



Human Rights Council 55th Session
ID with the Independent Expert on foreign debt, other
international financial obligations and human rights
Oral Statement

We applaud the Independent Expert's excellent report.

This timely report rightly highlights that there are other economies in addition to the formal legally recognized economy, in particular the unpaid economy.

This invisible unpaid economy includes the unpaid domestic and care work done daily in the homes. It is crucial as it sustains society and the monetized economy. But it remains mostly ignored by current economic and fiscal systems.

Propped up by women, the unpaid care economy perpetuates gender inequality and is a root cause of social and economic injustices. Mothers in particular are penalized for caring and educating the next generation of workers and citizens, an indispensable work that our society and economy relies on.

We at MMM are therefore calling on Member States to strengthen fiscal legitimacy by ensuring that revenue collection and expenditure policies not only prioritize and serve human rights and the wellbeing of people, but also contribute to recognizing, redistributing and supporting the unpaid and underpaid work of Caring - and the people behind it.

As Tim Jackson, an ecological economist, justly says: "without care we are nothing, our progress is nothing. Without care there is no economy."¹

¹ #BeyondGrowth conference at the European Parliament, Brussels, May 2023 - <https://timjackson.org.uk/invisible-heart/>