

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV)

Item 3: ID with Panel on UCMs

Unilateral sanctions: jurisdiction and extraterritoriality



Madam President,

ODVV is alarmed by the impact of extraterritorial application of UCMs on interbank systems and over compliance of third parties with the sanctions that leads to limitation of access to life-saving medicine and vaccine for sanctioned populations.

Also, ODVV is highly concerned with the disregard of sanctioning countries for the repeated resolutions of the UN HRC¹ and the UN GA² as well as the repeated calls made by the UN experts, the UN HC and the UN SG³ for elimination of unilateral sanctions during the pandemic

Madam President,

Considering all the life threatening complications created by UCMs during the pandemic, ODVV calls on the Distinguished Panelists to:

- Offer recommendations to the international community on how to approach the countries that consider themselves above the law and how to strengthen the international rule of law against unilateralism.
- Offer recommendations to the international community on how to stop the extraterritorial reach of the sanctions.
- Study the ways of encouraging all States and international organizations to cooperate to guarantee that human rights are not violated by unilateral sanctions, especially the rights of women, children, the elderly and other vulnerable groups of the targeted populations.
- Finally, ODVV urges the panelists to offer the Council with recommendations on how to establish a compensation mechanism for mass violations of human rights by deadly UCMs and punishing the perpetrators.

¹ resolutions 15/24, paras. 1–3; 19/32, paras. 1–3; 24/14, paras. 1–3; 27/21, paras. 1–3; 30/2, paras. 1–2 and 4; and 34/13, paras. 1–2 and 4

² resolutions 69/180, paras. 5–6; 70/151 paras. 5–6 and 71/193, paras. 5–6

³ e.g. <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1060092>; <https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/03/24/un-coronavirus-cuba-iran-venezuela-north-korea-zimbabwe-sanctions-pandemic/>;

<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=26155&LangID=E>

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/sgsm20024.doc.htm>; A/HRC/42/46; A/HRC/39/54;