Forum: Legal Committee

Issue: Evaluating the legality of pharmaceutical monopolies' impact on the market and consumer

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Introduction

A lot of people probably heard about the word "monopoly" throughout their lives, either through playing the board game or finding out about the financial and legal connotations of the word. The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) defines monopoly simply as "*a situation where there is a single seller in the market"* (OECD, 2002). The Cambridge dictionary defines the word as *"complete control of the supply of particular goods or services, or a company or group that has such control*" (Cambridge Dictionary). Besides these definitions, pharmaceutical monopoly refers to a situation in which pharmaceutical companies get similar and numerous patents for a specific product in order to prevent other companies from getting similar patents so as to diminish competition for that market.

The issue in fact concerns everyone in the world as it carries great importance regarding the accessibility of existing products and the development of new products. Apart from their financial implications, pharmaceutical monopolies concern the welfare and health of the humankind as the decrease accessibility to vital medications, which is why it should be investigated more closely and assessed in legal terms.

Definition of Key Terms

Pharmaceutical: The word "pharmaceutical" refers to a substance that is used for diagnosis and treatment purposes with the aim of restoring organic functions of organisms (Britannica, 2023)

Pharmaceutical industry: By definition, the word "pharmaceutical industry" refers to the discovery, development, design, production, and distribution of medications and drugs (Britannica) . The pharmaceutical industry, besides its involvement in the production of medications for the health of people,

has crucial financial and market-related aspects that should be considered as it is a whole sector by itself.

Monopoly: The term monopoly, as defined by the Cambridge Dictionary, is the “complete control of the supply of particular goods or services, or a company or group that has such control” (Cambridge Dictionary). In a financial context, monopoly may also be defined as a period of power that incentivizes firms to bolster innovations through allowing them to increase their market shares as mentioned in a report named “Economic properties of data and the monopolistic tendencies of data economy: policies to limit an Orwellian possibility” from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (Cheng, 2020).

Competition: According to the glossary of statistical terms of OECD, competition “*refers to a situation in a market in which firms or sellers independently strive for the patronage of buyers in order to achieve a particular business objective, eg., profits, sales, and/or market share*” (OECD, 2002). In simpler words, competition refers to the situation in which companies in a specific sector thrive through competition, which is a key factor that provides motivation for the businesses.

Monopolistic competition: The glossary of statistical terms of OECD defines monopolistic competition as a financial structure that includes monopolistic features along with elements of perfect competition. Just like the functioning of perfect competition, the mobility of goods and services is facilitated. Yet, contrary to the situation in perfect competition, products in monopolistic competition are quite different than each other in a sense that a company’s product may not perfectly substitute for another product of a different company. Furthermore, monopolistic competition has a characteristic such that companies get to control their prices to some extent (OECD, 2002).

Pharmaceutical regulations: Pharmaceutical regulations refer to the cumulative legal, administrative, and technical measures a governmental institution adopts in order to maintain efficacy, quality, and safety in the production, distribution, and sales of pharmaceutical products. Regulations are mostly devised by agencies in order to shed light on the implementation of laws (Lezotre, 2014).

Pharmaceutical legislations: Much like pharmaceutical regulations, pharmaceutical legislations aim to form administrative and legislative methods in order to control pharmaceutical activities. Additionally, pharmaceutical legislations refer to the creation of laws. They are open to improval and elaboration through regulations (Lezotre, 2014).

Intellectual property rights: The World Trade Organization (WTO) defines intellectual property rights as “*the rights given to persons over the creation of their minds*” (WTO). In other words, intellectual property rights recognize that the inventor or creator of a product should have an exclusive right and possession over the use of that creation. The intellectual property right is crucially related to the whole concept of monopoly, since monopoly is based on the idea that a company should be able to have full control over their product,

because they are the very creator of it.

State monopoly: State monopoly is also referred to as “government monopoly” and “public monopoly”. State monopoly, as defined by the Union of International Associations’ (UIA) Encylopedia of World Problems and Human Potential, is a type of monopoly where a governmental institution or corporation is the one and only supplier of a good or a service (The Encyclopedia of World Problems and Human Potential). In this type of monopoly, competition against the governmental institution is strictly prohibited.

Legal monopoly: Legal monopoly is a type of monopoly in which a certain company has a government permit to be the sole provider of a good or service without withstanding any competition from another company. It simply refers to the implementation of a monopolistic policy through a government mandate (CFI, 2023).

Patent: According to the Patent Law of WTO, “*a patent shall mean a right granted for an invention in any field of technology, which is new, involves an inventive step and is susceptible of industrial application*” (WTO).

Copyright: According to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), copyright “is a legal term used to describe the rights that creators have over their literary and artistic works” (WIPO).

Trademark: The European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) defines a trademark as “signs used in trade to identify products” (EUIPO).

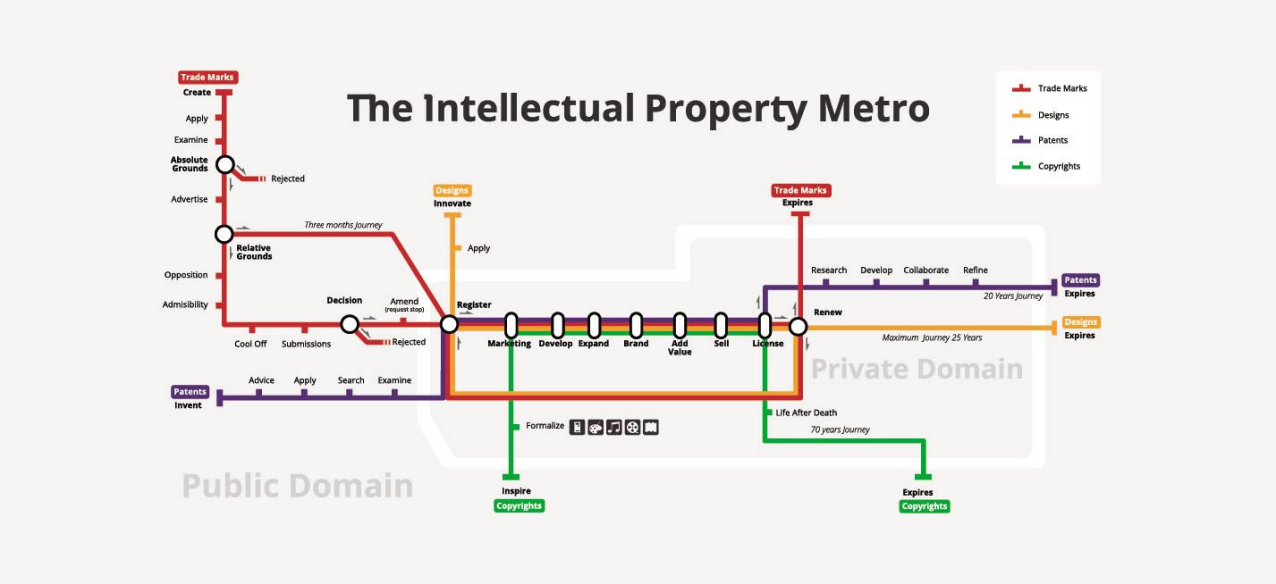
General Overview

Background Information

A pharmaceutical monopoly describes a situation in which a pharmaceutical company has extensively concentrated on a specific product and acquired numerous related patents in order to remove the competition factor in the distribution and marketing of the product so as to be the sole provider of that good or commodity. With the competition factor removed, the company applying monopolistic policies gets to have more control over the price of its product, hence make more financial profit. The fact that such policies bring financial advantages is the driving factor that makes it favorable for companies to adopt monopolistic policies. Apart from the financial prosperity that it provides for pharmaceutical companies though, it has various disadvantages as well. The removal of a competition factor not only diminishes a crucial incentive for innovation, but also causes an increase in the prices of medications since a competitive market would have more products for lower prices. This makes healthcare and important medications less accessible to people, hence jeopardizing the welfare of people and raising concerns relating to human rights.

Intellectual Property Rights and Their Types

Intellectual property rights are the rights assigned to creators or inventors of products for a period of time. Intellectual property rights, which are legally recognized, allow the inventor to fully utilize his/her product for financial benefit. Intellectual property rights consist of several aspects such as patents, inventions, trademarks, copyright, and so on. Below is a scheme that exemplifies the relations between intellectual property rights from EUIPO (EUIPO):



Picture 1: Scheme demonstrating intellectual property rights (EUIPO)

Fundamentally, there are four legal intellectual property rights: patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets.

Patent laws conserve the technical aspects of an original invention and gives possessive rights to the inventor of the product. It prevents other inventors and researchers from utilizing the product in any way. There are some types of patents: design patents, plant patents, and utility patents. Design patents give exclusive rights to someone who invents an original ornamental design. Such design should be consisting of visual ornaments. Plant patent is a type of patent granted to an inventor who, according to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, "*has invented or discovered and asexually reproduced a distinct and new variety of plant, other than a tuber propagated plant or a plant found in an uncultivated state*" (USPTO). Utility patent is a type of patent that is given to protect a new process that serves a useful purpose. A utility patent may include vehicle safety systems, software, and pharmaceuticals (St Francis School of Law, 2021). Furthermore, utility patents gained particular importance in the pharmaceutical industries as companies with patents use their exclusive rights to increase prices and conduct anticompetitive market

strategies (Pistilli, 2021).

Trademarks are used mostly for the protection of logos, sounds, symbols, or other visual elements that describe and distinguish a product or service from the others. For instance, logos of social media apps are considered as trademarks. The Lanham Act, also known as the Trademark Act, has a significant role in the registration of trademarks. As stated by the Cornell Law School, the act "*provides a nationals system of trademark registration and protects the owner of a federally registered mark against the use of similar marks if such use is likely to result in consumer confusion, or if the dilution of a famous mark is likely to occur*" (Cornell Law School). The act assesses the eligibility of a trademark through two different aspects. The trademark should be a mark that will be utilized for commercial purposes. The trademark should also fulfil the "distinctive requirement", which suggests that the trademark is adequate enough to differentiate the product it is being used for than other products. In legal terms, a trademark can be infringed if another person owns the exact same mark legally and if the infringed trademark causes confusion in the identification of goods and services (Cornell Law School).

Copyright is a type of intellectual property rights that aims to protect an intellectual work of an individual. There are some types of intellectual property that may have a copyright such as "*paintings, photographs, illustrations, musical compositions, sound recordings, computer programs*" as exemplified by the US Copyright Office (US Copyright Office).

Pharmaceutical Industry and Its Characteristics

Pharmaceutical industry, as mentioned before refers to design, production, distribution, and marketing of pharmaceutical products such as medications and drugs. The pharmaceutical industry makes up most of the healthcare spendings in most nations and has contributed to medicine greatly. Fundamental medical treatments such as the "*treatment of high cholesterol and heart disease, highly active antiretroviral therapy for the treatment of HIV, tyrosine kinaese inhibitors for the treatment of chronic leukemia, and many other breakthroughs*" were found thanks to the pharmaceutical industry (Lakdawalla, 2018). It should also be noted that the pharmaceutical industry is a research and development based industry that has high costs for companies. The costs and financial implications of the research and development aspect of pharmaceutical industries can be seen in the table below (Lakdawalla, 2018):

Total Employment and Planned R&D Costs Overall and in Selected Industries, 2011

Industry	NAICS code	R&D Costs paid by company ($mil)	Worldwide employees (thousands)	R&D Costs per employee ($)
Computer and electronic products	334	$77,887	2,951	$26,393
Pharmaceuticals and medicines	**3,254**	**$75,602**	**1,003**	**$75,376**
Publishing (including software)	511	$39,323	1,185	$33,184
Professional, scientific, and technical services	541	$34,407	2,799	$12,293
Transportation equipment	336	$31,639	2,596	$12,188
Machinery	333	$19,344	1,805	$10,717
All industries	31–33, 42–82	$365,211	29,327	$12,453

Picture 2: Table showing the costs of common industries in 2011 (Lakdawalla, 2018)

How Pharmaceutical Monopoly Works

Pharmaceutical monopoly is a situation where a pharmaceutical company, either through a government mandate or the ownership of multiple patents for a single product, is the one and only provider of a good which allows such company to have control over the pricing of the product and crerates an anti-competitive market, which at the end of the day results in high prices. Companies implement pharmaceutical monopoly mostly because they claim their research costs for a development of a product are very high.

A way that pharmaceutical companies can implement pharmaceutical monopolies is the possession of numerous patents for a specific product in order to prevent other companies from competing for the development of a product. These pharmaceutical companies battle for patents and the protection of those patents so that they are the only one that conducts research for the development of the product. In some countries, pharmaceutical monopoly in this way is in fact legal and enforced by the government. Countries such as the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Brazil, and Thailand either keep allowing or allowed pharmaceutical companies to implement monopolistic practices through compulsory licensing on medicines (Hoen, 2009). Apart from this, governments may directly practice pharmaceutical monopoly through their own institutions as well.

Benefits of Pharmaceutical Monopolies

First and foremost, pharmaceutical companies that apply monopolistic practices in their market strategies are able to cover up their financial losses since they spend considerably high amounts of resources for the research, development, and production of a pharmaceutical product. Apart from this, not only do these

pharmaceutical companies get to cover up their financial losses, they also get to generate vast amounts of profit through monopolistic policies. As pharmaceutical companies get mulitple patents for a specific product, they hamper other pharmaceutical companies from working on that product, hence removing the competition factor. This allows them to control their prices the way they want, without being concerned about setting lower prices than other companies so that they can be preferred more by the customers.

Besides the financial benefit of monopolistic policies for pharmaceutical companies, the implementation of these policies may serve a motivational purpose as well. The fact that monopolistic pharmaceutical companies get to set their own prices for their products motivates them to work more efficiently and produce products with higher efficacies.

Apart from these monopolistic practices conducted by pharmaceutical companies, governments who apply monopolistic policies in the pharmaceutical industry also provide direct financial benefit and profit for the governmental institutions.

Defects of Pharmaceutical Monopolies

As aforementioned, monopolistic pharmaceutical companies get to set the prices of their products without being concerned by external competition, hence, they set higher prices for more financial benefit. Although this may benefit the companies by generating more profit which would both motivate the companies and provide them more resources for further research and development, such increase in medication prices creates vulnerabilities in the public. People struggle more as the medication prices increase since such products' accessibility decreases. In shorter terms, the application of monopolistic policies by pharmaceutical companies results in price increases and puts a financial burden on the people, which fundamentally affects the welfare and health of the people. A significant negative impact of pharmaceutical monopolies was seen in the United States in the 1980s. As the US government began to retreat from antitrust laws – which were legislative regulations that promoted open market and competition – which resulted in the implementation of monopolistic policies. Because of this, 60 pharmaceutical companies came together to form just 10 between 1995 and 2015 (Open Market Institute). Further more, between 2010 and 2015, "*nearly a quarter of all generic drugs saw at least one price increase of 100 percent or more, and some saw increases of 1,000 percent or more*" (Open Market Institute). The monopolization of pharmaceutical monopolies further leads to a decrease in the funding of research and development projects and affects innovation.

Implications of Pharmaceutical Monopolies Regarding Human Rights

As aforementioned, monopolistic policies by pharmaceutical companies increase the prices of medical products and decrease the affordability of them, hence challenging the healthcare accessibility for people.

Because of this, monopolistic policies in the pharmaceutical industry raise disconcerting implications regarding human rights.

Firstly, the fact that such policies work only for the financial benefit of pharmaceutical companies is against ethics as it completely disregards the life quality of people. Furthermore, the fact that it directly makes it difficult to have access to pharmaceutical products is opposing the whole idea of people having easy access to healthcare. Because of these, monopolistic policies in the pharmaceutical industry are simply against human rights as they make it difficult for people to take care of their health easily only to provide financial benefit for big pharmaceutical companies.

Effects of Pharmaceutical Monopolies on the Market

As said before, pharmaceutical monopolistic policies remove the competition factor in the markets and propose anti-competition dynamics to the market. These policies prevent other pharmaceutical companies from proposing alternatives or working on the existing product as a company gets the product's patent, which legally prevents other companies from trying to improve the product. Fundamentally, this removes the competition factor from the monopolistic market, which is normally existent in other industrial markets and sometimes serves as a motivational factor as well. In a market with a competition factor, companies would be more motivated to thrive, develop products with higher efficacies in larger scales and efforts, and lower their prices so that the customer would choose their product. Yet in a monopolistic market, since there aren't numerous companies and hence there is no competition, there is only a single company providing a specific product. There aren't any other options or alternatives for the product. Thus, the existence of monopolistic policies in the pharmaceutical industry causes lack of diversity in products and increase in prices for the product.

Effects of Pharmaceutical Monopolies on the Consumer

As said multiple times throughout this report, pharmaceutical monopolies cause a significant increase in the prices of specific products. This puts a financial burden on the consumer and makes it difficult for them to afford pharmaceutical products, hence negatively affecting the accessibility to proper healthcare. Besides this, the lack of different companies working on a specific product – thus the lack of different options and alternatives for a product – doesn't leave any other options for the consumer to choose from. This may reduce the confusion that a customer may have in a market with other competing companies and products, yet the lack of other options may as well be negatively perceived since it doesn't leave any other alternative for the consumer.

Legality of Pharmaceutical Monopolies

In most countries, monopolies that restrain competition for unnecessary reasons are prohibited. However, some pharmaceutical companies are allowed and in fact supported by the government to conduct monopolistic strategies. Besides the allowances of Member States' constitutions, the WTO's General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) – which is a legal document focusing on maintaining proper standards in trade activities – states, "*If any contracting party establishes, maintains, or authorizes, formally or in effect, a monopoly of the importation of any product described in the appropriate Schedule annexed to this Agreement, such monopoly shall not, except as provided for in that Schedule or otherwise agreed between the parties which initially negotiated the concession, operate so as to afford protection on the average in excess of the amount of protection provided for in that Schedule. The provisions of this paragraph shall not limit the use by contracting parties of any form of assistance to domestic producers permitted by other provisions of this Agreement*" (WTO). So, to some extent, the WTO and the GATT allow signatory countries to impose monopolistic policies as long as they do not exceed a certain limit.

Even though legal documents in the financial field allow the application of monopolistic practices to some extent, the human rights implications of the issue and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) may indicate the opposite. Article 25 of the UDHR states, "*Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control*", which emphasizes that every human being has the right to have standard health. Considering the financial burden that pharmaceutical monopolies create as it causes increases in prices, it may be argued that the 25th article of the UDHR is violated as such monopolistic policy would make it difficult to have a standard level of health.

Major Parties Involved and Their Views

United States of America (USA)

Pharmaceutical monopolies are extremely dominant in the pharmaceutical industry of the United States. This is because most American pharmaceutical companies implement monopolistic practices because of their allegedly high research and development costs. Right now, pharmaceutical monopolies in the United States include the right to extend the duration of a patent up to 14 years, "*absolute freedom from generic competition for seven years of orphan drugs; for five to seven years for all new small molecule drugs; and 12 years for new biologic drugs*", and the right to gain possessive rights over a pharmaceutical product

created through governmental funding in order to sell the product without any price restraints (Engelberg, 2016). Pharmaceutical lobbyists say that without monopolistic approaches and high prices, pharmaceutical companies wouldn't be able to cover up their research costs and would be unable to develop new medications and drugs (Open Market Institute). Yet this argument to defend monopolistic approaches is false considering the fact that despite the application of pharmaceutical monopoly to improve research quality, "*the average number of drugs approved each year has declined since the 1960s*" (Open Market Institute). Furthermore, a study conducted by the Journal of the American Medical Association indicated that half of the drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) didn't have any health benefits and didn't contribute to the health of people (Open Market Institute). Hence, it could be said that the monopolistic approach in the American pharmaceutical industry didn't prove useful.

The removal of monopolistic approaches, however, proved to be successful in the past after World War II where a regulatory regime limited patent monopolies and allowed competition in the pharmaceutical industry. With this, many companies competed with each other to produce and sell penicillin. In this time period, not only did the market become less dominated, penicillin prices experienced a drastic decrease.

European Union (EU)

The European Union's pharmaceutical industry strategies are also mostly monopolistic. The EU showed its monopolistic intent in the pharmaceutical industry just a few years ago amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The EU, "*in response to global south calls for patent waivers for COVID-19 vaccines*" which simply aimed to focus on the development of a vaccine by multiple companies instead of being monopolistic and reducing the chance of a successful vaccine, simply refused to apply this and rather preferred to further strengthen patent rules and protect the big pharma (Corporate Europe). The strict patent rules and intellectual property barrier simply prevented most of the European pharmaceutical companies from conducting research and producing a decently-priced vaccine.

United Kingdom (UK)

Pharmaceutical monopoly is predominantly existent in the United Kingdom as well. The National Health Service (NHS) of the country has monopolistic approaches towards the development and marketing of drugs per the UK parliament (The House of Commons). The country's competition watchdog organization's investigations also indicated that numerous pharmaceutical companies were paid by monopolistic companies to stay out of the market. Furthermore, it was found out by the watchdog that some pharmaceutical companies set extremely high prices for the NHS (Ambrose, 2021).

India

India has an outstanding pharmaceutical industry as only 1% of the markets are managed by monopolistic approaches (Chaudhuri, 2012). The distribution of pharmaceutical patents is conducted with extreme care and regulation in India, and only some companies can have patents for their pharmaceutical products. However, in 2005, as the Indian government amended their 1970 Patent Act in order for modifications in accordance with the TRIPS agreement, the Indian pharmaceutical industry became more open to patents. Even with this alteration, India continued to be an important supplier of cheap pharmaceuticals despite its remodification to the patent act (Hoen, 2009).

World Health Organization (WHO)

The World Health Organization (WHO) is a UN agency that "*leads global efforts to expand universal health coverage . . . directs and coordinates the world's response to health emergencies . . . promotes healthier lives.*" (WHO). The WHO has guidelines that set standards for pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical development, which are devised by Member States in WHO, regulatory bodies of Member States, and international agencies. These documents aim to assist Member States in the production, distribution, and development processes of pharmaceutical products.

Timeline of Events

September 20, 1986	Establishment of the Uruguay Round of the GATT (soon-to-be WTO)
1990s	Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) is served to the European and North American market, categorizing AIDS as chronic instead of fatal
July 26, 1994	UNAIDS founded
January 1, 1995	Launch of WTO and the approval of TRIPS Agreement
1996	Universal free ARV treatment becomes accesible by Brazil for people diagnosed with AIDS
24 May, 1999	World Health Assembly (WHA) endorses Revised Drug Strategy
1999	Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) initiates an international campaign for Access to Early Medicines
1999	MSF, Health Action International (HAI) and Consumer Project on Technology (CPTech) hold

	an international conference on access to medicines
May 10, 2000	President Clinton of the US establishes an executive order that implements the allowance of production and import of AIDS drugs to sub-Saharan African countries
July, 2000	13th International AIDS conference, held in a developing country (South Sudan) for the first time
2000 (December)	G8 summit on infectious diseases focusing on global intiatives and funding
2002	The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is founded
2003	US president initiates Energency Plan for AIDS Relief
2003	The Drugs for Neglected Diseases Intiative is established
2006	Foundation of UNITAID, a mechanism for the purchase of medicine funded by taxes charged on airline tickets
2008	UNITAID board agrees to implement a patent pool for AIDS medicines

UN Involvement

The UN, through its sub organization called “World Trade Organization”, has generally put in efforts in order to maintain and regulate a proper trade flow in the world along with preparing frameworks for intellectual property rights. For instance, the WTO devised several documents such as the GATT and TRIPS agreements in order to better the existent regulations regarding world trade and ownership of products through collaboration with the Member States. Furthermore, the UN always kept criticizing and condemning “drug colonialism” and pharmaceutical monopolies in the international arena. For instance, one of the past director-generals of WHO “*accused multinational drug companies of carrying on ‘drug colonialism’ in the third world, and called their activities indecent*”. The UN also praised Cuba’s pharmaceutical industry multiple times since the Cuban government removed privatization in pharmaceutical products (Schwartz, 1982). The UN also repeatedly called on governments to refrain from monopolistic policies and rather fund pharmaceutical research and provide competition in order to provide LEDCs with low-priced medications (Grant, 2016).

Relevant UN Documents

- **The UN Set:** The UN Set, also referred to as the United Nations Set of Principles on Competition, is a multilateral agreement that consists of principles and rules agreed upon that are regarding anti-competitive practices.
- **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR):** The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is a "*milestone document in the history of human rights*" (UN). UDHR was created by representatives from all around the world in order to devise a legitimate document that indicates the basic human rights that any human possesses.
- **TRIPS Agreement:** The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) is an international legal document that presents the most extensive and recent information and definitions about intellectual property. The agreement is signed and ratified by all Member States in the WTO (WTO).
- **GATT Agreement:** The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is another international legal document that came into force in 1948. It aims to sustain systematic international trade (WTO).

Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

One of the fundamental previous attempts to resolve the issue was the creation of the TRIPS and GATT agreements as they served the purpose of shedding light on the confusion regarding international trade, marketing regulations, and intellectual property rights. Even though the two documents carry great importance and are both greatly related to the issue of monopolies, these documents fail to fully assess the situation of monopolies as they solely focus on the monopolies' impact towards the market while disregarding their impact on the consumer along with the disconcerting human rights-related implications they bring.

Possible Solutions

A more extensive document specifically regarding the monopolies should be devised under the roof of the UN with the collaboration of the International Court of Justice; Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee, and the Economic & Financial Committee in order to have an international legal document that recognizes both the financial and human rights-related implications and effects the implementation of monopolies have. It would be easier to adopt action-taking measures as it would provide a common ground for all Member States and help the Members recognize the impacts of monopolies.

Furthermore, regular meetings organized by countries known for their monopolistic practices in the pharmaceutical industry and relevant UN bodies could be held in order to discuss the defects of monopolistic approaches both on the market and the consumer in further detail. Such implementation would help Member States be aware of the impact and possible legal consequences their monopolistic actions may have.

Lastly, a new document that would specifically focus on the legal assessment of pharmaceutical monopolies which would include possible legal measures that Member States or companies that commit to pharmaceutical monopolies in a way that puts a financial burden on people would face, with the help of the judicial organs of the UN, can be created. This would devise a legal framework and guidance document which directly aims to take legal and judicial actions against monopolistic approaches. This may be a key factor in the legal assessment of the issue.

Notes from the Chair

Please read the content of this chair report carefully. Yet, note that it is highly recommended for you to conduct your own research besides only reading this chair report. You may watch online videos about the issue if it will help you understand the concept better.

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