

2019 Decolonization Conference Proposal

Sponsors:

Guam Commission on Decolonization

University of Guam (social work, CHamoru studies, political science)

Dates:

Possibly late April 2019- date to be determined in consultation with the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples

Duration:

Two conference days & one consultation day

Location:

University of Guam (CLASS Lecture Hall/SBPA Lecture Hall)

Synopsis:

This two-day conference will engage in-depth discussion on the state of decolonization on Guam and in the region. It will examine the three-status options and explore specific governance models from varying administering powers. Two keynote addresses will be delivered- Day 1: by the Secretary of the Department of the Interior Mr. Ryan Zinke and Day 2: by the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, her Excellency Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz.

Welcoming reception- evening before Day 1

Day 1 will primarily attempt to engage the administering power in clear and direct communication on Guam's decolonization in the future. The recent statement by the U.S. Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia casts some doubt on the plausibility of the status option of free association, for example. Day 1 will attempt to engage the U.S. in discourse on foreseeable pathways to decolonization for the island. Day 1 will begin with Opening Remarks by the newly elected Governor of Guam appraising the community and participants on the status of the island's decolonization efforts. This will be followed by a morning keynote from Secretary Zinke. Following the keynote address, a morning panel discussion will ensue on Guam's efforts to realize decolonization. This panel will be comprised of the Executive Director of the Guam Commission on Decolonization, as well as each of the three task force chairpersons. Following lunch, there will be a panel discussion from other U.S. colonized peoples to share and compare strategies for achieving decolonization. Experts from Hawai'i, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands will present in the afternoon panel discussion. Day 1 will close with discussion on specific strategies for realizing decolonization, in consultation with Secretary Zinke.

Day 2 will primarily focus on regional efforts and strategies to achieve decolonization. The Opening Remarks will be delivered by the Governor of Guam as a report out on the directions and strategies developed in Day 1. The morning keynote address will be delivered by the UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Issues, who will speak to the intersectionality of the rights of indigenous and colonized peoples, using the UNDRIP as her framework. This will be followed by a morning plenary panel of experts from New Caledonia (Kanak- French), Maohi Nui (Tahiti- French), and Tokelau (New Zealand). The afternoon will end with case examples from countries who've recently decolonized with each of the three status options: Republic of Belau, Timor Leste, and Hong Kong- sharing their experiences of decolonization.

Closing reception to follow.

Day 3 will entail consultations as needed.

Proposed Budget

Venue (UOG- 2 days, venue for receptions)	\$750
Food- welcoming reception, lunch each day, closing reception 4 events x 175 people x \$9/pp	\$6,300
Airfare (12 people x \$2,000)	\$24,000
Hotel Accommodations \$200 x 4 days x 12 people	\$9,600
Per Diem \$87 x 5 days x 12 people	\$5,220
Ground Transportation 4 transport to/from conference every day	\$1,000
Conference Supplies	\$1,000
Gifts (12 x \$50)	\$600
TOTAL:	\$48,470

POTENTIAL EXPERTS

1. Wilma Reverón Collazo, Puerto Rico
2. Mililani Trask, Hawai'i
3. Carlyle Corbin, U.S. Virgin Islands
4. Oscar Temanu, Maohi Nui
5. Nick McClellan, Kanaky
6. Roman Bador, Republic of Belau

Secretary Ryan Zinke, U.S. Department of Interior

Ryan Zinke was sworn in as the 52nd Secretary of the Interior on March 1, 2017.

A fifth-generation Montanan and former U.S. Navy SEAL Commander, Ryan Zinke built one of the strongest track records in the 114th Congress on championing sportsmen's access, conservation, regulatory relief, forest management, responsible energy development, and smart management of federal lands.

"As a former Navy SEAL, Ryan has incredible leadership skills and an attitude of doing whatever it takes to win," President Donald Trump said in nominating the former congressman, who built an impressive portfolio on Interior issues ranging from federal mineral leases to tribal affairs to public lands conservation.

Growing up in a logging and rail town near Glacier National Park, Ryan has had a lifelong appreciation for conserving America's natural beauty while honoring Teddy Roosevelt's vision of multiple-use on our public lands. He has consistently led the efforts to renew the Land and Water Conservation Fund in Congress, and has also been a firm advocate for our nation's sportsmen to gain access to our public lands with the SCORE Act and SHARE Act. Zinke also coauthored the Resilient Federal Forest Act, which initiated new reforms for revitalizing America's timber towns and preventing wildfires by emphasizing the collaborative process.

Zinke is widely praised for his voting record supporting the Teddy Roosevelt philosophy of managing public lands, which calls for multiple-use to include economic, recreation and conservation. He has pledged to explore every possibility for safely and responsibly repealing bad regulations and using public natural resources to create jobs and wealth for the American people.

"I am honored and humbled to serve Montana and America as Secretary of the Interior," Zinke said. "I shall faithfully uphold Teddy Roosevelt's belief that our treasured public lands are 'for the benefit and enjoyment of the people'. I will work tirelessly to ensure our public lands are managed and preserved in a way that benefits everyone for generations to come. Most importantly, our sovereign Indian Nations and territories must have the respect and freedom they deserve. I look forward to making the Department of the Interior and America great again."

As Secretary of the Interior, Zinke leads an agency with more than 70,000 employees who are stewards for 20 percent of the nation's lands, including national parks, monuments, wildlife refuges and other public lands. The department oversees the responsible development of conventional and renewable energy supplies on public lands and waters; is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 Western states; and upholds trust responsibilities to the 567 federally recognized American Indian tribes and Alaska Natives.

Ryan Zinke represented the state of Montana in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2014. Before that he served in the Montana State Senate from 2009 to 2011, but the bulk of his public service was 23 years as a U.S. Navy SEAL officer.

Zinke was commissioned as an officer in the Navy in 1985 and was soon selected to join the elite force where he would build an honorable career until his retirement in 2008. He retired with the rank of Commander after leading SEAL operations across the globe, including as the Deputy and Acting Commander of Joint Special Forces in Iraq and two tours at SEAL Team Six. Zinke was the first Navy SEAL elected to the U.S. House and is the first SEAL to serve as a cabinet secretary.

Zinke holds a Geology degree from the University of Oregon, where he was an All-PAC 10 football player; a Master's degree in Business Finance from National University; and a Master's degree in Global Leadership from the University of San Diego. He and his wife Lolita (Lola) have three children and two granddaughters. Zinke is proud to be an adopted member of the Assiniboine Sioux Tribe at the Fort Peck Reservation in Northeast Montana.

Biographical information - Victoria Tauli-Corpuz United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz was appointed as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples by the Human Rights Council in 2014.

In the fulfilment of her mandate, she conducts fact-finding missions and reports on the human rights situation in specific countries, addresses cases of alleged violations of the rights of indigenous peoples through communications with Governments and others, promotes good practices to implement international standards concerning the rights of indigenous peoples and conducts thematic studies on topics of special importance to the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples.

She is an indigenous leader from the Kankana-ey Igorot people of the Cordillera Region in the Philippines. As an indigenous activist, she has worked for over three decades on building movement among indigenous peoples and as an advocate for women's rights.

Ms. Tauli-Corpuz is the former Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2005-2010) has served as the chairperson-rapporteur of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. As an indigenous leader, she was actively engaged in drafting and adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007. She has founded and managed various NGOs involved in social awareness raising, climate change and the advancement of indigenous peoples' and women's rights and she is a member of United Nations Development Programme Civil Society Organizations Advisory Committee.

In her capacity as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Ms. Tauli-Corpuz has provided expert testimony before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and policy advice to *inter alia* the World Bank and the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO).