



**44th Anniversary International Treaty Conference
Mato Paha (Bear Butte), South Dakota
Oceti Sakowin Treaty Territory
JUNE 21st – 24th, 2018**

Resolution on Human, Treaty and Environmental Rights Defenders

The participants at this Conference representing Indigenous Peoples from the Americas, Arctic, Caribbean and Pacific adopt by consensus the following resolution to defend the Rights of Indigenous Peoples:

1. IITC reaffirms our support for the resolution on Human Rights Defenders adopted by Consensus at the 42nd Anniversary Treaty Conference in September 2016 at Pu'uhonua Village, Waimanalo, Oahu Hawaii.
2. IITC will continue to challenge States, including at the national and international levels, for their continued Criminalization of Indigenous Human, Treaty and Environmental Rights Defenders. This includes through the adoption of National and State/Provincial laws, "anti-terrorism" measures and criminal justice policies that deny access to justice and target legitimate non-violent Indigenous resistance. Recent and ongoing examples include the criminal prosecutions of Standing Rock Water Protectors in North Dakota USA as well as the targeting of Indigenous rights defenders in the Philippines, Mexico, Guatemala and many other cases that are unseen and out of the public eye;
3. IITC congratulate and welcome the recent recommendation by the CERD Urgent Action/Early Warning Procedure in response to IITC's joint filing, expressing concern about the labeling of Indigenous human rights defenders as terrorists in the Philippines. We encourage Indigenous Peoples who face similar threats to utilize the CERD and other international procedures, including the UN Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders and the International Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances, to defend and seek protection for their Peoples.
4. IITC will continue to call for immediate release by the United States of Leonard Peltier, taking into consideration his deteriorating health condition, advancing age and the many violations of justice he has suffered at the hands of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Justice and the US Courts. At the very least, as a temporary measure, he must be transferred to a low-security facility near his homeland where he can see his family, spend time outside and receive adequate medical attention. IITC also calls for access to justice, fair legal representation and implementation of human rights, including cultural and religious freedom rights, for Indigenous prisoners everywhere.



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5. IITC will continue to support Indigenous Nations divided by colonial borders that are suffering militarization, occupation, Human Rights abuses and environmental destruction by US government agencies including the US Border Patrol, Department of Homeland Security and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). We further call for the US and all other States to uphold their commitments under Article 36 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous regarding the rights of Indigenous Peoples divided by colonial borders;
6. IITC will continue to call for a halt to racist and inhumane immigration policies that criminalize and detain Indigenous Peoples migrating across colonial borders, deny them adequate legal representation and information on their rights in their Indigenous languages. We further reiterate our support for the statement adopted at this Conference regarding IITC's vehement opposition to the detention of children and separation of families under "zero tolerance" US immigration and border enforcement policies;
7. IITC calls for prosecution and an end to impunity for perpetrators of Forced Disappearances, Kidnappings and Assassinations including by drug traffickers and corporations linked with governments, and for international oversight to halt such activities; and
8. IITC will carry out trainings for IITC affiliates and other Indigenous Peoples to build their capacity to protect Indigenous Human, Treaty and Environmental Rights Defenders, including by "training trainers" to document violations, take testimonies and submit cases and filings to UN and regional Human Rights bodies.

Adopted by consensus on June 24th, 2018