

Universal Declaration on the Right to Responsible Drug Consumption

(Grounded in International Law and Human Rights Principles)

Preamble

Affirming the principles enshrined in the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)**, the **International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)**, the **International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)**, and the **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)**,

Recognizing that drug prohibition has historically led to disproportionate punishment, racial injustice, the violation of bodily autonomy, and the undermining of public health,

Acknowledging the findings of UN agencies, including the **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** and the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, which support harm reduction and decriminalization strategies,

We proclaim the following principles:

Article 1 – Right to Bodily Autonomy and Mental Sovereignty

In accordance with **Article 3 of the UDHR** and **Article 17 of the ICCPR**, every human being has the right to physical and mental autonomy. Responsible consumption of psychoactive substances falls within this scope and shall not be criminalized solely on the basis of use.

Article 2 – Decriminalization of Personal Use

As supported by the **UN System Common Position on Drug Policy (2018)** and resolutions of the **UN Human Rights Council**, states shall refrain from criminalizing individuals for personal drug use or possession for personal use, recognizing such criminalization as a violation of privacy and health rights under **Article 12 of the ICESCR**.

Article 3 – Right to Health and Harm Reduction

All individuals have the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as per **Article 12 of the ICESCR**. This includes access to accurate drug education, clean consumption tools, and supervised consumption facilities, in line with WHO and UNODC guidance.

Article 4 – Scientific Integrity and Legal Equality

Drug laws must be rooted in empirical science and proportional justice. Arbitrary scheduling systems and laws that criminalize less harmful substances more harshly than legal ones (e.g., alcohol or tobacco) violate the principles of **non-discrimination (Article 26, ICCPR)** and **scientific progress (Article 15, ICESCR)**.

Article 5 – Protection of Cultural and Indigenous Rights

The traditional, spiritual, and medicinal use of psychoactive plants and fungi (e.g., ayahuasca, peyote, psilocybin) by Indigenous peoples is protected under **Articles 11, 12, and 24 of UNDRIP** and must be legally respected and preserved.

Article 6 – Reparative Justice and End to Punitive Drug Policy

States must acknowledge the social and racial harms of prohibitionist policies and initiate reparative measures in line with **General Recommendation No. 31 of CERD** and the **UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules)**.

Article 7 – International Legal Reform and Cooperation

We call on international bodies, including the UN, WHO, and WTO, to support evidence-based reforms to global drug treaties and trade rules, ensuring alignment with public health, human rights, and sustainable development.

Drafted in the spirit of liberation, dignity, and the right to conscious self-determination.