

Position Paper

Name of Country: Nicaragua

Name of Committee: Human Rights Council

Name of School: IES Miguel Herrero

Name of Delegates: Yeray Castillo and Alba Aguirre

The most important thing about Nicaragua is that it is largest country in the region and also the poorest. It is located between the Pacific Ocean to the west and the Caribbean Sea to the east. It borders Honduras to the north and with Costa Rica to the south. The present president is Daniel Ortega. It has a population of more than 5 million and a GDP per capita of \$ 3000. The rights of indigenous people are an important issue in Nicaragua because they are a big part of country. The Human Rights Committee should address the issue because it affects many people and their lives.

The problems of the indigenous people such as the Creoles, Mayagnas, Ramas and Garifunas are: political and judicial corruption of the government which violates Articles 8, 10, and 37 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, illiteracy (Article 14), extreme poverty (Article 17), irregular distribution of the territories (Article 26) and they don't have documents. The most important issue is that the government does not comply with their rights.

Nicaragua has addressed this issue by writing a statute of autonomy for the indigenous groups with all their rights. The national measures that the government of the indigenous towns takes, in Nicaragua, sometimes can end disputes between the government and indigenous people.

It has requested aid from Cuba to improve the living conditions of the indigenous towns, by means of alphabetization and the improvement of the medical and sanitary fields. And also it counts on the diverse collaboration of international NGOs.

NGOs that work in Nicaragua by addressing human rights are:

- ANPDH (Nicaraguan Association Pro Human Rights).
- CENIDH (Nicaraguan Center of Human Rights).
- FIDH (Federation the International of Human Rights).
- Foundation Impulse.
- CODENI.
- PIDHDP (Inter-American Platform of Human Rights, Democracy and Participation).

Nicaragua has signed all the international agreements, resolutions and treaties, in support of the indigenous towns, including the Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. Nicaragua is also a member of the UN Human Rights Committee which helps indigenous peoples.

Nicaragua's recommendations are to compensate the indigenous people or give them shares of the works that are made in their territories. Nicaragua believes that other countries (Ukraine, Nigeria, Mexico, and France) must change their attitudes about human rights and indigenous peoples, doing to carry out their rights and respect the lives, customs, languages, traditions of indigenous peoples.

The solution to this problem is not in the economic contributions to the government but in making sure that they help them. Nicaragua recommends that the UN send people from other governments to investigate the corruption. And later to make sure that they have territories that correspond to them. When this has been obtained, to provide volunteers of NGOs with the materials necessary to maintain and to develop the indigenous people's languages and cultures. It is very important for the indigenous people to have greater indigenous representation in the political and social scopes.

In the words of Augusto Zamora, the ambassador of Nicaragua to Spain, "You can make countries sign the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, but you can't make them fulfill it." It is important that countries work to fulfill the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.

Nicaragua believes that the best way to end with the indigenous peoples problems is to send financial assistance, investigate the government, and have professional people teach the indigenous people how to write and read. Nicaragua depends on the collaboration of every member country of the UN.