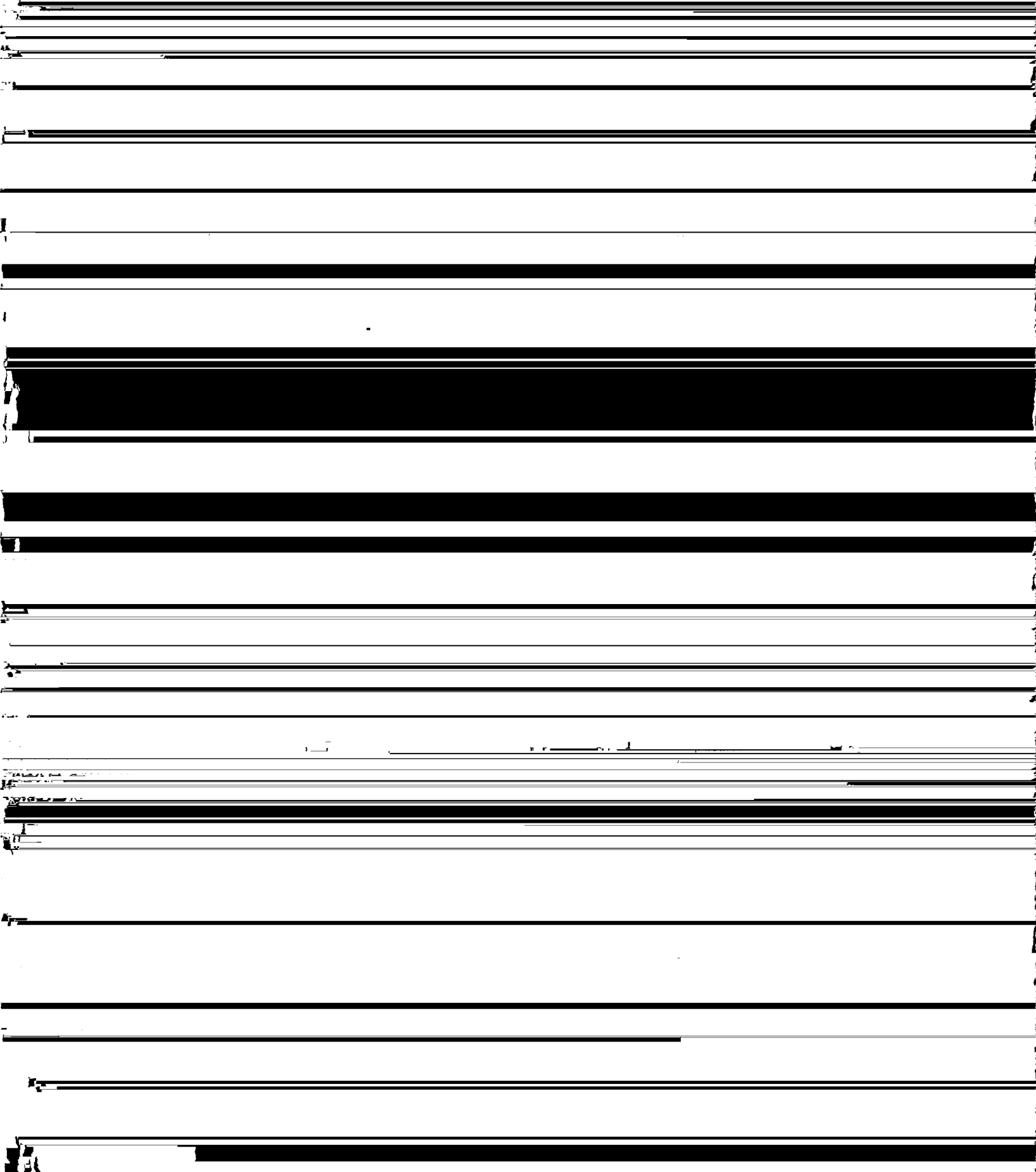


Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Since the onset of the 2008 economic crisis and recession, youth unemployment has risen steadily in countries around the world. This rise is one of the most pressing economic and social problems the world faces today. It has significant national and global impacts,

young people is critical to achieving more productive economies, more cohesive



Mr. Chairman,

Empowering adolescents and youth also lies at the heart of Israel's international development work. One example is the collaboration between the Mount Carmel International Training Center and the Young American Business Trust, who have introduced entrepreneurship as a self-help tool for the benefit of young people across Latin America and the Caribbean Islands. Since the project was launched in the year 2000, it has spread to 29 countries and has reached 23000 beneficiaries, most of whom are young school students, and university graduates. Together, they developed several training modules including business plan development, financial management, and marketing.