

Activity Report 2022

The main focus of our work was:

Continuation of activities for the **ratification of the ILO Convention 169** on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by Austria.

Protest action for the pardon and release of the indigenous political prisoner, **Leonard Peltier**

Participation in the meeting of the **UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples** (EMRIP) at the UN in Geneva

Participation in the **"Volunteer Fair"** to learn about opportunities to recruit activists.

Organizational activities

January 2022

General Assembly of the "European Alliance for the Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples" (hereinafter referred to as the "Alliance") by Zoom. The Alliance consists of the following members:

Aktionsgruppe Indianer & Menschenrechte (AGIM), München, Deutschland;
www.aktionsgruppe.de

Arbeitskreis Indianer Nordamerikas (AKIN), Wien, Österreich; www.arbeitskreis-indianer.at

Comité de Solidarité avec les Indiens des Amériques (CSIA-NITASSINAN), Paris, France: www.csia-nitassinan.org

Internationales Komitee für die Indigenen Amerikas Schweiz, Zürich, Schweiz:
www.incomindios.ch

MENSCHENRECHTE 3000 e.V. (HUMAN RIGHTS 3000), Freiburg, Deutschland:
www.menschenrechte3000.de

Tokata-LPSG RheinMain e.V.; Seligenstadt, Germany: www.leonardpeltier.de

Verein zur Unterstützung nordamerikanischer Indianer (ASNAI), Berlin, Deutschland:
www.asnai.de

The Alliance Board of Directors was re-elected and consists of:

Chairman:	Peter Schwarzbauer (AKIN)
Deputy Chairman:	Sylvain Duez-Alesandrini (CSIA-NITASSINAN)
Treasurer:	Monika Seiller (AGIM)
Deputy Treasurer:	Helena Nyberg (Incomindios Switzerland)

March 2022	General Assembly AKIN - The existing board was re-elected.
	Chairman: Peter Schwarzbauer
	Deputy Chairman: Gawan Maringer
	Treasurer: Matthias Neitsch
	Without specific function: Angelika Fröch
January- Mathias December 2022	Weekly meetings of AKIN via ZOOM, some meetings already held again physically at Neitsch's place.
March-October 2022	In addition to the Alliance's General Assembly, three virtual meetings and one physical meeting (UN Geneva; on the occasion of the "Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples [EMRIP]) took place throughout the year.

Campaigns/Protest actions

January- Rights of December 2022	Continuation of the activities for the ratification of the ILO Convention 169 on the Indigenous Peoples by Austria in cooperation with the legal anthropologist, Dr. René Kuppe. A "Coordination Circle ILO 169 Austria", which in addition to AKIN includes 9 NGOs from the development, environmental/climate, church and human rights sectors, could be consolidated. After decades of efforts by various NGOs, the Convention had been ratified by Germany in June 2021. Dr. Kuppe had also intensively accompanied this process in Germany. The meetings of the coordination circle took place about once a month.
January 2022	Alliance appeal to US President Biden for the pardon and release of political prisoner Leonard Peltier, who has been imprisoned for 46 years. AKIN also sent the letter to the US Embassy in Vienna and the Austrian Embassy in the USA.
February 2022	Action for the release of the indigenous activist from US prison in Vienna's Boltzmannngasse near the US Embassy Alliance letter to German Chancellor, Olaf Scholz, to advocate for Leonard Peltier's pardon and release at meeting with U.S. President Biden
March 2022	Alliance Urgent Appeal to the President of the UN Human Rights Council, H.E. Federico Villegas, in Support of the Indigenous Crimean Tartars in the Context of the Ukraine War
June 2022	Repeated Alliance appeal to U.S. President Biden for pardon and release of political prisoner Leonard Peltier, who has been incarcerated for 46 years
July 2022	Alliance protest letter to the Attorney General of British Columbia/Canada in support of Wet'suwet'en "Land Defenders" in their opposition to the Coastal Gaslink Pipeline (CGP)
September 2022	Congratulatory letter from the Alliance to the new UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Dr. Volker Türk, requesting face-to-face meetings at UN meetings on indigenous rights

Media work/Press releases/Press reports

02/08/2022	Report in the "Kinderkurier" about the action for the release of Leonard Peltier "Seriously ill indigenous activist in US custody for 46 years" („Schwerstkranker indigener Aktivist seit 46 Jahren in US-Haft“)
06/22/2022	AKIN press release to a selected group of journalists on the occasion of the 146th anniversary of the Battle of Little Big Horn (06/25/1876)
06/26/2022	Report by ORF-correspondent Inka Pieh on the topic of residential schools on the occasion of the Pope's visit to Canada in the ORF program "Orientierungen"
08/08/2022	Press release: UN Day of Indigenous Peoples, August 9, 2022. Few rays of hope for indigenous peoples worldwide. This year's main theme of the UN Day was: "The role of indigenous women in the preservation and transmission of traditional knowledge"
08/25/2022	on the occasion of the debate about the cinema release of the children's film "Der junge Häuptling Winnetou" 2 interviews/articles (Kleine Zeitung) and a TV report (ORF III) were published due to our mediation: 1) with Stefan Yazzie: "Navajo-Austrians: "How can we enlighten when people live in the past?" 2) with Michael Paul Hill / San Carlos Apache: "Reality of the Apaches: "Winnetou would die of cancer today". 3) Interview of ORFIII with Stefan Yazzie
11/28/2022	Ö1 Radio Journal Panorama. A program about the situation of the Indians in the USA today by Sebastian Hesse (based partly on AKIN information)

Articles written for the AKIN website (<https://www.arbeitskreis-indianer.at/>)

January 2022	Stiegner, G.: Chief Hollow Horn Bear's ceremonial shirt has returned. (<i>Das Zeremonienhemd von Chief Hollow Horn Bear ist zurückgekehrt.</i>) Nyberg, H.: Canada's Resistance to Justice. How Canada's Indigenous peoples are standing their ground. Adapted with kind permission from MagazINC 55 (Incomindios Switzerland) (<i>Kanadas Widerstand gegen Gerechtigkeit. Wie die Indigenen Völker Kanadas sich behaupten.</i>)
February 2022	Gamillscheg, M.: 46 Minutes for 46 Years: A Vigil for Leonard Peltier (<i>46 Minuten für 46 Jahre: Eine Mahnwache für Leonard Peltier</i>)
March 2022	Nyberg, H.: Chronology of resistance in Canada. "We will not be criminalized". Reproduced with kind permission from MagazINC 57 (Incomindios Switzerland) (<i>Chronologie des Widerstandes in Kanada. «Wir lassen uns nicht kriminalisieren»</i>) Running Horse Collin, Y.: Yes, there were horses in indigenous cultures before the settlers came. Translation Peter Schwarzbauer/Angelika Frösch. Adopted with kind permission from the digital edition of the magazine "Indian Country Today", Aug. 30, 2021 (<i>Ja, es gab Pferde in indigenen Kulturen, bevor die Siedler kamen</i>)
May 2022	Schwarzbauer, P.: From Karl May demoniac to human rights activist. An extraordinary story of development. Adopted with kind permission from Coyote 94 (AGIM Munich) (<i>Vom Karl-May-Besessenen zum Menschenrechtsaktivisten. Eine außergewöhnliche Entwicklungsgeschichte</i>)

Events

June 2022

Presentation by Peter Schwarzbauer to the Austrian Karl May Society on the topic: Indians of North America - still a fight for survival (*Vortrag von Peter Schwarzbauer vor der österr. Karl-May-Gesellschaft zum Thema: Indianer Nordamerikas - immer noch ein Kampf ums Überleben*)

Indigenous visits

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, there were no physical visits to AKIN by indigenous people in 2022.

Miscellaneous

Participation in the so-called "**Volunteer Fair**" 08. and 09. October 2022 to learn about opportunities for recruitment of activists. As a consequence, three profiles for volunteer activities were developed, which are relevant for AKIN. These include the following:

- Facebook Editor
- Project coordinator for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- Research / Documentation for Divest Campaign

Details in our Website: <https://www.arbeitskreis-indianer.at/mitarbeit/>

Regular distribution of the **newsletter** by e-mail to all interested parties registered on our homepage: News of current events and new articles on our website about the situation of indigenous peoples of North America. Regular posts and links of current articles and videos on our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/arbeitskreisindianer/>)



Vigil „Free Leonard Peltier“ near the US-Embassy in Vienna



AKIN Information booth at the „Volunteer Fair“



Meeting of the European Alliance at the UN in Geneva