Reviewer’s report

Title: International norm development and change: Can international law play a meaningful role in curbing the lifestyle disease pandemic?

Version: 1 Date: 11 Apr 2020

Reviewer: Marlies Hesselman

Reviewer's report:

The author has very thoughtfully responded to the initial review, and made a range of valuable revisions to clarify and increase the quality of the paper even further. As indicated before, the paper will be a welcome contribution to the discussion on the adoption of international (legal) (treaty) norms on NCD:

Before publication, there seems one aspect that merits brief attention, and is probably be easily remedied: on p. 15-16, in the paragraphs on 'corporate actors', the author refers to an apparently well-established body of empirical studies across different issue areas /industries that supports that corporate power is 'pervasive, extensive and undeterred by normative principles such as justice, fairness, distributive justice, sustainable development, etc', or that corporate actors can nearly always get what they want through their lobbying and pressure activities. However, no studies are (clearly) cited here. (NB: it could be that the author still has in mind the three studies cited in the previous paragraph - Stoeva, Collins, Cohen - but this is currently not clear from the phrasing). Could the author please clarify / add a few (key) references? This will be helpful for the reader, especially as it seems to be a central part of the critique around corporate power and NCD norm setting. In the attached, I included a comment where additional citations/clarification would be helpful.

Aside from a few additional editing comments for consideration by author/publisher (see attached), the paper seems ready for publication.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

Not relevant to this manuscript

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

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