

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF NATIVE NATIONS AGAINST COLONIALISM AND NEO-COLONIALISM

PREAMBLE

- **Reaffirming** the inherent and pre-existing sovereignty, nationhood, and distinct legal systems of all Native Nations, which precede the formation of existing State borders and political structures.
- **Recognizing** that colonialism, in all its historical, political, economic, and cultural manifestations, constitutes a violation of international law, the fundamental rights of peoples, and the principles of justice, democracy, and respect for human dignity.
- **Concerned** that new and indirect forms of subjugation—termed **Neo-Colonialism**—persist through economic dependence, technological control, intellectual property appropriation, and cultural assimilation, undermining the self-determination of Native Nations despite nominal political autonomy.
- **Affirming** the collective and individual rights of Native Nations to live in freedom, peace, and security, and to pursue their development in accordance with their own laws, cultures, and needs.
- **Inspired** by the principle that all peoples are equal in dignity and rights, and that the vitality of Native Nations is essential to the diversity and richness of human civilization.

The Native Nations of the World hereby solemnly proclaim this Universal Declaration of Native Nations Against Colonialism and Neo-Colonialism as the standard of achievement to be pursued by all peoples and States.

PART I: SOVEREIGNTY, NATIONHOOD, AND SELF-DETERMINATION

Article 1: Inherent Nationhood and Sovereignty

Native Nations possess the **inherent right to exist as sovereign Nations**.

By virtue of this right, they are entitled to all rights of nationhood under international law, and they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social, and cultural development without external coercion.

Article 2: Right to Self-Government and Institutional Integrity

Native Nations have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinct political, legal, economic, and social institutions.

They shall determine the structures and membership of those institutions in accordance with

their own procedures, customs, and laws.

Article 3: Non-Interference

No State shall take any action which has the aim or effect of unilaterally imposing governmental, legal, or administrative structures upon a Native Nation.

Nor shall any State interfere in the internal affairs of a Native Nation.

Article 4: Treaties and Agreements

Treaties, agreements, and other constructive arrangements concluded between Native Nations and States shall be recognized, honored, and enforced by the parties, and by international bodies, as foundational documents governing Nation-to-Nation relationships.

PART II: PROTECTION AGAINST COLONIALISM AND EXPLOITATION

Article 5: Prohibition of Assimilation and Cultural Destruction

Native Nations and individuals have the right not to be subjected to **forced assimilation, integration, or destruction of their culture, language, or identity**.

All acts of historical or contemporary forced population transfer are prohibited.

Article 6: Freedom from Economic Neo-Colonialism

Native Nations have the right to be free from economic policies that create or perpetuate **dependency, debt servitude, or unequal economic arrangements**.

This includes the right to establish trade relationships, financial institutions, and economic development strategies independently of external control.

Article 7: Protection of Knowledge and Data Sovereignty

States shall recognize and protect the ownership of Native Nations over their **traditional knowledge, genetic resources, data, and cultural expressions**.

The collection, storage, and use of data pertaining to a Native Nation shall be subject to the Nation's laws and the principle of **Free, Prior, and Informed Consent**.

Article 8: Military and Security Neutrality

Military activities, installations, or the storage of hazardous materials shall not take place in the lands or territories of Native Nations without their **Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)**, established through the Nation's own representative institutions.

PART III: LANDS, TERRITORIES, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Article 9: Right to Permanent Sovereignty

Native Nations have the **inalienable and permanent right to the lands, territories, waters, and resources** that they have traditionally owned, occupied, or otherwise used or acquired. This right includes the right to own, use, develop, and control these resources.

Article 10: Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)

States, multinational corporations, and all other third parties shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the Native Nations concerned, through their own representative institutions, in order to obtain their **Free, Prior, and Informed Consent** before adopting or implementing any legislative, administrative, or project development measure that may affect their lands, territories, or other resources.

Article 11: Redress and Restitution for Dispossession

Native Nations have the right to **redress**, by means that may include **restitution** or, where that is not possible, just, fair, and equitable compensation, for the lands, territories, and resources which were confiscated, taken, occupied, or damaged without their free consent.

PART IV: IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, AND INTERPRETATION

Article 12: Right to Justice and Redress Mechanisms

Native Nations have the right to access and establish their own procedures and institutions for **conflict resolution, redress, and the enforcement of their rights**.

States shall ensure effective, fair, and timely mechanisms for the prevention of, and protection against, any act of colonialism or neo-colonialism.

Article 13: International Monitoring

The United Nations and regional bodies shall establish an **independent and permanent mechanism**, co-designed and co-governed by Native Nations, to monitor the compliance of States and international corporations with the principles set forth in this Declaration and to investigate and report on acts of colonialism and neo-colonialism.

Article 14: Funding for Self-Determined Development

States shall provide the financial and technical assistance necessary for Native Nations to implement their right to self-determined development, ensuring that such funding is channeled directly through the Nations' own governing institutions without imposing conditions that compromise political or economic independence.

Article 15: Interpretation

The rights recognized herein constitute the **minimum standards** for the survival, dignity, and

well-being of Native Nations. The exercise of these rights shall not diminish or extinguish any rights currently held or acquired by Native Nations.

Signed, Queen Marie-Soleil Seshat Landry, Queen of Acadie, Queen of the Universe

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