “eliminating obstacles to development”.

In this regard, the co-signing NGOs look forward to the outcome of the regional consultations on the proposed draft declaration on the right of individuals and peoples to international solidarity, which the Independent Experts will carry on in the following months and to the final text of the declaration.

Thank you!



New Humanity



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(PACE)

Company of the  
Daughters of Charity  
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Lawyers.Org, NGO  
not accredited to  
ECOSOC, supports  
this statement