

## *Organization for Defending Victims of Violence*



### **Item 3: General Debate**

Item 3: General debate on the promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

#### Over-compliance of Businesses with Economic Sanctions

**Mr. President,**

Over-compliance of businesses, in general and banks in particular, with unilateral sanctions leads to wide-scoped violations of all economic social and cultural rights as well as the right to life in the sanctioned countries.

De-risking policies of banks and their avoidance to get involved in any transactions with targeted States, out of fear of penalties and punishments by sanctioning countries, blocks the formal channels of imports and exports for sanctioned countries, including for humanitarian items, jeopardizing millions of lives of those in need of fundamental items, especially food and medicine.

What is worst is ineffectiveness of sanction exemptions that expand the extraterritorial reach of sanctions in such a way that any attempts to send fundamental items to targeted States is met with severe penalties too.

**Mr. President**

With unilateral sanctions threatening human lives we call on all the UN treaty bodies to document the deadly impacts of sanctions on targeted populations and offer the countries with recommendations on how to provide the victims with compensation and redress.

We call on the Special Procedures to report and discuss the harmful effects of unilateral sanctions in their annual reports and condemn such effects in joint statements.