

The Arctic Council: Topic B Primary Sources

The Protection of the Indigenous Arctic Peoples

Here are the primary sources that your moderator or legal chair thought would be helpful in gaining an understanding of the topic. These are by no means all of the sources available, just sources we wanted to highlight.

Source 1: Declaration on the Establishment of the Arctic Council

This document is the basis of the Arctic Council and provides reasons why the council was developed and what roles it will serve. Delegates should pay special attention to operative number two which dictates the specific member states that will serve on the council and the role of indigenous groups as permanent participants. This source is important because it will help delegates comprehend how the council operates and the involvement that indigenous peoples have in the council's processes and the drafting of pertinent resolutions.

https://oaarchive.arctic-council.org/bitstream/handle/11374/85/EDOCS-1752-v2-ACMMCA00_Ottawa_1996_Founding_Declaration.PDF?sequence=5&isAllowed=y

Source 2: UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

This source outlines the United Nation's platform on the rights of indigenous peoples. The UN Declaration includes the minimum rights that are essential in the protection of indigenous peoples around the globe. Although this is internationally based rather than specific to the Arctic Region, it can be used as a basic framework for the delegates to improve upon and add region specificity.

www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/DRIPS_en.pdf

Source 3: Meeting report of the Conference on Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change, Copenhagen, 21 – 22 February 2008

Representatives at the Conference on Indigenous Peoples and Climate Change examined the impact of climate change on indigenous populations and provided recommendations to diminish the negative effects. Protection from climate change will be an important aspect to the discussion that delegates will engage in within the Arctic Council. Delegates should use this source to understand how climate change will affect indigenous peoples and attain an idea about the possible solutions.

http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/documents/E_C_19_2008_CRP3_en.pdf

Source 4: Arctic Human Development Report 2015

The 2015 Arctic Human Development report demonstrates trends that have been noted since the first volume in 2004. It shares success stories and also current gaps in knowledge in the Arctic Region.

This source will be helpful in the comprehension of not only how the region has improved over ten years, but also which areas continue to lack progress and require further discussion.

<http://norden.diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A788965&dswid=-7933>

Source 5: UNESCO "Climate Change and Arctic Sustainable Development: Scientific, Social, Cultural and Educational Challenges"

Delegates can gain a wide variety of valuable information from this source on different aspects on indigenous life. This publication includes different sections relating to the overall impacts on Arctic peoples, however each section has at least one subsection specifically for indigenous peoples. It

includes discussion about health and well-being, culture, and education which are issues that are important to the overall topic of protecting indigenous peoples.

<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001863/186364e.pdf>

Source 6: Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Report on the 16th Session, 2017

This session took place from the end of April to the beginning of May 2017. This source will provide delegates with an outline of current issues that are facing indigenous populations today, and also demonstrate solutions that other international bodies have proposed. Representatives cite their concern with the implementation of international policy relating to the rights of indigenous peoples. They encourage the increased allotment of resources to agencies that have the capacity to serve indigenous peoples properly and ensure their rights are being protected.

<https://undocs.org/en/E/2017/43>