

# B A C K G R O U N D G U I D E

**WHO:** DEALING WITH THE SANITARY CRISES IN INDIGENOUS  
POPULATIONS AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS.

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## W H O WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



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**ALEMUN 2023**

**CHAIRS:** Gabriel Cajueiro e Gabriel Radwanski

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**GABRIEL CAJUEIRO**

# 1. Greeting Word

Dear delegates,

Welcome to the ALEMUN 2023!

We are Gabriel Cajueiro from 11th grade (11C2) and Gabriel Radwanski from 12th grade (12C1), from Deutsche Schule Corcovado. As your chairs, we are looking forward to meeting you and hearing you debate your ideas and resolutions for solving such an important international issue. The discussions and decisions made by the WHO Council are important because they work worldwide to promote health, keep the world safe, and serve the vulnerable. Our goal is to ensure that a billion more people have universal health coverage, to protect a billion more people from health emergencies, and provide a further billion people with better health and well-being. This year we will be debating "DEALING WITH THE SANITARY CRISES IN INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS AND POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS". WHO is the United Nations agency that connects nations, partners and people to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable. Thus everyone everywhere can attain the highest level of health. Indigenous Peoples have sought recognition of their identities, way of life and their right to traditional lands, territories and natural resources for years, yet throughout history, their rights have always been violated. Indigenous Peoples today, are arguably among the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of people in the world. The international community now recognizes that special measures are required to protect their rights and maintain their distinct cultures and way of life. We wish you all good luck preparing yourselves for the debate and please remember we are always open to questions and to help you anytime you need, if there are any doubts don't hesitate to ask us.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Cajueiro and Gabriel Radwanski

**GABRIEL RADWANSKI**



# 2. WHO

## 2.1 Introduction to the Committee

Created in 1948 as part of the United Nations, the WHO has a broad mandate to guide and coordinate international health policy. Its primary activities include developing partnerships with other global health initiatives, conducting research, setting norms, providing technical support, and monitoring health trends around the world. Over the decades, the WHO's remit has expanded from its original focus on women's and children's health, nutrition, sanitation, and fighting malaria and tuberculosis

## 2.2 WHO's mission

The WHO's official mandate is to promote health and safety while helping the vulnerable worldwide. It provides technical assistance to countries, sets international health standards, collects data on global health issues, and serves as a forum for scientific or policy discussions related to health. Sanitary crises is a current problem, in which minority groups lack the access to a decent quality of life. All around the world - especially Latin and South Countries - indigenous are continuously denied their rights to healthcare, mostly seen as undeserving and unimportant to our society. A dedicated political entity to try and serve the more disadvantaged, the creation of The WHO came about the insurance for universal health care coverage no matter the circumstances.

# 3. Topic Background

## 3.1 Explaining the concept of Sanitary Crisis

The lack of sanitary measures poses a grave health threat to Indigenous peoples around the world. Indigenous communities experience poor access to healthcare, significantly higher rates of diseases, lack of access to essential services and other key preventive measures. Likewise, most nearby local medical facilities, if and when there are any, are often under-equipped and under-staffed. Even when Indigenous peoples are able to access healthcare services, they can face stigma and discrimination. A key factor is to ensure these services and facilities are provided in indigenous languages as well as appropriate to the specific situation. As the number of diseases caused by the lack of basic sanitary treatment rises in economically disadvantaged countries, as well as the high mortality rates among certain vulnerable groups, data on the rate of illness in Indigenous peoples are either not yet available (even where reporting and testing are available), or not recorded by ethnicity. Relevant information about infectious diseases and preventive measures is also not available in indigenous languages. Indigenous peoples experience a high degree of socio-economic marginalization and are at disproportionate risk in public health emergencies, becoming even more vulnerable during this health crisis, owing to factors such as their lack of access to effective monitoring and adequate health and social services. Yet, native peoples are seeking their own solutions to this issue as well as help from empowered countries. Under new resolution, countries will develop, finance and implement national health plans for Indigenous peoples that ensure their equal right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

## 3.2 Overview

### Dealing with the sanitary crises in indigenous populations and possible solutions

The World Health Organization aims to further the worldwide attendance to health topics on communities precariousness. Beyond debate, the WHO expects politics to bring and improve the situation of "Indigenous people sanitary crises". Although ideas are brought to attention, the representatives need to find rational solutions to face the problem, taking in mind all the steps necessary for an impactful change.

Recent occurrences - such as the COVID-19 Pandemic and worldwide government actions - have severely impacted the well-being of native communities. Those located in south-hemisphere have brought the attention to the media which serves as a way to show how left-out they have been throughout the years.

Although they are the first inhabitants of countries, indigenous peoples still suffer from situations of social discrimination, neglect of their rights and the constant silencing of their voice by the state and society. In addition to their traditions, indigenous lives are at constant risk of extinction due to the lack of application and enforcement of the necessary rules. As natives continue to bear different and additional burdens of sanitation, the more they must be represented in all decision-making platforms on: conflict prevention, rights to land, healthcare, education, equality and so on.

# 4. Important information sources about the countries

## 4.1. United States of America

- <https://www.who.int/countries/usa/>

## 4.2. Russian Federation

- <https://www.who.int/countries/rus/>

## 4.3. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

- <https://www.who.int/countries/gbr/>

## 4.4. People's Republic of China

- <https://www.who.int/countries/chn/>

## 4.5. French Republic

- <https://www.who.int/countries/fra/>

## 4.6. Federative Republic of Brazil

- <https://www.who.int/countries/bra/>

## 4.7. Commonwealth of Australia

- <https://www.who.int/countries/aus/>

## 4.8. Republic of Peru

- <https://www.who.int/countries/per/>

## 4.9. The United Mexican States

- <https://www.who.int/countries/mex/>

## 4.10. Republic of the Philippines

- <https://www.who.int/countries/fil/>

## 4.11. The Republic of Guatemala

- <https://www.who.int/countries/gua/>

## 4.12. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

- <https://www.who.int/countries/ven/>

## 4.13. Republic of Indonesia

- <https://www.who.int/countries/ind/>

## 4.14. Plurinational State of Bolivia

- <https://www.who.int/countries/bol/>



# 5. Important for the preparation of the debate

## 5.1 Topics to focus on during the debate

- Access to Clean Water and Sanitation
- Healthcare Infrastructure
- Health Education and Awareness

## 5.2 Guiding Question

| For the debate and personal research:

- How can we increase participation of indigenous peoples in/at Conflict resolution and Decision-making tasks
  - How can natives protect from living in precarious situations and other conflicts under local occupation?
  - How can we promote indigenous contribution to fostering a state of equality?
  - How can we provide protection, assistance and training to indigenous communities?
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- We also suggest you use this website, incase you need help to improve and deepen the research about your country  
<https://bestdelegate.com/research/>

# 6. Further reading and bibliography

While doing your Position Paper keep in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, respecting all of the articles, as well. [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#)

The official website of the council: <https://www.who.int/>

## | Topic Background:

<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/sanitation>

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2019/10/eight-things-you-need-to-know-ab>

[out-the-sanitation-crisis/](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/)

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/water-and-sanitation/> <https://water.org/our-impact/water-crisis/global-sanitation-crisis/>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/stories/2022/10/indigenous-peoples-face-growing-challenges->

[acce](#)

[ss-safe-water](#)

**Good luck,  
delegates!**

