

# Universal Declaration of the End of the War on Drugs and Baseless Prohibitions

Signed: Marie Seshat Landry

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## Preamble

Recognizing that the so-called War on Drugs and other prohibitionist policies have led to catastrophic violations of human rights, environmental destruction, public health crises, and systemic injustices that disproportionately impact marginalized communities,

Acknowledging that prohibition has fueled mass incarceration, state violence, economic inequality, and the suppression of Indigenous and traditional knowledge systems regarding plant medicine and natural healing,

Emphasizing that the criminalization of natural substances and traditional medicines contributes to **ecocide** (the destruction of ecosystems), **nutricide** (the suppression of natural and nutritional healing substances), and **genocide** (the targeted harm and cultural destruction of Indigenous and vulnerable populations),

Affirming that evidence-based policies rooted in harm reduction, scientific research, social equity, and human dignity are essential for the well-being of societies,

We, the undersigned individuals, communities, and organizations, proclaim this **Universal Declaration of the End of the War on Drugs and Baseless Prohibitions** as a guiding framework for all nations and peoples.

## Article 1: Right to Bodily Autonomy and Cognitive Liberty

Every human being has the fundamental right to sovereignty over their own body and mind, including the right to safely and responsibly use psychoactive substances without fear of criminalization or persecution.

## Article 2: Decriminalization and Legal Regulation

All punitive drug laws that criminalize personal possession, cultivation, or use of psychoactive substances shall be abolished. Legal frameworks shall be established to regulate substances in a manner that prioritizes public health, harm reduction, and social justice.

### **Article 3: Reparations and Justice for Affected Communities**

Governments and institutions that have perpetuated the War on Drugs must provide reparations to communities disproportionately harmed, including but not limited to:

- The immediate release and expungement of records for individuals incarcerated for non-violent drug offenses.
- Economic and social reinvestment into affected communities.
- Legal protections and economic opportunities for Indigenous and traditional cultivators of medicinal plants.

### **Article 4: Environmental Protections Against Ecocide**

Prohibitionist policies have driven deforestation, destruction of biodiverse ecosystems, and poisoning of land and water through forced eradication campaigns. All such practices must end immediately. Sustainable cultivation, conservation, and equitable trade of medicinal plants must be supported.

### **Article 5: Recognition of Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge**

Indigenous communities and ancestral knowledge holders must be respected and protected from biopiracy, exploitation, and criminalization. Sacred plants and natural medicines shall be decriminalized and safeguarded as cultural and medical heritage.

### **Article 6: Public Health and Harm Reduction**

Drug policy must be grounded in scientific evidence and prioritize harm reduction strategies, including but not limited to:

- Safe consumption spaces.
- Access to life-saving medications, including opioid substitution therapy.
- Comprehensive drug education rooted in facts, not fear-mongering.

### **Article 7: Ending Corporate and State Exploitation**

Pharmaceutical monopolies, corrupt state actors, and private prison industries have profited from prohibition. This declaration demands an end to policies that enrich corporations while criminalizing individuals, and calls for equitable access to plant medicines and therapeutic substances.

### **Article 8: Global Policy Reform and Demilitarization**

The War on Drugs has fueled militarization, violence, and human rights abuses worldwide. Nations must shift from punitive approaches to evidence-based, community-centered solutions. International treaties must be reformed to reflect this new paradigm.

## Article 9: Implementation and Accountability

All signatory governments, institutions, and organizations commit to:

1. **Immediate decriminalization** of all personal drug use and possession.
2. **The establishment of legal regulatory frameworks** for currently prohibited substances.
3. **Reparations and reinvestment** in communities harmed by prohibition.
4. **Environmental restoration efforts** for lands affected by destructive anti-drug policies.
5. **Global cooperation** in ending the War on Drugs and replacing it with policies based on health, human rights, and sustainability.

### Final Proclamation

We declare that the War on Drugs and all baseless prohibitions that result in ecocide, nutricide, and genocide must end. We call upon all nations, institutions, and peoples to adopt and uphold this declaration as a foundation for a future built on justice, health, and human dignity.

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