

The IU is officially affiliated with the UN through both the Department of Public Information and the UN [Economic and Social Council](#) (ECOSOC). We have recently joined forces with several other UN nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to form the Commons Action for the UN and the Commons Cluster. We are working together to bring a commons perspective fully into the view of other UN NGOs and UN official delegates, as well as contributing policy input to the current [Sustainable Development Post-2015 proceedings](#).



November, December 2013: Two papers ([see IU website](#)) written and distributed during the SDG Proceedings held in the UN Trusteeship Chamber: **Commons Rent / Land Value Tax Policy for Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements** addressed these areas: Commons Rent Public Finance as a Planning Tool, Commons Rent Approach for Affordable Housing for All, and Commons Rent and Climate Change Recommendations. The other paper was **The Human Right to the Earth** with this subtitle: *A Commons Rent Approach to Public Finance for the SDGs Based on an Ethic of Fairly Sharing the Value of the Earth.*

IU UNITED NATIONS NGO REPORT

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Most UN sessions can be viewed live and recorded here: <http://webtv.un.org/> The UN Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Reports here: <http://www.worldsustainabilityfund.nl/i19.html#m2>.

Alanna Hartzok speaks on [Inequality and Financing Sustainable Development](#) in this video recorded in the UN Trusteeship Council Chamber for the United Nations Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform. Alanna is IU UN NGO Representative, IU General Secretary and Global Outreach Coordinator for the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation. *In this brief video, Ms Hartzok focuses on unequal land distribution as well as the role of taxation and rents for financing sustainable development.* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-EYQP-tLVms>

From IU President Dave Wetzel: Congratulations for raising these issues at the UN Alanna....we need to be careful not to be seen advocating Development Land Taxes as opposed to an annual Land Value Tax. The late Vic Blundell wrote an excellent paper on the disadvantages of DLT, go to http://www.cooperativeindivdualism.org/blundell-vic_labours-flawed-land-acts-1993.html

The beauty of LVT is that it does not require an event in order to be charged - and therefore cannot be avoided.

To Alanna from Adam Parsons, [Share the Worlds Resources](#):we were glad to see your advocacy of LVT at the UN this week; we've published your NGO statement on our social networking sites, as here on FB: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/share-the-worlds-resources/the-human-right-to-the-earth/10153600315170434>



Teckla Negga Melchior, Quisia Gonzalez and Alanna Hartzok, all IU UN NGO Representatives, spoke during two programs held in New York on January 18th co-sponsored by the [Communications Coordination Committee for the UN](#), Earth Rights Institute and the Henry George School of Social Science. The morning program was titled **Women, Earth and Economic Power**. The afternoon session titled **Land Rights and Human Rights on Trial: Turning the Tables on Genocide and Ecocide**, **Rev. Kevin Annett** gave a firsthand account of *The Case of the Ahousaht People, Weyerhauser, and the United Church of Canada.*

