Workshop

Prior Consultation and Ethnic Inequalities: A Latin American Comparative Perspective

Tuesday, September 8th 2015
desiguAldades.net Project House
Boltzmannstrasse 1, Berlin

The global trend to implement policies targeting ethnic groups and granting them some economic and political advantages has become more and more relevant in Latin America as a result of the widespread ratification of International Labour Organisation 1989 Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (hereafter ILO 169). An overall consequence of the implementation of ILO 169 standards in the region is the reshaping of indigenous and tribal identities, which have emerged as a powerful form of political alignment that brings together a broad range of social claims. In particular, due to the recognition of the right of prior consultation, ILO 169 has become a crucial legal instrument in the region to counteract transnational dynamics aiming to gain access and control of natural resources in their territories and to negotiate social and environmental conflicts in the indigenous-state relations. In the process, however, current inter-group and intra-group inequalities could be reinforced and new inequalities may arise.

The workshop aims to present some of the ongoing desiguAldades.net/LAI research projects to participating scholars, and invite them to exchange experiences and inputs related to the implementation of ILO 169 in Latin America and its role in the reduction or (re)production of social inequalities. In the workshop, researchers working on topics of prior consultation, inequalities, and the role of international and domestic law in negotiating resource-related conflicts will present their current research projects (10-15 min.), and in the framework of an open discussion, explore common interests and share their views on approaches and key areas for future cooperation. The working languages at the workshop will be English and Spanish.

Program

13:00-13:15 Introduction, welcome, and presentation of participants
   Sérgio Costa

13:15-13:45 Diversity in Latin America from a legal historical perspective
   Pamela Cacciavillani

13:45-14:15 Monitoring the implementation of ILO 169: The ILO’s supervisory system
   Maria Victoria Cabrera

14:15-14:45 Environmental conflicts: ILO standards and international environmental law
   Belén Olmos

14:45-15:00 Coffee break

15:00-16:00 The role of the State and transnational companies
   Radoslaw Powęska, Bettina Schorr

16:00-17:15 Intra- and inter-group inequalities as a challenge to the implementation of prior consultation
   Jessika Eichler, Edna Martínez, Manuel Góngora

17:15-17:30 Coffee break

17:30-18:45 Intra-regional inequalities: Prior consultation from a comparative perspective
   Almut Schilling-Vacafior, Riccarda Flemmer, Charlotte Schumann

18:45-19:30 Discussion and way forward