

## **Organization for Defending Victims of Violence**

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

**Mr. President,**

Despite numerous resolutions by the UN General Assembly and HRC, condemning UCMs and multiple warnings by the Special Rapporteur about their adverse humanitarian impact, resorting to sanction regimes by most developed countries in recent years has rapidly expanded. This year, the U.S. government extended the statute of limitations for civil and criminal violations of sanctions regulations from 5 to 10 years.

UCMs hinder access to food, as countries under sanctions face restricted access to foreign currency and international food markets. They also have resulted in food price anomalies in many sanctioned countries like Iran and Nicaragua. In Iran, sanctions impede Iranian scientists from engaging in joint research projects abroad and even prevent them from accessing online databases and courses, restricting the right to education and access to cyberspace.

As regards the right to health, there have been many withdrawals of medical and pharmaceutical companies and a decrease in vaccination in countries, rendering humanitarian carve-outs Inefficient.

Sanctioning States should abide by their obligations under International law and cease their unlawful UCMs immediately. We value the recent efforts taken by the Special Rapporteur and request her to establish a compensation fund to reduce the negative impact of UCMs on human rights.

Also, we urge States to take all necessary measures to ensure that the private businesses under their jurisdiction and control fully comply with human rights standards.