



### **TQO The Preservation and Revival of Indigenous and Native Languages:**

There are around 7,000 languages currently spoken across the world, however half of them are in danger of being extinct with around 1,500 languages currently predicted to be no longer spoken by the end of the century. The UN assembly states that 1 language becomes extinct every fortnight, meaning 2 languages are lost every month, and that rate is growing. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples is the most comprehensive document detailing the rights of indigenous people and addresses both individual and collective rights; rights to education, health, employment, language etc. The declaration was created to protect the rights of indigenous people and maintain their right to remain distinct in economic, social and political development.

In December 2022 the UN launched the international decade of indigenous languages (2022-2032) to preserve indigenous languages to protect them from extinction. The UN proclaimed the decade as a result of the 2019 international year of indigenous languages for which UNESCO lead global effort. The resolution not only aims to preserve indigenous languages but also improve the lives of those who speak and sign them. It plans to spread awareness about dying indigenous languages to add more linguistic diversity.

Linguistic diversity is important as it serves to connect cultures and promotes mutual understanding while advocating for indigenous minorities, particularly indigenous people who are historically underrepresented and the preservation of their native languages will only add to their agency.

### **TQO Safeguarding the Rights of Peacekeepers and Humanitarian Aid Workers in Conflict Zones:**

Since 1948, 56 peacekeepers have been killed per average but the number is increasing every year. Peace keeps are increasingly becoming victims in conflict zones. At least 11 United Nations personnel were killed in deliberate attacks in 2023 during the United Nations Staff Union Standing committee on the Security and Independence of the International Civil Service. There are several instances of UN peacekeepers being killed, recently, in the Israel-Hamas conflict, 142 UNRWA personnel were confirmed killed by

Israeli forces. In Congo, currently, 13 peacekeepers were killed in clashes with M23 rebels.

The killings of peacekeepers may constitute a war crime and has been met with outrage, specifically, the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) after 2 peacekeepers were injured by explosions from the IDF. Despite the UN condemning the targeting and killing of UN peacekeepers the role of peacekeepers is crucial during conflict and is essential for negotiations and supplying civilians with aid. Therefore despite peacekeepers and humanitarian aid workers being targeted the UN cannot afford to completely pull them out of war zones without risking catastrophic effects. A resolution submitted should aim to tackle the issue of the rights of peacekeepers and humanitarian aid workers while also considering the political climate of that conflict.

### **TQO State Violence Towards Peaceful Protestors:**

Across the world the right to peacefully protest is under attack with governments increasing the criminalisation, stigmatisation and repression of peaceful protests. In Europe, there has been a pattern of repressive laws and arbitrary arrests targeting peaceful protestors and violating the right to peaceful protest. Invasive surveillance has been used by many countries enabling them to violently shut down peaceful protests. Methods such as using rubber bullets and tear gas to disperse protestors as well as batons and clubs being used to beat protestors are widely seen in peaceful protests today.

In the U.S there has not been a single week without a report of police brutality against peaceful protestors, attacks are unwarranted and arrests largely arbitrary, however police have been shown to show bias towards race, sex and sexual orientation with excessive violence used. The most famous being the BLM movement in America with police showing excessive aggression force, particularly towards African Americans.

A resolution responding to this issue should be clear and aim to solve this issue and protect the rights of protestors without breaking the law in order to do so.

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2024/07/europe-sweeping-pattern-of-systematic-attacks-and-restrictions-undermine-peaceful-protest/>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cr46npx1e73o>