

Forum: Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Issue: Implementing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

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Position: Deputy President



Personal Introduction

Dearest delegates,

My name is Maria Petroleka, I am a 10th-grade student at Athens College Psychico (HAEF) and it is my utmost honour to serve as Deputy President for the Economic and Social Council at this year's International American College of Greece Model United Nations Conference. This guide will be your introduction to the following topic: « Implementing the Declaration of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples », and I hope it will help you form robust resolutions for the debate.

Before I start, I would like to congratulate you for participating in MUN conferences! It becomes a passion that leaves a permanent impact on you, and teaches you how to be a rightful citizen of the world. Each conference is a unique and special experience that shapes your understanding of global events, helps you develop new skills and builds lasting friendships with people from all around the world. As it will be my first time chairing, I sincerely hope that we all have an enjoyable and productive experience during the conference, and that it will help you understand the real value of MUN.

As mentioned, this study guide will analyze the issue of « Implementing the Declaration of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples ». It is an issue of utmost importance, and vital for achieving global equality. We must not forget that as the leaders of tomorrow, it is very likely that if this issue is not resolved, we will be responsible to address it in the future, ensuring that every state enjoys its sovereign right and paving the way to a more balanced society. Even though this guide contains the findings of very thorough research, I urge you to conduct your own research to become aware of your country's policies and position on the issue as well as more information that will help you form robust clauses for your resolutions. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me via email at mariliapetroleka@gmail.com.

I am looking forward to meeting you all!

Maria Petroleka

Topic Introduction

For centuries, nations around the world were subjugated by powerful states that exploited their land and resources, often at the expense of the indigenous people residing there.¹ While many countries have managed to gain their independence since 1945 when the UN was founded, there are still 17 non-self-governing states, with fewer than 2 million people, that continue to be exploited, experience political disenfranchisement, and be governed by foreign powers.²

Colonialism thrived during the so-called “Age of Discovery”, when countries, especially European, were locked in fierce competition with one another to expand their territories.³ In 1945, there were 750 million people, equivalent to $\frac{1}{3}$ or the world’s population, that lived in nations that were dependent on colonial powers.⁴

However, with the founding of the UN, a decolonization process began, as nations, after centuries of being exploited, sought independence and sovereignty from the administrative powers that long obstructed their path to freedom. With a series of resolutions and the creation of the special political and decolonization committee, the UN actively contributed effectively to address the issue.

Despite these efforts, there are still significant barriers that obstruct the post-colonial nations from achieving economic, social and political prowess. The lingering effects of the years of foreign rule, create economic dependencies and political instability.⁵ These challenges are enhanced by the rise of neo-colonialism and post-colonialism, where former colonies continue to rely on external powers for their survival.⁶ Ergo, they remain vulnerable to further exploitation, as they have not yet managed to exercise their sovereignty and secure their independence. This is why it is essential that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Indigenous Societies and Peoples is effectively implemented, ensuring that they are able to flourish without foreign intervention.

As post-colonial nations bear the brunt of environmental degradation caused by industrial powers, achieving economic sovereignty and development is essential for encouraging them to take advantage of

¹Blakemore, Erin. “Colonialism Facts and Information.” *Culture*, 16 Aug. 2024, www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/colonialism.

² *Decolonization* | Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, dppa.un.org/en/decolonization. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

³ *Decolonization* | Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, dppa.un.org/en/decolonization. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁴Blakemore, Erin. “Colonialism Facts and Information.” *Culture*, 16 Aug. 2024, www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/colonialism.

⁵Maddie. “Social and Economic Challenges in Post-Independence Africa (18.18.3): IB History HL.” *TutorChase*, TutorChase, 11 Dec. 2024, www.tutorchase.com/notes/ib/history/18-18-3-social-and-economic-challenges-in-post-independence-africa.

⁶ “Postcolonialism.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., 19 Dec. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/postcolonialism.

the infinite opportunities for growth that the international system creates for them, aligning with this conference's theme of balancing opportunities to ensure inclusivity and progress.

Definition of Key Terms

Decolonization

“The process by which former colonies become independent of the colonizing country”⁷

Disenfranchisement

“The act of depriving a person of the rights or privileges of full participation in any community or organization, especially of the opportunity to influence policy or make one's voice heard”⁸

Post-Colonialism

“The historical period or state of affairs representing the aftermath of Western colonialism, where former colonies powers want to continue or expand their influence over their former colonies”⁹

Neo-Colonialism

“The control of less-developed countries by developed countries through indirect means.”¹⁰

Protectorates

“Protectorate, in international relations, the relationship between two states one of which exercises some decisive control over the other.”¹¹

Sovereignty

“The ultimate overseer, or authority, in the decision-making process of the state and in the maintenance of order.”¹²

Structural Power

“The ways in which power (such as authority, wealth, and other privileges) is arranged in order to influence the norms of society, institutions, and our interpersonal relationships.”¹³

Background Information

Historical Background of Colonialism

⁷ “Decolonization.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., 27 Dec. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/decolonization.

⁸ “Disenfranchisement Definition & Meaning.” *Dictionary.Com*, Dictionary.com, www.dictionary.com/browse/disenfranchisement. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁹ “Postcolonialism.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., 19 Dec. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/postcolonialism.

¹⁰ “Neocolonialism.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., 27 Nov. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/neocolonialism

¹¹ “Protectorate.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., www.britannica.com/topic/protectorate-international-relations. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

¹² “Sovereignty.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., www.britannica.com/topic/sovereignty. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

¹³ *Structural Power – Showing Theory to Know Theory*, ecampusontario.pressbooks.pub/showingtheory/chapter/structural-power Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

Colonialism dates back to 1550 B.C. when it was practiced by empires such as Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, Ancient Egypt and Phoenicia who sought to expand their borders into the surrounding and non-contiguous areas. In Ancient Greece, the Greeks would first consult an oracle before sending a selected group to establish a new colony. The association of the colony and the city would be solidified through a ritual, in which the founders would light a fire, using a flame from the original city, symbolizing their claim of the new location.¹⁴

Colonization flourished during the Age of Discovery (15th–17th century). In 1415, Portugal, seeking new trade routes and civilizations outside Europe, conquered Ceuta, a town in North Africa, marking the beginning of an empire that would last for over five centuries. Soon, the Portuguese expanded their dominance to islands like Cape Verde and Madeira.

In response to Portugal's growing influence, Spain sponsored Christopher Columbus, who set sail in 1492 with three ships to find a direct route to India, Japan, China, and the Spice Islands. Instead, Columbus landed on a small island in the Bahamas, which he claimed for the Spanish Crown. Believing he had reached India, he referred to the indigenous people as "Indians." Over the course of three more voyages, Columbus visited regions such as Cuba, Trinidad, and parts of the South American mainland.¹⁵ A period started, characterised by competition between the two states for new territories, and exploitation of indigenous lands and people in America, India, Africa and Asia.

The rest of Europe followed, with the French Empire flourishing in the 17th century, and England's possessions expanding, eventually forming the renowned British empire.¹⁶

¹⁴ Blakemore, Erin. "Colonialism Facts and Information." *Culture*, 16 Aug. 2024, www.nationalgeographic.com/culture/article/colonialism.

¹⁵ "Christopher Columbus." *Royal Museums Greenwich*, www.rmg.co.uk/stories/topics/christopher-columbus. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

¹⁶ Longley, Robert. "What Is Colonialism? Definition and Examples." *ThoughtCo*, ThoughtCo, 19 July 2024, www.thoughtco.com/colonialism-definition-and-examples-5112779#:~:text=Colonialism%20is%20generally%20classified%20into,surrogate%20colonialism%3B%20and%20internal%20colonialism.

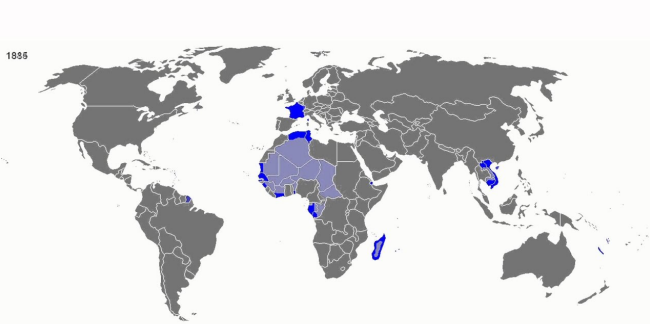


Figure 2¹⁷:The French empire

During the 17th and 18th centuries, France had the largest population, the best army, and the strongest navy, qualities that could have made it the dominant colonial power. However, France's early colonial endeavors were obstructed by internal religious strife and futile attempts to establish settlements in the Americas. In 1603, Samuel de Champlain, was the first to refer to Canada as *New France*. France soon developed trading networks in the St. Lawrence River valley, fostering alliances with Indigenous peoples to ensure the fur trade.

Figure 3¹⁸: Image of the New France

A council was established to oversee and regulate colonial affairs, leading to the creation of a rigid, caste-bound French West Indian society. At the top were colonial officials and large plantation owners, followed by merchants, buccaneers, and small farmers. At the lowest levels were indentured French laborers and enslaved Africans, whose labor was critical to the colonies' economic success. Around 1637, the French established French Guiana, while New France became a royal province in 1663. France's colonial empire also extended to the Caribbean, where they seized territories like Guadeloupe, Martinique, and later Saint-Domingue. These colonies became vital to France's economy, as they produced sugar but relied heavily on the brutal exploitation of enslaved Africans. France also expanded into West Africa and the Indian Ocean. However, France's ambitions faced setbacks, particularly during conflicts with Britain, such as the Seven Years' War (1756–1763), which culminated in the loss of Canada and parts of India, weakening France's imperial dominance.¹⁹



¹⁷ YouTube, YouTube, www.youtube.com/watch?v=9HGoYsCCIOs. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

¹⁸Freeze, Jason. "History: Settlement and Political Division - New France." *BScene*, 8 Oct. 2019, www.bscene.ca/history-settlement-and-political-division-new-france.

¹⁹ *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., 14 Dec. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/Western-colonialism/The-French.

The British Empire was a vast global system that consisted of colonies, protectorates and other territories under the sovereignty of the British Crown. Its expansion was driven by their desire to gain more money, power and spread Christianity and British ways of life, as well as respond to competition by France²⁰. By 1670, Britain had established colonies in New England, Virginia, Maryland, and settlements in the Bermudas, Honduras, Antigua, and Barbados. These colonies were primarily driven by economic interests and the desire to expand British influence in the Americas. ²¹In the 20th century, Britain began transitioning its colonies to self-governance. The notion British Commonwealth emerged, that described a group of sovereign dependencies that acknowledged the British monarch as the head. This shift was formalized with the Balfour Declaration of 1926 that recognized dominions as “autonomous communities within the British Empire, equal in status in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or external affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations.” ²²

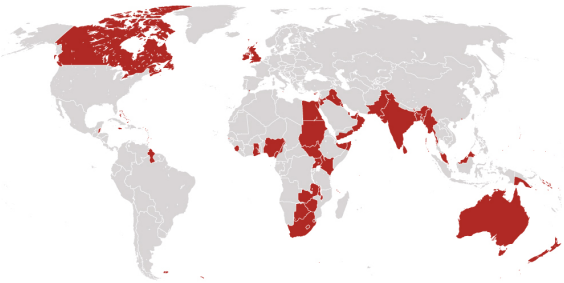


Figure 4²³: Image of the British Empire

The people living in such colonies were forced to abandon their language, religions and ways of living and begin to speak the English language, believe in Christianity and abide by the British system of government and education. As a result, English remains the official language of many ex-colonies, and many indigenous languages were lost or declined dramatically. Government officials lived in the colony and ruled it, while the laws in the colonies did not consider the cultural differences between the British and the indigenous people. The taxes imposed were higher, while the colony's natural resources were exploited for financial gain. Any defiance to the system was met with harsh punishments such as execution or firing openly crowds of civilians.²⁴

²⁰ “What Was the British Empire?” *BBC Bitesize*, BBC, 16 Jan. 2024, www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zpju3j6#zsnf82.

²¹ “British Empire.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., 2 Jan. 2025, www.britannica.com/place/British-Empire.

²² “Dominion.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., 3 Jan. 2025, www.britannica.com/topic/dominion-British-Commonwealth.

²³ *Map: The Rise and Fall of the British Empire - The Washington Post*, www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2015/09/08/map-the-rise-and-fall-of-the-british-empire/. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

²⁴ “What Was the British Empire?” *BBC Bitesize*, BBC, 16 Jan. 2024, www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zpju3j6#z449kty.

Settler Colonialism

Settler Colonialism refers to the migration of large groups of people from one country to another country to build permanent and self-supporting settlements. It is characterized by the settlers' efforts to displace indigenous populations, exploit their natural resources, and force them to assimilate their own culture, governance, and way of life. This system of power is perpetuated by settlers who repress Indigenous rights and erase Indigenous cultures, replacing them with their own to establish themselves as the rightful inhabitants of the land.²⁵

A defining feature of settler colonialism is its lasting impact as settlements are established to last indefinitely, often supported by imperialistic governments. What separates this type from classic colonialism is that while classic colonialism focuses on domination and the political or economic control of another nation, settler colonialism involves the complete destruction and replacement of indigenous people and their cultures.²⁶

An example is an outpost in South Africa near the Cape of Good Hope, established by the Dutch East India Company in 1652.²⁷ This settlement marked the beginning of settler colonialism in the region. Over time, these settlers established a permanent presence in the region, which played a significant role in shaping the region's history.²⁸

Exploitation Colonialism

Exploitation colonialism focuses on the use of force to control another country for the purpose of exploiting its population as labor and its natural resources as raw materials to benefit the metropolis economically.²⁹ It required fewer colonists to emigrate since the indigenous

²⁵ "Settler Colonialism." *Legal Information Institute*, Legal Information Institute, www.law.cornell.edu/wex/settler_colonialism#:~:text=Settler%20colonialism%20finds%20its%20foundations,that%20belong%20to%20the%20indigenous. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

²⁶ "Settler Colonialism." *Legal Information Institute*, Legal Information Institute, www.law.cornell.edu/wex/settler_colonialism#:~:text=Settler%20colonialism%20finds%20its%20foundations,that%20belong%20to%20the%20indigenous. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

²⁷ Longley, Robert. "What Is Colonialism? Definition and Examples." *ThoughtCo*, ThoughtCo, 19 July 2024, www.thoughtco.com/colonialism-definition-and-examples-5112779#:~:text=Colonialism%20is%20generally%20classified%20into,surrogate%20colonialism%3B%20and%20internal%20colonialism.

²⁸ Longley, Robert. "What Is Colonialism? Definition and Examples." *ThoughtCo*, ThoughtCo, 19 July 2024, www.thoughtco.com/colonialism-definition-and-examples-5112779#:~:text=Colonialism%20is%20generally%20classified%20into,surrogate%20colonialism%3B%20and%20internal%20colonialism.

²⁹ (PDF) *Colonial Exploitation- a Real Fact of Human History and Civilization*, www.researchgate.net/publication/372558604_Colonial_exploitation- A Real fact of human history and civilization. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

population could remain in place to serve as cheap labor, often under coercion or enslavement. One of the countries that suffered the most from exploitation colonialism is Congo. Potentially one of the richest countries in the world, years of exploitation and colonialism have turned the Congo into one of the poorest and least stable.³⁰

Under British rule, India's economy was deliberately suppressed through policies such as manipulating import and export duties. These measures destroyed the supremacy of Indian goods, and allowed British machine-made products to dominate Indian markets. This exploitation led to the decline of traditional industries and created a culture of dependency and subordination.³¹

Trade Colonialism

Trade colonialism involves the control and manipulation of a colony's trading relationship by the foreign power to maximize economic benefits for the colonial power.³² The signing of the Treaty of Nanjing in 1842, and the Opium War(1839-1844) exemplify trade colonialism. The Western Powers, led by Great Britain, attempted to access Chinese products and markets, leading to conflict when China resisted foreign trade manipulation. The First Opium War ended with the defeat of China and the imposition of the Treaty of Nanjing that outlined Britain's trading privileges and granted it access to Chinese ports.

Similarly, America, which had begun its mutual, at first, trading relations with China as early as 1784, started to prioritize its interests, when Chinese demand for their products started to decline, which led to an imbalance in the amount of imports and exports in China, further weakening its economy. After the war, the US negotiated its own treaty, that was longer, and it included points that served US interests. Article 17 protected the interests of American missionaries in China while Article 18 allowed Americans living or working in China to employ tutors to help them learn Chinese, a practice formerly forbidden by the Chinese Government.³³

Internal Colonialism

³⁰Longley, Robert. "What Is Colonialism? Definition and Examples." *ThoughtCo*, ThoughtCo, 19 July 2024, www.thoughtco.com/colonialism-definition-and-examples-5112779#:~:text=Colonialism%20is%20generally%20classified%20into,surrogate%20colonialism%3B%20and%20internal%20colonialism.

³¹(PDF) *Colonial Exploitation- a Real Fact of Human History and Civilization*, www.researchgate.net/publication/372558604_Colonial_exploitation- A Real fact of human history and civilization Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

³² Undefined. "Types of Colonialism." *INSIGHTS IAS - Simplifying UPSC IAS Exam Preparation*, www.insightsonindia.com/world-history/colonialism/types-of-colonialism/. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

³³ *U.S. Department of State*, U.S. Department of State, history.state.gov/milestones/1830-1860/china-1. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

Internal colonialism refers to the oppression and exploitation of a racial or ethnic group by a dominant group within the same country.³⁴ Unlike external colonialism, internal colonialism occurs when structural inequalities lead to the subordination or marginalization of a group, with the source of exploitation coming from within the country not from a foreign power.³⁵ It describes the uneven structural power between areas of a single state.³⁶ The treatment of Mexicans after the American-Mexico War (1846-1948) exemplifies this type of colonialism. Following the war, the Mexicans in the US, were subjugated to systemic domination, where they were turned into subjects for the US government, yet could not enjoy the rights or freedoms of a US citizen. The³⁷ In modern days, internal colonialism exists through ethnic and social inequalities which lead to the marginalization of certain “minorities”, that cannot access resources, opportunities and be represented within their own country.³⁸

Post- Colonialism

The end of the American Revolution marked the start of the decolonization process, as many European countries gained their independence, weakening the power of colonial power. In the 19th the Western European powers, the United States, Russia, and Japan competed to acquire vast areas of overseas territory in the name of what was termed “empire for empire’s sake,”. A shift began after World War I, when the League of Nations divided the German colonial empire among the victorious Allied powers of Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy, Romania, Japan, and the United States, signaling the decline of the system. The Decolonization process accelerated after the end of World War II in 1945. The defeat of Japan marked the end of its colonial empire in the Western Pacific and East Asian countries. It also showed still subjugated indigenous people around the world that colonial powers were not invincible,

³⁴Longley, Robert. “What Is Colonialism? Definition and Examples.” *ThoughtCo*, ThoughtCo, 19 July 2024, www.thoughtco.com/colonialism-definition-and-examples-5112779#:~:text=Colonialism%20is%20generally%20classified%20into,surrogate%20colonialism%3B%20and%20internal%20colonialism.

³⁵*Internal Colonialism | Definition, Types & Theory - Video*, study.com/learn/lesson/video/internal-colonialism-types-theory-examples.html. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

³⁶Undefined. “Types of Colonialism.” *INSIGHTS IAS - Simplifying UPSC IAS Exam Preparation*, www.insightsonindia.com/world-history/colonialism/types-of-colonialism/. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

³⁷Longley, Robert. “What Is Colonialism? Definition and Examples.” *ThoughtCo*, ThoughtCo, 19 July 2024, www.thoughtco.com/colonialism-definition-and-examples-5112779#:~:text=Colonialism%20is%20generally%20classified%20into,surrogate%20colonialism%3B%20and%20internal%20colonialism.

³⁸*Internal Colonialism | Definition, Types & Theory - Video*, study.com/learn/lesson/video/internal-colonialism-types-theory-examples.html. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

igniting movements for independence. By the mid 20th century, most colonial empires had been weakened, awaiting the dawn of the post-colonial era.³⁹

The term postcolonialism emerged in the 20th century, and described the struggles of indigenous people and then lingering effects of modern European Colonization.⁴⁰ It analyzed the possibility of overcoming colonialism. However new forms of domination or subordination arise in the process, including new forms of global empire. The interpretation of the principles of self-determination and self-government within the international system, along with the minority status and vulnerability of the people within decolonized states, often left these people marginalized. While the United Nations and the system extended some modest gains to the decolonized territories, the indigenous people had no access to these benefits.⁴¹

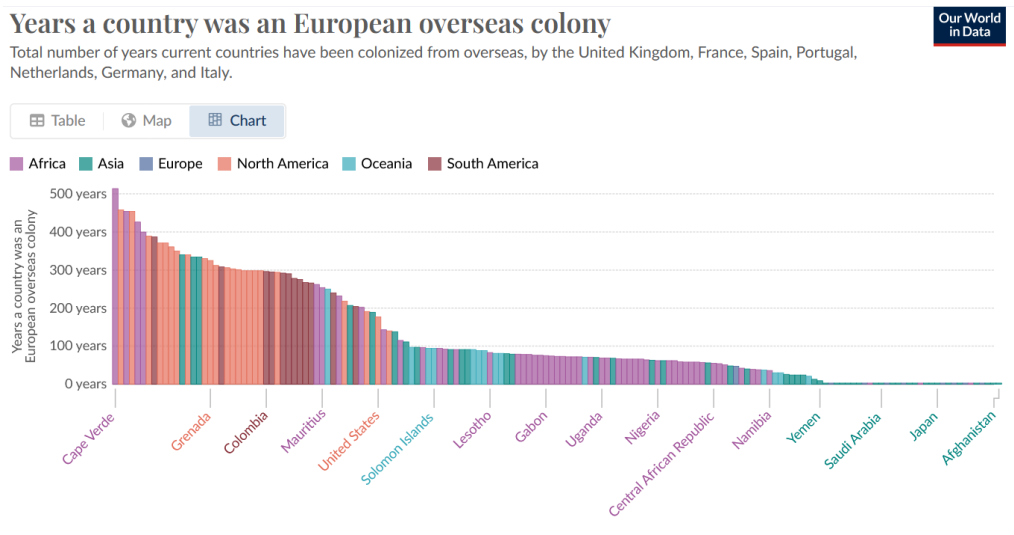


Figure 6⁴²: Graph depicting the years each country has been a colony
Economic Dependency on former colonies

Karl Marx stated that “The discovery of America, the rounding of the Cape, opened up fresh ground for the rising bourgeoisie.” This reflects how colonialism facilitated the growth of European countries, leaving the former colonies victims of exploitation and underdevelopment. Colonialism

³⁹Longley, Robert. “What Is Colonialism? Definition and Examples.” *ThoughtCo*, ThoughtCo, 19 July 2024, www.thoughtco.com/colonialism-definition-and-examples-5112779#:~:text=Colonialism%20is%20generally%20classified%20into,surrogate%20colonialism%3B%20and%20internal%20colonialism.

⁴⁰ “Postcolonialism.” *International Encyclopedia of Human Geography (Second Edition)*, Elsevier, 4 Dec. 2019, www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/B978008102295510856X.

⁴¹ “Postcolonialism.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Encyclopædia Britannica, inc., 19 Dec. 2024, www.britannica.com/topic/postcolonialism.

⁴² “Years a Country Was an European Overseas Colony.” *Our World in Data*, ourworldindata.org/grapher/years-colonized. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

created distinct types of societies with vastly different trajectories of economic development. The variation stemmed from the different types of institutions transplanted by the colonial powers, because the British institutions in North America favored economic growth, while the Spanish institutions in Latin America did not hinder development. Colonialism shaped the societal institutions, thus playing a role in development.⁴³

In cases such as Africa, colonialism prevented the continent from achieving full economic growth and isolated it from global trade relations, as most regions relied on colonial powers for imports.⁴⁴ Additionally, the heavy burden of debt has compromised the financial sovereignty of many African states. Trade agreements often disadvantage African countries by keeping them as exporters of raw materials while forcing them to import finished goods at higher costs.⁴⁵ Due to COVID-19, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and soaring inflation, African countries have had to take on even more debt, and now 20 low income African countries are either bankrupt or at high risk of debt distress, which increases their dependency on European countries.

Cultural Alienation

Theorists have developed the notion of colonial alienation to describe the psychological process by which the colonized people acquired their role as a colonial subject, that entails acceptance of a correlation of ideas and beliefs imposed by the imperial power. This process is gradual and complex, as colonial powers reshape the subjectivities of colonized people. The subjectivity of colonial people are sketched by foreign powers. The people are forced to live in the present, imposed by the colonizer, who shapes their subject's mind into believing that the past system was despotic, the past cultural system a decadence, while their present and future entails enlightenment, reform, progress and development.

This transformation is achieved through initiating the grand agenda of reforms aiming to transform the public sphere of colonies and rewriting the history of colonial territories. Rewriting history partly involves the total erasure of past memories and partly the misrepresentation of historical events, personalities, institutions. As a result, the colonized individuals unconsciously abandon the values, ideas, beliefs they

⁴³ *The Economic Impact of Colonialism* | CEPR, cepr.org/voxeu/columns/economic-impact-colonialism. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁴⁴ *The Impact of Colonialism on African Economic Development*, trace.tennessee.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1182&context=utk_chanhonoproj. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁴⁵ Maddie. "Social and Economic Challenges in Post-Independence Africa (18.18.3): IB History HL." *TutorChase*, TutorChase, 11 Dec. 2024, www.tutorchase.com/notes/ib/history/18-18-3-social-and-economic-challenges-in-post-independence-africa.

held in the past and start to abide by the norms, stereotypes and the way of life imposed by the colonial powers.⁴⁶

Neo-Colonialism

Neo Colonialism refers to the control of less developed countries by more developing ones through indirect means. While It was created after World War One to describe the continual dependence of former colonies to foreign countries, it evolved to reflect broader types of exploitation. It highlights the exploitation of countries not only by other states, but also multinational corporations, who combine with multilateral institutions to perpetuate colonial exploitation.⁴⁷

The essence of neo-colonialism is that the affected State is, in theory, independent and has all the outward trappings of international sovereignty. In reality its economic system and thus its political policy is directed from foreign powers . As a result, foreign capital is used for the exploitation rather than for the development of the less developed parts of the world. therefore, colonialism exacerbates the gap between the rich and the poor countries of the world.As it is possible that neo-colonial control may be exercised by a consortium of financial interests which are not specifically identifiable with any particular State, accountability is difficult.

In essence, neo-colonialism is for those who practise it, power without responsibility and for those who suffer from it, exploitation without redress.⁴⁸

Economic exploitation from the West

While the decolonization process had begun in the early 20th century, the economic structures remained the same, allowing former colonial powers to benefit from dependencies by former colonies. Through variety of means, these powers ensured that the newly independent countries remained economically dependent on the West. The transition from a colonial economy, primarily designed to export raw materials, to a more diversified and self-sustaining economy has been challenging. As a result many nations continue to rely on a single or few commodities for export earnings, making their economies highly susceptible to global price fluctuations, thus dependent on foreign powers.⁴⁹

⁴⁶ Colonial alienation & Majeed Amjad & Marxian & Nasir Abbas Nayyar. "Alienation of the Colonised: Literati." *Thenews*, The News International, 8 Apr. 2018, www.thenews.com.pk/tns/detail/565264-alienation-colonised.

⁴⁷ "Neocolonialism Definition & Meaning." *Merriam-Webster*, Merriam-Webster, www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/neocolonialism. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁴⁸ Nkrumah, Kwame. "Introduction." *Neo-Colonialism, the Last Stage of Imperialism* by Kwame Nkrumah, www.marxists.org/subject/africa/nkrumah/neo-colonialism/introduction.htm. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁴⁹ Maddie. "Social and Economic Challenges in Post-Independence Africa (18.18.3): IB History HL." *TutorChase*, TutorChase, 11 Dec. 2024, www.tutorchase.com/notes/ib/history/18-18-3-social-and-economic-challenges-in-post-independence-africa.

An example of economic exploitation by former colonial powers and other developed countries is their effort to block growth in developing countries and retain them as sources of cheap raw materials and cheap labour. This was evident during the Cold War with the United States' (U.S.) policy known as the Truman Doctrine. Under that policy the U.S. government offered large amounts of money to any government prepared to accept U.S. protection from communism, thus becoming a member of the western camp. This enabled the United States to extend its sphere of influence and, in some cases, to place foreign governments under its control. Furthermore, the United States, alongside other developed nations, ensured the subordination of developing countries by intervening in conflicts and helping install regimes that were more aligned with the interests of foreign companies than with those of their own citizens. It can be argued that this manipulation of political systems served to maintain a status quo where economic policies favored the West at the expense of local development.⁵⁰

Exploitation of resources by Multinational Corporations

Multinational corporations (MNCs) have become a significant actor in international politics due to globalization, often rivaling with a state's GDP. In their attempt to reduce production cost they often invest in Less economically Developed Countries to benefit from cheaper resources. However, they tend to prioritize profit maximization over sustainable development in host countries. As a result, in Africa they are accused of resource exploitation and perpetuating neo-colonial practices that hinder economic development. Their tactics, include manipulating local governments and choosing countries with a favorable tax climate, ensure that resource-rich African nations remain dependent on them. As a result, economic inequality is exacerbated, and the wealth generated from Africa's resources flows primarily to foreign investors, leaving African countries struggling to realize their full economic potential. They focus on extracting raw materials and paying low wages, contributing to continued poverty. Critics argue that MNCs' operations in Africa are a modern form of economic imperialism, reinforcing the continent's dependency on external forces and limiting its ability to control its own resources and development.⁵¹

⁵⁰ "Neocolonialism Definition & Meaning." *Merriam-Webster*, Merriam-Webster, www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/neocolonialism. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁵¹ *JOURNALOFCMSD*, journalofcmsd.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/OYIER-MNCs-PAPER-20-December-2017.pdf. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

Major Countries and Organizations Involved

Ethiopia

Ethiopians are fighting for the self-determination of the indigenous societies that reside amongst them, particularly through their constitution that protects indigenous rights from alienation. Ethiopia's 1995 Federal Constitution was designed to create a common political community based on the free will of its nations, nationalities, and peoples, making it unique in Africa. This approach sought to address past marginalization by promoting a multinational state where cultural identities were recognized and there is respect for the rights of cultural identities as opposed to its previous definition of a 'prison of nations'. Ethiopia's formerly marginalised cultural communities provided the impetus for a new form of unity based on recognition of rights to self-determination.

However, the ideological framework behind this, rooted in Leninist-Stalinist theory, faced challenges, particularly regarding the definition of "nations" and "nationalities." These contradictions have contributed to tensions within Ethiopia, especially under the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF). Despite the constitution's aims, the country's political system has struggled to balance self-determination with national unity, underscoring the discrepancy between constitutional ideas and their application, as well as the difficulties that obstruct the path to freedom for all ethnic groups.⁵²

Kenya

While there have been constitutional changes since Kenya's independence, there has been no significant change in terms of how Kenya approaches indigenous societies. From 2005-2012, minorities and other indigenous communities were subjected to forced evictions and other forms of harassment have continued to plague many minority and indigenous communities, not taking into account the new Constitution that mandated respect for indigenous rights. Examples of such communities include the Ogiek who were forced to displace, being threatened with eviction from their ancestral lands, in particular the Mau Forest and around Mount Elgon and the Nubians in Kibera, an expansive human settlement renowned internationally for its poor sanitation and cramped living quarters. The indigenous community faces periodic violence pitting them against harsh landlords from majority communities, forced demolitions, evictions and an unclear citizenship status in Kenya. These examples are evidence of the breach of the constitution in the country, and the incapacity of the indigenous communities to enjoy their unalienable rights: shelter, food and political participation. Laws, both in theory and in practice, are unfair

⁵² Alex de Waal, "Talking and Fighting about Self-Determination in Ethiopia." *Africa at LSE*, 22 Jan. 2021, blogs.lse.ac.uk/africaatlse/2021/01/11/talking-fighting-about-self-determination-constitution-civil-war-ethiopia/

to indigenous communities, as the government of Kenya has been reluctant to restore ownership to the Endorois people of their ancestral lands around the Lake Bogoria National Reserve, using it for their personal interests.⁵³

A report by minority group rights international documents the plight of minorities and indigenous peoples in Kenya today, whereby they are poorer than other communities, and their rights are incessantly being violated, as they are not included in development or other participatory planning processes.⁵⁴

France

France, as a former colonial power, established Lebanon in the wake of World War 1, aiming to build a home in the “Muslim East”. But the confessional system put in place by France has led to institutionalised sectarianism and corruption ever since, rather than balancing the diverse religious groups. The roots of Lebanon’s political crisis can be identified in the French-imposed system that obstructs effective governance. Furthermore, its economic crisis is a result of Western-empowered neo-liberal policies and the global political order. In fact, the blast of ammonium nitrate that devastated Lebanon’s capital in August 2022 highlights how capital flows and a lawless world of international shipping played a major role in Lebanon’s crisis. In the aftermath of the explosion, French President Emmanuel Macron visited Beirut, calling on Lebanon’s political forces to create “a new political pact”. He promised to be back in Beirut on 1 September – the 100th anniversary of the declaration of France’s colonial outpost in the Levant to evaluate progress towards this “essential reset”. He stressed that if the political elite could not do it, France would uphold its responsibilities with the Lebanese people and contribute to their recovery, as “Lebanon’s future is being determined”. Macron’s commitment to Lebanon reflects an interest in exerting French influence in the region. He has coordinated with both European leaders and the Trump administration in the United States, framing the terms of Lebanon’s political, economic, and social future. Aid and unconditional support to the population would be the priority, “because it’s Lebanon, because it’s France”, showing that these two countries are closely intertwined. However, this approach is also seen as a strategy to further hollow out Lebanon’s state institutions, as aid is channeled through the European Union, the UN, and the IMF, bypassing local governance structures. In effect, Lebanon’s future is being determined without the Lebanese. Macron’s actions make

⁵³ “Kenya at 50: Unrealized Rights of Minorities and Indigenous Peoples - Kenya.” *ReliefWeb*, 9 Mar. 2012, reliefweb.int/report/kenya/kenya-50-unrealized-rights-minorities-and-indigenous-peoples.

⁵⁴ *Kenya: Minorities, Indigenous Peoples and Ethnic Diversity*, minorityrights.org/app/uploads/2024/01/download-147-kenya-minorities-indigenous-peoples-and-ethnic-diversity.pdf. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

it clear that the future of the Lebanese people is being determined by foreign powers, suggesting a form of post-colonialism.⁵⁵

China

China has been heavily involved in Sub-Saharan Africa, establishing diplomatic and economic relations with almost every country, providing infrastructure for the populations to develop economically and socially. Particularly through its Belt and Road initiative. This involvement is allegedly driven by China's strategic interests in securing access to Africa's resources for its industrial sector, which are vital as they contribute to the country's unprecedented growth. The industrial demand for Africa's commodities make the region important for China's manufacturing sector, which could benefit from cheaper inputs to maximize profits and compete with the United States. China's firms are active across Africa, where there is sizable demand for China's goods and services.

China has also established diplomatic relations with all African countries except Eswatini, establishing strategic partnerships and maintaining a mission to the African Union. China's economic investments have raised concerns about debt burdens and the long-term consequences of such engagements, with critics pointing to the potential for "debt traps" that could lead to increased political dependence on China of the countries, if they fail to meet China's requirements. The Biden Administration's Strategy Toward Sub-Saharan Africa asserts that China sees Africa "as an important arena to challenge the rules-based international order, advance its own narrow commercial and geopolitical interests, undermine transparency and openness, and weaken U.S. relations with African peoples and governments." As China continues to solidify its influence in the continent, the future of Africa's political and economic landscape is increasingly determined by the competing interests of global superpowers, creating dependencies.⁵⁶

While China's government recognizes 56 ethnic groups within its borders, it enforces policies that do not respect indigenous culture and practices in Tibet, Xinjiang and Inner Mongolia. These areas are heavily controlled by the state and are being directed toward cultural assimilation, whereby they will have to abandon their values and belief system. These policies entail restraining religious practices, the use of language, traditional customs to ensure national unity and sustainable development. As a result, indigenous populations in China often struggle to preserve their identities and autonomy.⁵⁷

⁵⁵ Kassem, Ali. "Opinion: Lebanon, Forever Colonised?" *The New Humanitarian*, 1 Apr. 2021, www.thenewhumanitarian.org/opinion/2020/08/14/Lebanon-Beirut-explosion-aid-colonialism.

⁵⁶ Congress, crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF12566/3. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁵⁷ OHCHR | *Universal Periodic Review - China*, www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/cn-index. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

African Union

The African Union is an intergovernmental organization, located in Ethiopia, that addresses issues regarding the independence of indigenous societies and promotes unity and solidarity of African states by means of spurring economic development, and enhancing international cooperation to ensure the sovereignty of African states.⁵⁸ It has created a special commission, namely African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), that ensures the fundamental human rights of indigenous communities, such as Resolution 197. The San (Bushmen) in Southern Africa have also sought support from the ACHPR in protecting their ancestral land rights and cultural heritage, especially in Botswana, where there have been legal battles over their right to live in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve. The ACHPR advocates for the recognition of their indigenous rights and secure a future of non-interference for them.

Blocs Expected

Alliance 1

European Union Countries, China, United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Japan, Australia Mexico, France

Colombia Chile, Argentina

This alliance includes states that were former colonial power or have exhibited patterns of controlling colonies and extending influence globally in recent days, The alliance includes four states (Mexico, Colombia, Chile and Argentina) that while being former colonies they are strongly aligned with Western powers and often operate under their sphere of influence.

Alliance 2

Russia, India, Cuba, Venezuela, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Iran, Syria, Venezuela South Africa, Nigeria, Brazil Saudi Arabia, UAE, Ethiopia Zimbabwe, Sudan, Mali, Kenya, South Africa, Botswana, Algeria, Mozambique, Philippines

This alliance includes mostly former colonies who face ongoing struggles over indigenous rights and the sovereignty of indigenous people within their territory. Nations such as Russia and Iran is included due to their strong resistance to the Western influence.

⁵⁸ "Protecting the Rights and Well-Being of Indigenous Peoples." *United Nations*, United Nations, www.un.org/en/desa/protecting-rights-and-well-being-indigenous-peoples. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

Timeline of Events

Date	Description of Event
1550 B. C .	Early forms of colonialism by empires such as Ancient Greece, Rome, Egypt, and Phoenicia begins to emerge
1419	Portugal conquered Ceuta, marking the beginning of Portugal’s empire
1492.	The discovery of Americas by Christopher Colombus, sponsored by Spain
1603	Samuel De Chapelin refers to Canada as the New France
1637	French established French Guiana,
1663	New France became a royal province
17th-18th century	France and Britain expand their territories in Africa, America and Asia
1756-1763	Seven Years’ War:France loses Canada and parts of India to Britain
1784	America establishes relations with China
21st of May 1840	Treaty of Waitangi
1839-1844	Opium War
1842	Treaty of Nanjing
1926	Balfour Declarations acknowledging dominions
1945 onwards	Decolonization process begins
1960	Declaration on the Granting of Independance to Colonial Societies and Peoples
27 November 1961	Creation of the Social Political and Decolonization Committee(GA4)

1960s-1980s	Independence movements accelerating decolonization
Late 20th century	Neo-Colonialism emerges
6th of November 2000	Resolution on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples' Communities in Africa
13 September 2007	Resolution on the Rights of Indigenous People
November 5 2011	Resolution on the Protection of Indigenous Peoples' Rights in the Context of the World Heritage Convention and the Designation of Lake Bogoria as a World Heritage site

Relevant UN Resolutions, Treaties & Events

Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Societies and Peoples, 14th December 1960 (A/RES/1512)

This resolution, that was passed by the General Assembly in 1960, mentioned the 3 ways by which a former colony can become a self-governed state. These include, becoming a sovereign and independent state, associating freely with an independent state, integrating into an independent state or by emergence of any other political status freely determined by its people.⁵⁹

The Declaration also addresses key principles that guide international law in alignment with UN General Assembly's Mandate under Article 13 of the United Nations Charter. These principles include the assertion that the subjugation, domination and exploitation of all peoples, are all considered violations of human's inalienable rights, as stated in Article 1. Article 2 encapsulates the rights of all people to self determination and freedom to determine their political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural development. Article 4 calls for a cessation of all armed actions against people, whereas Article 6 warns that attempts to disrupt the national unity or territorial integrity will not be tolerated. Lastly it underscores that all states must abide by the UN Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, 27th November 1961 (A/RES/1654)

The Special Political and Decolonization Committee was created to monitor and make recommendations regarding the Non-Self-Governed states. In the pursuit of that goal, they hold regional seminars every month, and hear the views of the Non-Self-Governed states, the administrative powers,

⁵⁹ Decolonization | Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, dppa.un.org/en/decolonization. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

petitions and other important stakeholders on the issue. Currently it consists of 29 members.⁶⁰ In accordance with GA resolution 1654 (XVI), the C24 was mandated to examine the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by 24 Member States. The C-24 annually reviews the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories to which the Declaration is applicable. It also hears statements from representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at its annual sessions, dispatches visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories and annually organizes regional seminars.⁶¹

Resolution on the Rights of Indigenous People, 13 September 2007 (A/RES/61/295)

It was passed by the General Assembly in September 2007 with 144 votes in favor, 11 abstentions and four states against that include Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. Since then many states have changed their position, as the four states against endorsed the declaration. It was viewed as a triumph for justice and human rights, as it thoroughly declares the rights that indigenous people must have and other states must respect. To this day, it is considered the most comprehensive instrument that describes the rights of indigenous peoples in international law and policy, and mentions the standards for the recognition, protection and promotion of these rights.

Resolution on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples' Communities in Africa - ACHPR/Res.51(XXVIII)00

The Declaration addresses both individual and collective rights, cultural rights and identity rights to education, health, employment, language, and others. It promotes their full and effective participation in all matters that concern indigenous societies. It also grants them their right to remain distinct and to pursue their own priorities in economic, social and cultural development. The Declaration contributes to the formation of harmonious and cooperative relations between States and indigenous peoples.⁶²

This resolution was passed by the African Commission on Human Rights and Peoples' Rights at the 28th Ordinary Session in Cotonou, from the 23rd of October to the 6th of November 2000. The Resolution suggested the creation of a group of experts, constituting of 2 members of the African Commission, that would ensure the indigenous rights to ethnic communities in Africa by examining the concept of

⁶⁰ *Decolonization* | Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, dppa.un.org/en/decolonization. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁶¹ "Special Committee on Decolonization | The United Nations and Decolonization." *United Nations*, United Nations, www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/about. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁶² *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* | Ohchr, www.ohchr.org/en/indigenous-peoples/un-declaration-rights-indigenous-peoples. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

indigenous people and communities in Africa and studying the implications of the well being of these communities in regards of their right to quality, dignity, self determination, protection against dominative foreign powers and promotion of cultural development and identity. ⁶³The protective mandate encapsulates the considerable complaints of human rights violations in these countries from individuals, NGOs or other state parties.⁶⁴

Previous Attempts to Solve the Issue

Treaty of Waitangi

The Treaty of Waitangi was signed between the British crown and Maori chiefs on the 6th of February 1840, the place in the Bay of Islands, from which it takes its name. The first British migrants arrived in New Zealand in the late 1830s and soon realized that by annexing New Zealand the country could protect Maori, regulate British subjects and secure personal interests. Lieutenant-Governor William Hobson was charged to fulfill this goal, by signing the Treaty which was translated from English into Maori on the 4th of February. Hobson reassured the indigenous community that their status and sovereignty would be maintained and strengthened. For about 4 months, the chiefs were debating on whether to ratify the treaty. It was officially proclaimed on the 21st of May 1840.

The Treaty is a foundational agreement between the British and Māori establishing a political compact to found a nation state and government in New Zealand. The Treaty is a broad statement of principles on which the British and Māori made a political compact to found a nation state and build a government in New Zealand. Since the 1970s, there has been a growing movement among Māori to have the principles of the Treaty upheld. This includes protests, for instance by marching on Parliament and by occupying land. It is common now to refer to the intention, spirit or principles of the Treaty. The Treaty of Waitangi is not considered part of New Zealand domestic law, except where its principles are referred to in Acts of Parliament. The exclusive right to determine the meaning of the Treaty rests with the Waitangi Tribunal, a commission of inquiry established in 1975 to investigate alleged breaches of the Treaty by the Crown. ⁶⁵

⁶³ "Resolution on the Recognition and Protection of the Right of Participation, Governance and Use of Natural Resources by Indigenous and Local Populations in Africa - ACHPR/Res. 489 (LXIX)2021." *African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights*, achpr.au.int/en/adopted-resolutions/489-resolution-recognition-and-protection-right-participation-gove. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁶⁴ "Prelims." *Prelims | Emerald Insight*, www.emerald.com/insight/content/doi/10.1108/978-1-83797-108-420231007/full/html. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

⁶⁵ "The Treaty of Waitangi." *Live & Work New Zealand*, www.live-work.immigration.govt.nz/live-in-new-zealand/history-government/the-treaty-of-waitangi. Accessed 23 Jan. 2025.

Resolution on the Protection of Indigenous Peoples' Rights in the Context of the World Heritage Convention and the Designation of Lake Bogoria as a World Heritage site - ACHPR/Res.197(L)2011

This resolution was adopted on November 5 2011 in Banjul, in Gambia during the African Commission on human and Peoples' Rights 50th Ordinary Session. Its purpose was to protect Lake Bogoria and support its designation as a World Heritage site. The resolution highlights that the preservation of the lake aligns with article 22 of the African Charter which recognizes the rights of all people to economic, social and cultural development, requiring states to abstain from intervening. The lake is surrounded by the ancestral lands of the Endorois, who hold the rightful ownership and whose rights must be protected. Furthermore, the resolution states that the decision aligns with the principles set forth in the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, and thus urges for the classification of Lake Bogoria as a World Heritage site. It also encourages the vitality of Endorois' full and effective participation in the decision making process through their representative institutions, enabling them to fight for their land and address the violation of their ownership rights under Article 22 of the African Charter. Lastly, the resolution suggests the active involvement of the indigenous people to the decision making processes affecting their integrity by advising the World Heritage Committee.⁶⁶

Possible Solutions

Institutional support for Non-Self-Governed states

UN entities, specialized agencies and international organizations must collaborate with the administrative powers to ensure the well being of the citizens by facilitating their access to essential needs such as infrastructure, education and healthcare that citizens in such states may lack. This will allow the people in these non-self governed societies to achieve sustainable standards of living, and improve their quality of life. Education, in particular, is a critical tool to empower these citizens, offering them a plethora of opportunities, enabling social mobility and breaking the cycle of poverty in these states. Furthermore, through education, indigenous languages can be preserved, protecting not only cultural heritage but also indigenous knowledge about nature, and natural remedies that can enhance healthcare, fostering social cohesion and bridging the cultural gap between societies

⁶⁶ "Indigenous Peoples' Rights in the Context of the World Heritage Convention – the Role of IUCN." *IUCN*, 11 Mar. 2020, www.iucn.org/content/indigenous-peoples-rights-context-world-heritage-convention-role-iucn.

Moreover, these entities can help these states develop sustainable infrastructure that will contribute to the long-term economic independence of these states. They could encourage the administrative powers to support local businesses and create job opportunities instead of exploiting cheaper labor for personal gain. These practices will ensure that the environment created, allows local community to thrive while preserving their cultural identity.

Encouragement of C-24 to continue dispatching visiting mission to the Non-Self-Governed states

To effectively address the issue and ensure the independence of Non-Self-Governed states, international organizations must observe the situation and the conditions of living on the ground. Thus, it is crucial that states support the deployment of visiting missions, sent and funded by the GA4 to these states to gather first hand information. This will enable them to assess local needs and identify critical issues, including human rights violations and abuses of power. By being aware of conditions of living, the international bodies will be able to narrow down where the problems and issues lie, therefore, target the most vulnerable sectors ensuring the protection of citizen's freedoms and rights and strengthening the independence and sustainability of these states.

Cooperation with local stakeholders

International organizations can cooperate with local civil society organizations, community leaders and indigenous groups to fully understand the needs of these populations so they could target them. Local civil society organizations are essential in advocating for the independence of their state, educating the citizens about the ongoing issues and empowering them to actively participate in their fight for autonomy and independence and contribute to solutions. By collaborating, the stakeholders can develop a more effective approach that involves citizens, in addressing vital problem within the state such as human rights violations, economic disparities and destruction of cultural heritage. Local organizations can assist in raising awareness among the population about the nature of these violations, their impact in their state, strategies to combat the growing poverty and injustice and, above all, the vitality of preserving the nation's cultural identity.

Establishment of task forces

The establishment of task forces, consisting of specialists, local civil society representatives, indigenous leaders, to monitor the progress in the Non-Self-governed states, upon receiving aid from international organizations is crucial to ensure that the indigenous peoples and societies are still not being exploited by the administrative powers. These task forces would be assigned to regulate and the application of development projects, that enhance citizen's access to essential needs and evaluate their effectiveness ensuring that they are attributed equitably to all the citizens in need found in these states. They would also be responsible to conduct relevant research and consultation before the project begins

to be aware of the ways they can evaluate the effectiveness of these projects and the extent to which they safeguard the rights of indigenous people. Their role would be to conduct thorough continuous reevaluation of the situation and living conditions after the aid and identify if there are any emerging issues. To ensure accountability and give indigenous communities a voice, task forces could offer feedback tools, where the indigenous people would be free to narrate their own experiences and the negative or positive changes in the conditions of their life.

Furthermore, the task forces must ensure that aid delivery is culturally sensitive, particularly when implementing projects in the ancestral lands of indigenous communities. To make sure that the programs installed respect local beliefs, customs, values and practices and that development initiatives are successfully incorporated into their way of life, they must keep an eye on how aid is being delivered. In addition to defending the rights of indigenous peoples, such a considerate approach fosters inclusive, sustainable development that respects their unique identity. This approach does not only safeguard the rights of indigenous peoples and preserve their heritage but also promotes sustainable and inclusive development that is respectful of their cultural identity, and does not further violate their rights.

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