

1. What is Free, Prior, and Informed Consent?

Speaker 1: 1 Do you know what the right to Free, Prior, and Informed
2 consent is?

Speaker 1:

3 Of course! It is the right that our communities have to
4 be informed by the government
5 about mining, petroleum, water, and other
6 projects that may be implemented
7 within our communities. What's more,
8 The government has an obligation to listen and value
9 our opinions so together we can reach
10 an agreement before any project is carried out.
11 For more information, visit [cultural survival dot org slash consent](https://culturalsurvival.org/consent)
[culturalsurvival.org/consent or cs.org/consent]

2. An Indigenous Right

Speaker 1:

- 1 From birth, every human being has certain rights
- 2 that cannot be taken away, and as Indigenous
- 3 Peoples, we have the right to Free,
- 4 Prior, and Informed Consent.

Speaker 4:

5 It doesn't matter what country you are from,
6 this right applies to all of us and should be implemented
7 when the government intends to exploit
8 the natural resources within our communities,
9 especially when these projects would provoke
10 harmful changes to our lands.

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3. Hold Companies Accountable

Speaker 1:

- 1 Every season I worry about our lack
- 2 of harvest; we just don't have enough land anymore
- 3 since the company moved into our community.

Speaker 2:

4 It's true, they took over our land without our Free, Prior,
5 and Informed Consent. This right protects us as an
6 indigenous community, and mandates that no work is
7 done within our lands without the company
8 or government first informing us, consulting us, and
9 listening to us. Let's take action to hold this company
10 accountable.

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4. Leaders

Speaker 1:

1 I am Indigenous. I have the
2 the right to Free, Prior, and Informed Consent, but
3 governments use many strategies to avoid
4 complying with this right. One of these strategies is to
5 identify local leaders in our communities and convince
6 them, through bribes, job offers, and other promised, to
7 work exclusively on behalf of the government or
8 development company, rather than acting in the best
9 interests of the wide community they represent. For this
10 reason, it's very important that as Indigenous Peoples we
11 elect leaders who are committed and dedicated to the
12 well-being of our people and our land, and we work
13 closely with these leaders to move forward in unity.
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5. UN Declaration, Article 10

Speaker 1:

- 1 For indigenous communities, the right to
- 2 Free, Prior, and Informed Consent is supported by
- 3 Article 10, of the UN Declaration on the
- 4 Rights of Indigenous Peoples,
- 5 which states that governments may not forcibly
- 6 displace indigenous communities from their lands
- 7 or territories, nor carry out any contracted
- 8 project on Indigenous peoples' lands without
- 9 their Free, Prior, and Informed. Consent.
- 10 For more information, visit [cultural survival dot org slash consent](http://culturalsurvival.org/consent)
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6. UN Declaration, Article 19

Speaker 1:

- 1 (echoed voice) Article 19 of The UN Declaration
- 2 on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- 3 states:
- 4 (normal voice) that states should obtain
- 5 Free, Prior and Informed Consent from
- 6 Indigenous peoples before adopting and applying
- 7 legislative or administrative measures
- 8 that affect them.
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7. Safe Communities

Speaker 1:

- 1 As Indigenous peoples we have the right to live in
- 2 safe communities, and when changes are carried out in
- 3 our lands we should look to Article 29 of the UN
- 4 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples:
- 5 This article affirms that Indigenous Peoples
- 6 must give their Free, Prior, and informed
- 7 consent before hazardous materials can be stored
- 8 or disposed of on their land.
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8. Development Projects

Speaker 1:

- 1 (talking through a microphone) No changes may be made
- 2 on our lands before first
- 3 applying Article 32 of the UN Declaration
- 4 on the rights of Indigenous Peoples
- 5 which affirms that states must
- 6 obtain Free Prior and Informed Consent
- 7 before approving any development project
- 8 that would affect the lands and resources of
- 9 Indigenous Peoples, “especially in relation to
- 10 the development, use, or exploitation of
- 11 mineral, water, or other resources.
- 12 For more information, visit [cultural survival dot org slash consent](http://culturalsurvival.org/consent)
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9. International Support

Speaker 1:

- 1 As Indigenous peoples we have the right to decide
- 2 on changes that may be carried out on our
- 3 lands, as stipulated in the United Nations Declaration on
- 4 the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as well as in
- 5 Convention 169 of the International Labor
- 6 Organization and other international measures that
- 7 recognize the right to Free, Prior, and Informed
- 8 Consent. These measures declare the rights of Indigenous
- 9 peoples and oblige states to respect this right.
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10. An Inalienable Right

Speaker 1:

- 1 For Indigenous Peoples, the right to Free,
- 2 Prior, and Informed Consent is a fundamental,
- 3 inherent, and inalienable right. This means it is an
- 4 essential and necessary element of developing projects
- 5 that affect our peoples and cannot be denied us.
- 6 According to international law, Free, Prior and
- 7 Informed Consent ensures that Indigenous
- 8 communities freely decide on projects that may benefit
- 9 us and our future generations, in accordance with our
- 10 own culture, worldview, and values.
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