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Introduction: The Impact of Globalization on Sovereignty and the Environment

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INTRODUCTION

THE IMPACT OF GLOBALIZATION ON SOVEREIGNTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Leonard Young^{*}

It is very nice to come to a conference where I have not heard one lawyer joke. So I will not be the first to do that. I promise. It is my pleasure to introduce Stuart Smith. Stuart is the Chairman of the Board of Ensyn Technologies, Inc. Ensyn Technologies is a 100 million dollar company specializing in converting a biomass, a liquid that can be used for energy or as a chemical or as a source of chemicals. Stuart Smith has also occupied senior positions in the fields of medicine, politics, science policy, and environmental business, and is on the Advisory Board of the Canada-United States Law Institute. For eight years he was a professor in the Department of Psychiatry at McMaster University Medical School in Hamilton, Ontario. He has been Chairman of the Science Council of Canada. He has also chaired the Peer Review and Implementation process for the Federal "Centres for Excellence" competition.

In 1995, he was appointed by the Prime Minister of Canada to be Chair of the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy. The Round Table's purpose is to bring together environmental groups, industry, and academia to discuss environmental issues and to prioritize those issues. Mr. Smith graduated with a degree in medicine from McGill University.

As most of you in this room are aware, the Cleveland/Akron region is fortunate to have headquartered in its area a substantial number of Fortune 500 companies that manufacture and sell their products in the global marketplace. Ferro, for instance, which has approximately \$1.4 billion in sales, manufactures ceramics and coatings, colors, specialty chemicals, and plastics, and does so in twenty-one countries around the world. Ferro, like many of the companies in Cleveland, probably fits Dr. Smith's definition of a supranational firm. I am, therefore, very interested in listening to Dr. Smith talk

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to us today on the impact of globalization on sovereignty and the environment.