***UN Virtual Forum on Responsible Business and Human Rights***

***Concept note***

**Coordinator: IOE**

**Co-organisers: -**

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| **Title of the session** | UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights beyond 2021: What has worked, what hasn`t, what needs to be done |
| **Background to the discussion** (1 paragraph) | June 2021 marks the tenth anniversary of the [Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the UN “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/GuidingPrinciplesBusinessHR_EN.pdf) – the globally recognized and authoritative framework for State duties and business responsibilities in preventing and addressing business-related human rights abuse. It is time to take stock on what has worked and what hasn`t and what needs to change in order to more effectively promote the state duty to protect human rights, the business responsibility to promote as well as access to remedy. |
| **Short description of what the session is about** (1 paragraph) | This session will discuss progress and still existing gaps in the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles as well as priority areas which should be in the focus in the next decade for mainstreaming and scaling up the UNGPs, and building a sustainable and more resilient post COVID global economy |
| **Session objectives** | 1. Discuss progress so far in the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles in Asia 2. Discuss still existing challenges in Asia 3. Sharing of best practice of company and state practice 4. Discuss the drivers needed to boost business action, beyond leaders and pioneers 5. Identifying key action areas to be focused on beyond 2021 |
| **Key discussion questions** | 1. In how far have the UN Guiding Principles changed state and business practice in the Asian region? 2. What are some specific examples of implementing the UNGPs in the region from companies (including SMEs)? 3. What are specific examples from state actions that promote and incentivize the uptake of UNGP by business? 4. What are the main challenges in the implementation of the UNGPs in Asia? 5. What drivers (markets’, investors’ and public policy signals) are key to accelerate the implementation of UNGP by all type of business? What actions are needed to promote the better implementation of the UNGPs? |
| **Speakers and moderators** (name, title, organization, e-mail address) | **Speakers (TBC)**   * A representative from UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights (TBC) * A representative from an Employer Organisation from the region (TBC) * A representative on a SME from the region (TBC) * A representative from a MNE from the region (TBC) * A representative from CSR Asia   **Moderator**   * IOE |
| **Format of the session** | Moderated panel with time for questions to be put forward from the floor |