



**INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL  
42<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE  
SEPTEMBER 9 - 11, 2016  
PU'UHONUA VILLAGE, WAIMANALO, OAHU HAWAII**

**Resolution on Cultural Rights, Sacred Sites and Repatriation**

**The delegates at this conference representing Indigenous Peoples from North, Central, and South America, the Arctic, Caribbean and the Pacific adopt by consensus the following resolution to defend the Rights of Indigenous Peoples:**

1. We reaffirm the IITC Resolution on the Protection of Sacred Areas, Cultural and Spiritual Rights adopted at the Phillip Deere Family Roundhouse Okemah, Oklahoma in 2014.
2. IITC recognizes with appreciation the political, tribal, spiritual, cultural and traditional leaders and knowledge holders working to protect, restore and repatriate Indigenous Peoples' ancestral and human remains, funerary objects, ceremonial items and items of cultural significance.
3. IITC encourages Indigenous Peoples, Tribal Nations, international and domestic bodies to resolve internal issues that prevents the repatriation of ancestral and human remains, sacred objects, items of cultural significance, as well as restoration of languages and protection of sacred sites by creating peace-making processes to provide options and solutions.
4. IITC will commit to provide technical assistance to Hickory Ground Tribal Town of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to determine the whereabouts of their ancestral and human remains, items of cultural significance and burial objects, including by requesting information from the United States Government as the primary responsible party for the desecration of their ceremonial and burial grounds.
5. IITC will participate in filing a joint submission to the United Nations Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances addressing the United States' responsibility in the deaths and disappearances of many of the Indigenous children taken into custody by the United States under its boarding school policies carried out for the purpose of committing genocide and forced assimilation through the destruction of Indigenous Peoples' cultures and languages.
6. IITC calls upon States (Countries) to provide information for an international database on the Indigenous Peoples' Indigenous Peoples' ancestral and human remains, funerary objects, ceremonial items and items of cultural significance being held within their Country. This will facilitate Indigenous Peoples to directly access information about where sacred items are currently being housed in violation of their free prior and informed consent so that they can begin a process to ensure their return.
7. IITC will continue working on establishing an international mechanism or process at the United Nations for the repatriation of Indigenous Peoples Indigenous Peoples' ancestral and human

remains, funerary objects, ceremonial items and items of cultural significance. This will include participating in and coordinating the United Nations ad hoc working group on international repatriation and working with relevant UN bodies as well as with impacted Indigenous Peoples from around the world.

8. IITC calls upon States, Insular Territories, the United Nations and the private sector to immediately halt the international transport of Indigenous Peoples' sacred, ceremonial and cultural items and their ancestral and human remains until their free prior and informed consent can be ascertained and ensured, and will work for the established for effective regulatory standards in this regard.

***Adopted by consensus on September 11<sup>th</sup> 2016,  
Waimanalo, Hawaii***