

Forum: *Youth Action Committee (YAC)*

Issue: *Promoting the rights of indigenous populations under their respective state governments*

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Introduction

The rights of indigenous people have always been deprived from them throughout history. From the European colonization of the Americas to the nationalistically inspired genocides, the abuse of indigenous comes in various forms.

The rights of indigenous people are taken away from them due to the Europe's decolonization and their nationalist movements that discriminates groups that are different from the majority. Their tribalistic way of viewing different groups of people could be troubling in a few ways. First of all, since the point of a nationalist movement is to build unity in a nation, the discrimination and abuse of different groups of people are, to them, justified. This would only cause more discrimination in the nation state as they believe it is for a just cause. Second, this way of viewing things stop them from collaborating with different nations. By discriminating against others, they will not be willing to work with others who look or act differently than they do. It would also cause economic setbacks as countries might put sanctions on them.

The international community, in order to solve this issue completely, must address this issue either on a domestic level, or on an international level as it is one of the major violations of international law and should not be ignored.

Definition of Key Terms

Indigenous people (aboriginals)

Indigenous people are defined as the original settlers of a particular region. Indigenous people are usually given particular sets of land in their country of origin for them to govern themselves autonomously. This can be seen in the United States where Native Americans are given sovereign land and are considered as "domestic dependent nations" where they are not subjected to federal law.

State government

State government is defined as the current government or authority over a region of land. State governments are the authorities that are supposed to represent the interest of the people or the interest of the country. While some may confuse state government with the government of each individual state in the United States, state government, in this case, refers to the government of the member states.

Human Rights

Human rights are rights that are given by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). They are rights that all humans are given regardless of race, color, sex, language, or any type of status that distinguishes one group of people from another. As the UDHR is ratified by all member states, it is considered a cornerstone of the United Nations (UN) as it set an international standard as to how human should be treated. However, due to the lack of enforcement and the respect of sovereignty within the UN, human rights abuses are still relatively common in many countries. Some examples of human rights are the right to nationality, their right to freedom of movement, and their right to not be subjugated to physical abuse.

Discrimination

Discrimination is the act of being biased or prejudiced towards a group of people due to their group, class, or category. Though discrimination is banned or looked down upon in many countries, it still exists due to the fact that humans are inherently prejudiced in one way or another. Despite the fact that UDHR prohibits the denial of rights due to said statutes, many countries still systematically discriminate. Additionally, due to the difficulty of enforcing anti-discrimination laws on a local scale, discrimination is still relatively widespread in many countries in varying degrees.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)

The UDHR is a document that was first ratified on 10 December 1948 and must be ratified again in order for a member state to enter the UN. This means that all member states have agreed to enforce all articles on the UDHR. UDHR is considered one of the major accomplishments of the UN as it is one of the only documents that are agreed upon by all nations. However, it is very hard to enforce violations of UDHR as the sovereignty of nations needs to be respected and there are different interpretations of the UDHR. Thus, many countries today still violate human rights.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP)

Similar to the UDHR, the UNDRIP is a doctrine that lists the rights of indigenous people residing in nations. All member states are signatories of this declaration, meaning that they agree with the provisions within it. However, this document is not legally binding under international law, meaning that countries who signed the UNDRIP do not necessarily have to follow all provisions. This allows member states, such as the ones in South-East Asia to continue to abuse their indigenous population with

minimal judicial punishments in the international community. Although this declaration was only created nine years ago, it has significant importance as it creates a general list of rights that the entirety of the UN agrees to despite the non-binding nature. It lists out necessary actions such as the equal treatment of indigenous people and to return lands back to them.

Background Information

History of the Conflict

The abuse of indigenous people almost always stems from nationalistic movements. This could be seen as early as America's oppression of Native Americans by forcibly displacing them. Manifest Destiny, a movement that encouraged the idea of America's God-given right to expand westward, promoted an American continent and did not put indigenous people into account. However, this is not the first case of abuse towards indigenous people. One might argue that the first abuse of indigenous people happened in the Central and South Americas where Spanish Conquistadors forced them into economic systems such as the Encomienda. The causes of conflicts with the indigenous people, however, have changed over time. During the period of colonization, it is money and the need for land that caused the human rights abuses of indigenous people. As nation states began to form, nationalistic movements became the root causes of the abuses. All this only shows that indigenous people have suffered through human rights abuses throughout the history of the world and it has no signs of stopping.

Jumma People

The Jumma People is an umbrella term for the indigenous tribes currently living in Bangladesh. These tribes include Chakma, Arakanese, Marma, and more. These indigenous people have been systematically discriminated against as the current government of Bangladesh does not recognize their existence. Many researchers speculate that this is primarily due to the difference of religion between the Bengalis and the aboriginals. Whereas the Bangladeshis are primarily Muslim, the Jumma People are generally Buddhists as they had more historical influence from China. Moreover, differences such as language barriers and cultural differences have been used to justify the removal of the Jumma People.



Caption #1: The circled region above (Chittagong Hill Tracts) is the region where the Jumma People are currently residing in. As this region is geographically separated from Bangladesh, the Jumma People generally do not have massive amounts of contact with the Bangladeshi government.

Cause of the Conflict

The cause of the conflict is generally credited to the independence of Bangladesh. After Britain gave up its colonies in the Indian subcontinent during the 1940s, the two distinct groups of people in the Indian subcontinent, the Hindi and the Muslims, decided to partition the subcontinent into two sovereign nations: India and Pakistan. At that time, Pakistan was divided into two parts: the first part being present-day Pakistan and the second part being present-day Bangladesh. Bangladesh nationalist movement, however, defeated the Pakistani army with the help of India and gained independence; thus, they are very proud of their nation and their unique culture. Because of this, they are openly against groups that did not have the same interests as they do. In this case, the Jumma People happen to be vastly different from the Bangladeshis both culturally and ethnically. Thus, the Bangladeshi government has since then systematically oppressed the Jumma people.

Systematic Oppression and Discrimination

The Bangladeshi government has had the intent to destroy the culture of the Jumma People since the independence of Bangladesh. In the 1970s, former President Ziaur Rehman created a program that incentivized Bangladeshis to move into the Chittagong Hill region. This would have not only displaced the Jumma People living in the region, it would have also destroyed their indigenous culture. After strong opposition from the Jumma People, the Bangladeshi government assigned military troops to the region in order to stop the opposition of the forced displacement. The military occupation has also led to countless credible cases of torture, destruction of property, and even sexual violence. Although a peace accord was reached, it was never implemented and demilitarization of the region never happened. The military continues to support discriminatory actions towards the Jumma people.

International Response

The most devastating aspect of this crisis is the lack of international response. Due to the restrictions set by the Bangladeshi government, where foreigners are required to notify the federal government before having contact with anyone in the region, there has been little to no international response to this crisis. This allows the Bangladeshi government to continue its efforts in destroying the culture and people of that region without any repercussions. The only organizations that have noticed the crisis and consistently reported about the situation in the Chittagong Hill Tracts are Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) such as Human Rights Watch (HRW) and Intercontinental Cry (IC). Their impact on this issue, however, is limited as NGOs generally do not have as many resources and political power as nations or governmental organizations.

Papuan People

The Papuan People is a general term used to describe the indigenous tribes in Indonesia, more specifically, in Papua. The Papuans have been subjugated to human rights abuses by the Indonesian government ever since the decolonization of the Dutch. Many studies attribute this cause to the nationalist movement in Indonesia and the nationalists' needs to "liberate" West Guinea, the region where the Papuan People reside in.



Caption #2: As Indonesia is composed mainly of islands, they are culturally and ethnically different from the people living in West Guinea, the region that is colored on the map above.

Violation of Rights

The Indonesian government has been oppressing the Papuan People since their independence. Though the Indonesian government openly stated their advocacy for the protection of indigenous tribes, they have denied the existence of any indigenous tribes in Indonesia. One of the major allegations of human rights violations is the Indonesian government's genocide of the Papuan. The Indonesian military that occupied the region killed hundreds of Papuans without any justification. Videos of torture and false imprisonment can be seen on the internet. With the continued military occupation and the lack of international recognition of the issue, there is no way of telling when or if this conflict will ever stop.

International Response

Just like the Bangladeshi government, the Indonesian government also imposes restrictions on the people who can enter certain regions. The Indonesian government restricted all access to West Guinea and kicked out multiple NGOs such as the International Red Cross and the Peace Brigades. This shows the malicious intent of the Indonesian government has to destroy the culture of their indigenous tribes completely without any repercussions from the international community. Although access to the region is denied, NGOs have thrived in communicating with the Papuan people through telecommunication or other means of communications. NGOs' current tasks mainly consist of reporting the human rights violations and hoping that the international community will have a response after a sophisticated report is generated.

Conflicts Today

Conflicts today usually stem from historical conflicts that have extended to the present due to a lack of international response. Conflicts such as the ones listed above have been ongoing for decades and no legislative action has been taken internationally. One recent conflict that has been getting media attention is the Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar (Burma). These crises, though slowly starting to gain international attention, cannot be solved quickly as Burma is an strategic ally of China and there is a lack of support within the Security Council.

The Rohingya Crisis

The Rohingya Crisis gained attention in 2016 due to the systematic persecution of the Rohingya people by the Burmese military. The Burmese government has subjected the indigenous people in the Rakhine state to human rights violations such as but not limited to torture, mass killings, destruction of property, forced displacement, and sexual violence.

Origin of Conflict

Like all conflicts, the persecution of the Rohingya people started with decolonization. The socialist party at that time seized all property, causing many Rohingya to leave the country. Moreover, when the Burmese government established its 1982 Citizenship Law, the federal government did not list the Rohingya people as one of Burma's "national races;" thus, denying them of their citizenship rights. This and other actions of the Burmese government caused the Rakhine state riots in 2012. Due to these riots, the Burmese government has since put the Rakhine state under military control. Fortify Rights, an NGO that works on protecting rights of all people, found that the Burmese government motive for their persecution of the Rohingya people is due to the government's discrimination of their ethnicity and religion. Overall, the Rohingya people's inability to gain legal statehood in Burma has justified the Burmese government's use of force against them.

Systematic Abuses

The abuse that the Burmese government imposes on the Rohingya people all stem from the denial of their citizenship and recognition. Starting from 1982, the Burmese government has classified the Rohingya people as stateless Bengalis living in the Rakhine state, despite the fact that the Rohingya people have resided in that region for hundred of years. The Burmese government has intentionally denied the Rohingya people their right to citizenship while the government has recognized 138 other Burmese races. This violates the Rohingya people's fundamental right to nationality according to Article 15 of the UDHR. Additionally, the Burmese government has also restricted the Rohingya people's freedom of movement by restricting them from leaving the Rakhine state which violates Article 13 of the UDHR. Many researchers also concluded that the Burmese government is currently committing ethnic cleansing or genocide, crimes under the jurisdiction of International Criminal Court (ICC). In addition to these crimes against humanity, the Burmese military that has occupied the Rakhine region since 2012 have been reported to commit gang rapes, torture, mass killings, and destruction of properties. The actions of the Burmese government have violated the Rohingya people's right to life and liberty (Article 3), right to not be subjugated to torture and unusual punishments (Article 5), freedom of movement (Article 15), and many more rights listed in the UDHR.

Key Issues

Deprivation of Freedom of Movement

One of the first things that federal governments do when they start abusing the rights of the indigenous people is they deprive them of their freedom of movement. The federal government often restricts the movement in the region to obtain two primary goals. The first goal is to ban any indigenous people from moving out of the region. This ensures that the indigenous people will not report these abuses to the outside world. This also contains the indigenous people in a specific area so the government can forcibly monitor them. The second goal is to ban any international press or organizations from going into the region to report the abuses. This would prevent a international response allowing the government to conduct their acts freely. Freedom of movement is one of the most important freedoms for indigenous people as fleeing the government is their only way to escape persecution. However, freedom of movement has its limitations on an international level. All people should have the right to leave a country that they want, but they do not right to enter a different country freely. This delicate balance between the right of freedom of movement and the national sovereignty of nations is what causes misinterpretation in the UDHR. The freedom of movement is a fundamental right guaranteed by the UDHR; thus, all countries violating freedom of movement is in violation of the UDHR.

Subjugation to Physical Abuse

Physical abuse includes torture, physical attacks, and sexual violence. Sexual violence, unfortunately, is especially prevalent towards indigenous people. As history may suggest, when one group of people is in complete control of another without any supervision, sexual violence often occurs. One example of such sexual violence is United Nations (UN) peacekeepers on the South Sudan Mission. This shows that regardless of the expected morals of the group in control, sexual violence is inevitable when a group holds absolute power. This, however, does not justify their actions towards the lesser group. This only shows that power needs to be limited in order to hinder the group in control from committing this form of violence. Subjugation to physical abuse is also one of the actions that must be stopped immediately because it can have lasting impacts on the population if prolonged. Subjugation to physical abuse on a large scale causes the dehumanization of the victims, in this case, the indigenous people. Dehumanization can have a large impact on both the population at large and the indigenous people. The population at large, after seeing these abuses for a prolonged period, could begin to view them as justified. The indigenous people could also start to question whether they actually deserve the abuses or not.



Caption #3: *This picture depicts Rohingya people being abused by the military that is in control of the Rakhine state. The military rounded everyone up and forced them to sit in rows like prisoners while they searched their homes.*

Denial of Nationality

The denial of nationality is also one of the major conflicts that indigenous people suffer from. The governments that are persecuting these indigenous people often do not recognize them as indigenous people or even their existence. This causes major problems as it allows the countries to represent themselves as countries that care about indigenous rights where in reality, they do not even treat their own indigenous people with dignity. The denial of nationality could also allow the government to justify their unethical action towards the indigenous people as they could be seen as illegal immigrants under the law despite the fact that they may have resided in the region for generations. However, one problem that arises from the right to nationality is a nation's sovereign right on the discretion of citizenship. As all

nations should be able to decide for themselves whether one is a citizen, some may argue that nations should have the right to deny granting citizenship to their own liking. This topic is a hotly debated issue that extends to current events such as whether illegal aliens from Mexico should be granted citizenship in the United States despite their illegal entry. While this issue may have some nuances, some instances that are clear violations of the right to nationality include the Rohingya Crisis in Myanmar.

Deprivation of the Right to Vote

Although this issue may seem less important or detrimental compared to others, the right to vote is still a very significant issue as many countries still deprive their indigenous population of their rights to vote. The UN is built on the basis of democratic societies coming together and cooperating with one another in a peaceful fashion. Thus, the promotion of democratic societies is also one of the goals of the UN. By denying indigenous people of their right to vote, it not only promotes authoritative governments, but also places indigenous people in a position where they might be abused by their respective governments. The right to vote is important as it allows the indigenous people to have a voice in their government and allow for better federal policies to be implemented. However, similar to the other issues listed above, one of its main problems is its enforcement. The right to vote article on the UDHR is constructed in a very vague manner and could be interpreted differently by different governments. In addition, enforcement problems must consider respecting each state's sovereignty, making it nearly impossible to force countries to institute a democratic government.

Major Parties Involved and Their Views

China

China has a reputation for human rights abuses and is accused of violating the rights of indigenous people within their territory. China ratified the Universal Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, but does not recognize the term 'indigenous people;' therefore, nullifying the ratification. The Chinese government have recognized 55 ethnic minorities in China, but passed an abundance of legislative policies to prevent them from gaining the same opportunities as the Han Chinese. One such example is the Tibetans. Although the Tibetans have acquired autonomy in Tibet, their culture is constantly being destroyed by the Chinese government's active involvement in incentivizing the migration of Han Chinese into Tibet.

Legislative Policies

One of China's legislative policies that recently came to light in the media is the detention of all Muslims in China. The Chinese government has been actively arresting indigenous Muslims and putting them in "re-education camps" which has been reported to have inhumane living environment. However, the Chinese government attempts to justify their actions by citing Islam's radical nature and the need for Muslims in China to be ridden of their extreme ideologies in order

to conform into Chinese society. It is this type of justification that allows the Chinese government to continue their persecution of ethnic minorities and indigenous people.

Despite their horrendous policies against indigenous people, there are actually multiple bills that have been passed to protect the rights and opportunities of minorities. The 1984 Regional Ethnic Autonomy Law, for instance, grants provinces with a majority minority population to self govern. This can be seen in areas such as Inner Mongolia and Tibet. The Chinese government has also helped reform parts of indigenous traditions that are in violation of ethics such as the abolishment of feudal lords in Tibet by removing their powers. The Chinese government has also tried to include ethnic minorities and indigenous people in the political process by granting them the right to vote in the legislative branch despite the autonomy of the indigenous people. The enforcement of such laws, however, is another concern that needs to be addressed.

Enforcement Thereof

The Chinese government have pledged to do many things in the past, but has failed to accomplish them. Thus, despite the fact that they have laws ensuring the personal liberties and rights of their indigenous people, it does not stop the government from pursuing other actions to attempt to destroy the culture of these indigenous tribes. As stated previously, the Chinese government has been advocating for the migration of Han Chinese into the Tibetan regions by incentivizing the Han Chinese with money and property. The large influx of Han Chinese in Tibet has caused discrimination and prejudice towards the Tibetans. The increase in population also causes the destruction of nature and culture that the Tibetans value. The Chinese government, however, justifies their actions with the need to spur economic growth in regions that are less developed. The indirect nature of China's policies towards their indigenous people proves that the Chinese government has malicious intent towards the indigenous people and has all intentions of destroying their culture if it does not fit the agenda of the Communist Party.

South-East Asian Countries

As the UN has promoted the decolonization of South-East Asia and Africa during the 1970s, the UN failed to state the importance of the institution of just laws and a peaceful transition of power. Therefore, many European countries simply left the region without leaving any safeguards. This has caused the destabilization of the region and the rise of extreme nationalistic movements that is detrimental to the well being of the indigenous people and ethnic minorities in the region.

Decolonization and Subsequent Nationalism

Due to the ethnic diversity in South-east Asia, radical nationalist movements could result in violence. While some countries like India and Pakistan have avoided bloodshed by splitting the region in dispute, other ethnic groups that have not agreed upon shared borders often see persecutions of an entire minority populations simply based on their ethnicity or religious beliefs in the name of national unity. The decolonization process, especially in Asia, is one of the main

causes of the extreme nationalist movements. As human nature suggests, people want to be included in a group that they resonate with. This exacerbates the tyranny of the majority and allows the general population of a region to discriminate against their indigenous people and ethnic minorities.

Although nationalism by definition is not always bad, severity of movements can vary depending on each country's own circumstances. Nationalism is defined as "the belief that nations will benefit from acting independently rather than collectively, emphasizing national rather than international goals." This has been the foreign policy of the United States for decades and it has proven to be successful to a certain extent. However, when a nation's goals are corrupt, this can cause the embracement of an evil movement where citizens may be forced to rally behind it as it is for the greater good of the country.

Foreign and Domestic Policies

As all member states in the UN have signed the UNDRIP, all South-east Asian countries have agreed to the rights listed in the doctrine. However, these countries often find loopholes in the doctrine to continue their discriminatory actions. These South-east Asian countries recognize the rights of indigenous people and advocate for them on the international stage. However, they fail to classify the indigenous people residing in their country as indigenous people, allowing the UNDRIP to not apply to them. These countries' domestic policies towards the indigenous people include laws that forbid indigenous people from gaining equal opportunity and rights. They often encourage discrimination by dehumanizing indigenous people through violent acts.

The United States

The United States has a unique relationship with the Native Americans. The United States has a history of persecuting Native Americans, for instance, the Trail of Tears, where the federal government forced Native Americans to migrate hundreds of miles on foot. Manifest Destiny, as previously mentioned, also justified the creation of Indian Reserves. Today, however, the United States has many domestic policies that protect the rights of Native Americans, despite the discrimination still remaining.

Overall Views

Despite popular belief, the United States has a positive view towards the Native Americans as they have become increasingly progressive in the past century. The United States has given autonomy to all tribes of indigenous people and allowed them to assimilate if they choose to do so by giving them US citizenship. The amount of freedom the indigenous people have in the United States is significantly more compared to countries like Bangladesh and Myanmar. The United States also implements programs such as Affirmative Action that allows Native Americans to have easier access to higher education. Moreover, with the way that the Constitution is constructed, Native Americans are enshrined with the same rights as any other US citizen and are not systematically discriminated. However, even with such policies in place, the issue of social discrimination is not resolved. Native Americans still face discrimination in the

workforce. Some researchers attribute to this cause with policies such as Affirmative Action that was created for the benefit of minorities over races such as whites and asians.

Timeline of Relevant Resolutions, Treaties and Events

Date	Description of event
	<p data-bbox="430 504 790 548">The Drafting of the UDHR</p>
10 December, 1948	<p data-bbox="430 582 1479 716">The Drafting of the UDHR is one of the main achievements of the UN as it is the first document that lists out the rights of all humans. It is also significant as it is approved by all nations that joined the UN (meaning all nations).</p>
	<p data-bbox="430 739 1404 784">The Creation of a Province Dedicated to Indigenous Tribes in Canada</p>
1 April, 1999	<p data-bbox="430 817 1479 1041">Canada, in order to allow autonomy to indigenous tribes, decided to create Nunavut, a large province in the Northern parts of Canada to act as a big reservation for the Inuits. This not only shows the improvement of indigenous rights in the western world, it also sets a standard for how countries should treat their indigenous people.</p>
	<p data-bbox="430 1064 861 1097">The Ratification of the UNDRIP</p>
13 September, 2007	<p data-bbox="430 1131 1479 1355">The ratification of UNDRIP is essential as it further states the rights of indigenous people that are vaguely defined in the UDHR. The ratification not only signified the unity of the international community to ensure the rights of indigenous people, it also paves a first step for the enforcement of the rights of indigenous people.</p>
	<p data-bbox="430 1377 957 1411">The Beginning of the Rohingya Crisis</p>
October, 2015	<p data-bbox="430 1444 1479 1624">Although the abuse of the Rohingya people in Myanmar has been ongoing for decades, the mass movement of the Rohingya people to Bangladesh occurred in October of 2015. This issue had lots of media attention and actions have been taken against the Burmese government since then.</p>
	<p data-bbox="430 1646 1133 1680">The Recent Light of Re-education Camps in China</p>
2018s	<p data-bbox="430 1713 1479 1892">The Chinese government has long been using re-education camps to detain political dissidents. However, the media recently discovered the violation of freedom of religion as the Chinese government is arresting individuals based on their religious beliefs.</p>

Relevant UN Treaties and Events

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (**A/RES/03/217**)
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (**A/RES/61/295**)
- Establishment of a UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (**E/2000/22**)
- Adoption of the Indigenous and Tribal People Convention (**C169**)

Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

Although the issue of the standardization of human rights has been around for decades, the issue regarding indigenous rights has only recently surfaced due to the concerns of the international community regarding national sovereignty. One of the first things the UN did in attempt to solve the problem is the drafting of UNDRIP.

The Creation of UNDRIP

The UNDRIP is a symbol of unity for the international community on the issue regarding indigenous rights. However, just like many other UN resolutions, this doctrine lacks enforcement policies. First of all, this doctrine serves as a list for member states to follow and is not legally binding. This allows member states with an agenda of abusing indigenous rights to be a signatory of the UNDRIP despite having domestic policies that completely violate it. The United States and Canada originally threatened to vote against UNDRIP due to its non-binding nature but eventually caved in to international pressure. Although some may argue that the existence of UNDRIP allows for clearer guidelines for member states to follow, the fact remains that violations of UNDRIP still have little to no consequence and does not discourage nations from violating them. Another aspect that UNDRIP lacks in is clear definition of key terms. Although UNDRIP is suppose to help indigenous people, no where in the document does it define the term 'indigenous people.' This gives nations the freedom to determine which groups of people are considered indigenous. This means nations can deprive rights from certain groups of people at their own discretion. If these problems are not fixed, UNDRIP will never reach its full potential in resolving this issue.

The Intervention of NGOs

NGOs are often forgotten in international issues due to their limited political power. However, they do alleviate the issue by constructing annual reports and negotiating with local governments. NGOs publicize the stories of the people suffering in the regions and allow them to gain recognition. They also make annual reports and deliver them to international organizations for public knowledge. Despite their good deeds, their effectiveness is limited. For instance, countries could simply restrict access to certain regions where the victims reside in. In cases like the Jumma People, the federal government restricts international access to regions where the indigenous people reside in. This completely disallows NGOs

to continue to report their findings. Another aspect that NGOs lack is political power. One must remember that NGOs cannot be affiliated with any one country. This means that they do not wield power in the UN like the individual member states. This disallows them to perform direct actions, such as imposing sanctions.

Possible Solutions

Due to the early nature of this issue, there are many possible solutions to alleviate it. Many of the solutions stem from the flaws of previous solutions to this problem. By solving the flaws of previous policies and creating new enforcement mechanisms, this issue could become less severe.

Creation of Enforcement Mechanisms

As stated previously, the most important document for indigenous rights, UNDRIP, does not have any enforcement mechanisms as it is not legally binding. In order to solve this, the General Assembly (GA) could propose to allow an option for the ratification for UNDRIP. If ratification of UNDRIP is an option, it many nations would be encourage to ratify the document, allowing nations to be held responsible for their actions towards their indigenous people. Another way to secure the enforcement of UNDRIP is to put it in the same category as UDHR. The UN requires all nations to ratify the UDHR in order to join which would make member states responsible for any violation of rights. This, however, could lead to many challenges within the GA as many nations would find no incentive in signing the document.

Increased Number of Security Council Sessions Regarding the Issue of Violation of Indigenous Rights

Currently, the Security Council (SC) only discusses a few issues regarding the violation of indigenous rights. By increasing the number of SC sessions, there would be more time to devise more complex solutions to the issue. However, one problem with this solution is that there is no statistical evidence proving that an increased amount of SC sessions increases productivity.

Increased Publicity of the Issue

Although the implementation of legislative policies is very important to resolve this issue, public opinion also incentivizes ambassadors to resolve the issue quickly. By publicizing this particular issue and by informing the public about the atrocious acts that are happening in other parts of the world towards indigenous people, it could create more volunteers who are passionate about helping indigenous people and allow representatives that represent them to push for more policies regulating this issue.

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