

I wanted to reiterate the comments of my colleague Alvaro Pop.

As you all know, we now have a significantly new composition of the Permanent Forum.

However, each of the members have a long history of involvement in the work of advancing Indigenous human rights in a broad range of issues as well as domestic and international venues.

At our recent, Permanent Forum pre-session meeting we discussed the theme for forthcoming eleventh session, which was identified as the ***Doctrine of Discovery: its enduring impact on indigenous peoples and the right to redress for past conquests (articles 28 and 37 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples)***.

In regard to this proposed theme, the Permanent Forum members firmly agreed that we intend to be **forward looking** by emphasizing and re-defining the future of Indigenous and state relations and redress.

Such initiatives, consistent with the right of self-determination and couched in terms of increased Indigenous political participation in relation to constitutional, legislative, and domestic policy change, reconciliation, and all other methods to re-define Indigenous/State relations.

Such an approach is an equally important lens through which to understand the Doctrine of Discovery and our collective effort to develop a vision of the future for implementation of the UN Declaration, and our respective attempts to promote international peace and security for Indigenous peoples.