

Forum: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)

Issue #1: Measures to criminalize organ trafficking rings targeting vulnerable indigenous youths.

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Introduction

The issue of criminalizing organ trafficking rings targeting vulnerable indigenous youths is a severe human rights concern. Organ trafficking is the trafficking in persons for organ removal, occurs when individuals are recruited, transported, deceived, coerced, or exploited, so that their organs can be removed and sold for profit. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), even when victims appear to "consent", that consent is not valid if traffickers use deception, fraud, or abuse of vulnerability to obtain it (United Nations). This issue is especially dangerous for indigenous youths, who may face overlapping vulnerabilities such as poverty,

discrimination, geographic isolation, weak access to education and healthcare, especially when traffickers use false promises of work, migration, or better economic opportunities ("Afro-Descendent and Indigenous Children: Recent Experiences of Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean").

Furthermore, organ trafficking rings are difficult to detect because they often operate through organized criminal networks and may involve recruiters, transporters, medical professionals, brokers, and corrupt officials. UNODC describes trafficking for organ removal as one of the least reported and least understood forms of exploitation, highlighting that the real scale of the crime remains unknown because victims often go undetected ("Unseen Crime: Trafficking in Persons for Organ Removal a Growing Concern"). The consequences for the victims are deeply harmful, as they include physical injury, medical care, psychological trauma, social exclusion, threats from traffickers, and long-term health complications. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) also warns that victims are poor, unemployed, or have limited education, while those who receive the organs are usually wealthier ("Shortage of Organs Leading to Increased Human Trafficking, Warns UN Expert"). Child trafficking is a serious violation of children's rights, and from 2020-2023, 38% of trafficking victims were children ("UNICEF's Action against Child Trafficking").

Definition of Key Terms

Organ Trafficking: The illegal removal, sale, or transplantation of human organs involving coercion, deception and exploitation amongst vulnerable populations, including ethnic minorities, and geographically isolated populations. This directly relates to the issue because indigenous youths are specifically targeted by human organ trafficking rings, and trafficking networks actively seek profit from the global demand for organs.

Indigenous Youth: Young individuals belonging to an indigenous community with distinct cultural identities, differing from those of "ordinary" citizens. Individuals have a previous marginalization history. This is a central aspect of the issue because systemic inequality and no access to legislative protection make them particularly vulnerable to exploitation by illicit trafficking rings.

Transplant Tourism: The action of travelling abroad for an illicit transplantation, involving the trafficking of another individual's organ, undermining the destination country's legal ability to provide transplantation services for its population

Criminalization: The active process of converting an activity from legal to illicit through national or international legislative regulations, with defined penalties for actors. This is relevant to understand because stronger legal frameworks are needed to prosecute, deter, and dismantle the severity of organ trafficking network rates.

Vulnerability: The condition of being at an increased rate due to external factors such as poverty, geographic isolation, discrimination, and lack of access to services or protection due to marginalization. This is relevant to the issue because populations most affected are those most vulnerable due to their living conditions.

Transnational Organized Crime: Criminal activities conducted by prestigious networks across borders for illicit profit. This relates to the issue because organ trafficking rings operate transnationally, making legislative enforcement and prosecution of traffickers a more complex issue than it seems.

Human Rights Violation: The unfair treatment of individuals or groups based on race, ethnicity, religion, language, gender, or other identity factors. OHCHR and UNHCR emphasize discrimination as one of the leading causes of statelessness, especially when minorities are excluded from nationality rights. (Background Non-Paper on Equality and Non-Discrimination in Nationality Matters to End Statelessness, Prepared in Support of OHCHR/UNHCR Virtual Roundtable on Equality and Non-Discrimination in Nationality Matters to End Statelessness, 21 October 2021 I. Context)

Palermo Protocol: First global legally binding definition of trafficking in persons, which explicitly refers to the "removal of organs" as a form of exploitation.

Protection Mechanism: Institutional, legislative, or social measures to protect against organ trafficking rings, aiming to safeguard individuals from human rights abuse and

harm. This is crucial to address with respect to the issue, as there is a desperate need for stronger protection systems to prevent the trafficking and exploitation of indigenous youths within the human trafficking industry.

Recruitment Networks: The official system utilized by traffickers to identify, approach and lure potential vulnerable victims into exploitation, specifically for organs regarding the issue. These networks target indigenous communities using false promises and deception to exploit gullible, hopeful youths.

Coercion and Deception: The implementation of force, threats, manipulation, or misinformation to control individuals or obtain compliance. These tactics are specifically relevant to organ trafficking as they entail the fact that indigenous youths are often misled or pressured into organ removal without genuine autonomy.

Illicit Transplantation: The surgical transfer of organs, conducted illicitly, normally without proper consent or medical regulations. This links to the issue as it represents the final stage of exploitation within the organ trafficking ring operations.

General Overview

Organ Trafficking represents one of the most remarkably unacceptable modern human trafficking strategies, where criminal rings systemically exploit vulnerable populations, specifically indigenous youths worldwide. The utilization of organs to supply for wealthy recipients is termed "transplant tourism". This issue specifically targets indigenous youths who live within impoverished circumstances, thus suffering from vulnerabilities such as marginalization, lack of legal documentation, and generations of mistreatment. Consequent to the global shortage of legal organs, which only covers approximately 10% of patients waiting worldwide, it creates a lucrative black market, increasingly generating approximately \$840 million to \$1.7 billion USD annually.

The magnitude of this crisis is alarming to populations worldwide. Approximately 10% of all organ transplants involve trafficked organs, thus generating about 12,000 illicit transplantations in 2014 alone. Additionally, two-thirds of these transplantations involve kidneys. Within the black market, kidney costs range from \$50,000 to \$120,000 USD;

therefore, for indigenous youths, their risk of being trafficked is dangerously high. 40% of kidney transplants were pertinent to Native Americans, and only 10% of these transplants occurred in the studied sites. Trafficking of organs begins as young as 13 years old, and is dangerously low for indigenous victims. And their vulnerabilities expand through factors such as poverty, racism, and geographic marginalization due to the remoteness of these respective communities.

Victims of organ trafficking have been documented to be predominantly male, aged between 20 and 40, though in major parties where the issue is predominantly concerning, organ trafficking can begin in minors.

A typical organ trafficking ring includes brokers who connect buyers to illicit sellers, recruiters who target the vulnerable, and medical professionals who carry out organ removals and transplantation criminal operations in regional facilities. Those who receive organs are predominantly wealthy individuals from developed nations, who resort to the black market in moments of desperation, due to insufficient efforts through public medical facilities worldwide.

Major Parties Involved and Their Views

United States

The United States is a major party in this issue because of its strong influence on international anti-trafficking policy, ethical transplant regulation, and law enforcement cooperation. Under U.S. federal law, it is illegal to knowingly acquire, receive, or transfer a human organ for valuable consideration. In other words, payment or financial exchange for transplantation reasons (Cornell Law School). This makes the United States a strong supporter of the criminalization of organ trafficking and the regulation of transplant systems. However, vulnerable undocumented migrants, indigenous communities, and low-income youths still face barriers in getting protection, healthcare, and reporting abuse.

Russia

Russia is a major party, although its connection to indigenous youth organ trafficking is less direct than that of other countries. It remains relevant because human trafficking, organized crime, corruption, and weak victim identification systems can create conditions where vulnerable migrants and minority groups are exploited. The 2024 Trafficking in Persons Report noted that Russian authorities did not report screening North Korean workers for trafficking indicators, showing gaps in victim identification ("Russia - United States Department of State"). This issue connects to Russia's national sovereignty, border security, and organized crime.

China

China is highly relevant because UN human rights experts have raised serious concerns over allegations of forced organ harvesting targeting ethnic, linguistic and religious minorities, including Uyghurs, Tibetans, Muslims, Christians, and Falun Gong practitioners in detention (United Nations, "China: UN Human Rights Experts Alarmed by 'Organ Harvesting' Allegations"). Although China denies these allegations, the issue makes it central to debates about transparency, medical ethics, minority rights and independent monitoring of transparency systems. China would likely argue that its organ donation and transplant policies are domestic matters and that outside criticism violates state sovereignty. However, other Member states may push China to increase transparency, allow independent investigations, and ensure that organ removal cannot be connected to detention, coercion, or discrimination against minority groups.

France

France is a major party because it acts as an influential European human rights state, and has ratified the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs (Council of Europe). This convention calls on governments to establish illegal organ removal as a criminal offence, especially when consent is not free, informed, or specific ("Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs"). France would utilize a multilateral approach focused on international cooperation, victim protection, stronger criminal justice systems, and medical-sector accountability.

Mexico

Mexico is a crucial party because Indigenous Afro-American communities have been directly identified as vulnerable to human trafficking. UNDOC has reported that trafficking severely affects Indigenous and Afro-Mexican communities in Mexico, especially because poverty, social exclusion, historical discrimination, and organized crime increase their vulnerability. Since 2018, UNDOC has worked with indigenous leaders in Mexico to create a culturally and linguistically sensitive anti-trafficking strategies ("UNODC Launches Campaign Showcasing the Wisdom and Strength of Indigenous and Afro-Mexican Women against Human Trafficking"). Mexico would likely supports stronger criminal presecution of trafficking rings, Indigenous-language reporting systems, and community-based prevention led by local indigenous leaders.

Brazil

Brazil is highly relevant because trafficking risks in remote indigenous and Amazon regions can be connected to illegal mining, forced labor, enviornmental crime, and weak state presence. UNODC's Tapajós Project aims to identify trafficking in persosn and forced labor in the gold mining sector of the Tapajós River Basin ("TAPAJÓS – a Prevalence Project to Reduce Trafficking in Persons and Forced Labour in the Gold Mining Sector in the State of Pará"). These conditions are relevant because organ trafficking rings often exploit people who are poor, isolated, undocumented or unable to acces strong legal protection. Brazil would likely supports territorial protection, stronger enforcement in remote areas, and cooperation with indigenous communities to prevent trafficking.

Colombia

Colombia is a major aprty because indigenous youths in conflict-affected areas are vulnerable to recruitments, coercion and exploitation by armed and criminal groups. The U.S Departement of State and reports that Colombian officials recognized the forced recruitment or sue of children by illegal armed groups as a form of human trafficking ("Colombia"). Recent reporting also shows that Indigenous communities in Cauca have confrintes armed groups recruiting children through promises of money and protection (Grattan). This makes Colombia relevant to the issue because criminal networks often taretet vulnerale indigenous youths throug fear, poverty, and false

promises. Colombia would likely supports stronger prosecution of armed groups, child protection systems in rural areas, and cooperation with indigenous guards and local leaders.

Peru

Peru has rural and indigenous communities in the Amazon which can be exposed to illegal mining, forced labor, drug trafficking, and weak state protection. The U.S Department of State reports that criminal economies, including illegal mining, logging and drug trafficking, fuel the trafficking conditions in Peru ("Peru - United States Department of State"). These conditions matter because organ trafficking rings often target people who are poor, isolated, or unable to acces protection.

Timeline of Events, Relevant Resolutions, Treaties, and Events

Date	Description of Event
1948	The Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes basic protections such as the right to life, liberty, and security of person, and freedom from slavery. This is important because organ trafficking violates human dignity and personal security (United Nations, "Universal Declaration of Human Rights").
1984	The United States Organ Transplant Act makes it illegal to acquire, receive or transfer human organs for "valuable consideration", creating one of the earliest national models against buying and selling organs
1989	The Convention on the Rights of the Child is adopted. Article 35 requires states to prevent the abduction, sale or trafficking of children, making it crucial to protect indigenous youths from trafficking rings (need in text citation)
1994	India passes the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissue

Act, which regulates organ removal and transplantation while punishing commercial dealings in human organs (THE TRANSPLANTATION of HUMAN ORGANS and TISSUES ACT, 1994 _____ ARRANGEMENT of SECTIONS _____ CHAPTER I PRELIMINARY SECTIONS).

- 2000 The Palermo Protocol is adopted by the UN General Assembly to prevent, suppress, and punish trafficking in people, especially in women and children ("United Nations Treaty Collection").

- 2000 The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Children on the Sale of Children is adopted, requiring states to prohibit the sale of children and strengthening protections against child exploitation ("United Nations Treaty Collection").

- 2004 The World Health Assembly urges states to protect vulnerable populations from transplant tourism and organ trafficking ("The Declaration").

- 2007 The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous people is adopted. Article 22 emphasizes special attention to the rights and needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities making it relevant to vulnerable indigenous youths (United Nations, "United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples").

- 2007 The World Health Organization estimated that 5-10% of all transplants worldwide used organs from the black market (United Nations, "Explainer: Understanding Human Trafficking for Organ Removal").

- 2008 The Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism is created by transplant professionals and medical experts to condemn organ trafficking, transplant tourism, and commercialism. It aims to prohibit and criminalize trafficking of

human organs and of people ("The Declaration").

- 2010 The WHO guiding principles on Human Cell, Tissue, and Organ Transplantation are reinforced through resolution WHA63.22. It condemns the buying of human body parts and it aims to make states oppose the financial gain of organ transactions, organ trafficking and transplant tourism ("Human Organ and Tissue Transplantation").
- 2015 The Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs opens for signature in Santiago de Compostela. It becomes the first international law treaty specifically focused on trafficking of human organs ("The Convention - Countering the Trafficking in Human Organs - [Www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)").
- 2018 The Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs requires states to criminalize organ trafficking while also protecting victims while promoting national and international cooperation ("The Convention - Countering the Trafficking in Human Organs - [Www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int)").
- 2022 The UN General Assembly adopts Resolution 77/236, and urges Member States to criminalize trafficking in persons for organ removal, protect victims, strengthen medical attention, and prosecute all involved, including physicians, medical staff, and legal persons (United Nations, "Resolution Adopted by the General Assembly on 15 December 2022").
- 2024 UNODC publishes an explainer on a human trafficking for organ removal, explaining that consent, is invalid when deception, fraud, or abuse of vulnerability is used (United Nations, "Explainer: Understanding Human Trafficking for Organ Removal").

2024 UNODC highlights prevention work with indigenous communities in Mexico. In other words, explaining that migrants, indigenous people, and Afro-descendant communities are more vulnerable to trafficking when prevention programs ignore local languages, culture and social realities ("Mexico: Indigenous Communities as Agents of Change in the Eradication of Human Trafficking").

United Nations Involvement

Palermo Protocol 2002

The United Nations involvement regarding human trafficking of organs has been extensive, dating back to 2002, with the establishment and adoption of the Palermo Protocol. This protocol became the first global legally binding instrument that defined trafficking in individuals, including "the removal of organs". The protocol has been adopted by all participating parties.

2004 UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 59/251

On December 19th, 2004, the UN assembly adopted resolution 59/251, titled "Preventing, combatting, and punishing trafficking in human organs," marking the first ever UN resolution that specifically detailed organ trafficking through the Secretary General, who acknowledged that member states provide enough information regarding organ transplantations in respective countries, not all participating parties complied. Therefore, also occurring in 2002, ECOSOC's Resolution 2004/22 urged the member states to adopt measures to prevent, combat, and righteously punish illicit organ removal. Thus, in March of 2007, UN expert Juan Miguel Petit urged for tougher global rules against transplant tourism, which increasingly urged safeguards to avoid donations or selling minors' organs, especially those coming from vulnerable indigenous youths.

Istanbul Summit on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism April 30 - May 1 2008

From April 30 to May 1 of 2008, the declaration of Istanbul was adopted, being the first international declaration that distinguishes transplant tourism from proper travel for transplantation. This adoption established 11 new principles, including criminalizations that are endorsed by over 135 countries, including most of the parties involved.

WHO Guiding Principles on Human Cell, Tissue, and Organ Transplantation

Adopted in 2010, the WHO Guiding Principles on Human Cell, Tissue, and Organ Transplantation established 11 new principles for ethical frameworks that prohibit payment for organs, as it introduces an unfair advantage for the impoverished, vulnerable ethnic minorities in all participating parties. Consequently, the Madrid Resolution was adopted in 2011, which further urged for self-sufficiency in organs as the only deterrent against trade, which is essential for destination countries and WHO hotspots such as Bangladesh, India, and Egypt.

Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs

On March 25, 2015, signatures opened for the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs, becoming the first legally binding convention devoted solely to organ trafficking rings. The Convention's effects were put forth on March 1, 2018. However, only 15 states have ratified it as of 2025, which dangerously limits its global reach and excludes major parties contributing to the conference. Thus, a critical development of the convention occurred on September 8th, 2017, when the UN assembly adopted Resolution 71/332, redirecting countries to establish best practices, specifically transplants in authorized centers only, with regulatory oversight, an accessible national registry, and worldwide transparency. Guatemala and Spain's efforts to enforce this resolution are especially relevant for sourcing countries participating.

United Nations Legal Identity Agenda and SDG 16.9

Evaluation of Previous Attempts to Resolve the Issue

Previous international efforts to address organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal have achieved some success through anti-trafficking treaties

Palermo Protocol and Anti- Trafficking Frameworks

The Palermo Protocol, adopted in 2000, was one of the most important attempts to address human trafficking internationally. It created the first legally binding international definition of trafficking in persons and required countries that ratify it to criminalize trafficking through national laws (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime). The protocol has been successful as it has given countries a shared legal language to prosecute traffickers, identify victims, and cooperate across borders. However, it is still limited as several governments focus more on sex trafficking and forced labor, while trafficking for organ removal remains underreported.

Child protection frameworks have also attempted to address this issue. The Convention on Rights of the Child requires states to protect children from abduction, sale, and trafficking (United Nations, "Convention on the Rights of the Child"). The Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children also requires states to prohibit the sale of children and related exploitation. This was important as it helped make youth trafficking a global concern (United Nations, "Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography"). However, it does not fully solve the issue, many vulnerable children, especially in indigenous youths or rural communities, may not be registered, may not trust authorities, or may not have access to safe reporting systems.

WHO Guiding Principles and Medical Ethics Efforts

The World Health Organization's Guiding Principles on Human Cell, Tissue, and Organ Transplantation, approved in 2010, attempted to prevent organ trafficking by establishing ethical rules for organ donation and transplantation. The principles state that organs should be donated freely and without payment, in other words, buying and selling organs should be banned ("Human Organ and Tissue Transplantation"). These principles helped strengthen the idea that organs should not become commercial

products and transplant systems must protect human dignity. They also helped guide national laws and medical standards in many countries. However, the WHO principles are limited because they depend on government and medical institutions to actually enforce them. In countries with weak health systems, corruption, poor hospital oversight, or high poverty, ethical practices might fail. The global shortage of legal organs continues to create demand for illegal markets, meaning criminal networks remain exploiting poor and marginalized people.

Declaration of Istanbul and Transplant Tourism

The Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism was first created in 2008, as another major attempt to address organ trafficking through the medical sector. It condemned organ trafficking, transplant tourism, and transplant commercialism, and called for countries to develop ethical organ donation systems ("The Declaration"). This was successful because it brought transplant professionals, doctors, and medical organizations into the fight against organ trafficking instead of leaving the issue only to the police and governments. It also helped clarify that the problem is not only trafficking victims, but also wealthy recipients, brokers, and transplant systems that allow illegal procedures.

Still, the Declaration of Istanbul is not enough by itself because it depends heavily on hospitals, doctors, and governments choosing to follow its standards. Criminal rings can also move victims through borders, or use private clinics, forged consent forms, and false family relationships to hide illegal organ removal (United Nations, "Explainer: Understanding Human Trafficking for Organ Removal"). In all, the Declaration is important for ethics and awareness; it needs stronger enforcement through national criminal laws and international cooperation.

Council of Europe Convention Against Trafficking in Human Organs

The Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs, opened for signature in 2015, and started in 2018, and is one of the strongest legal attempts to solve this issue. It is the first and only international criminal law treaty specifically focused on trafficking in human organs. The convention requires states to criminalize illicit organ removal, protect victims' rights, and promote national and international cooperation

("The Convention - Countering the Trafficking in Human Organs - www.coe.int"). This convention addresses the specific crime of organ trafficking more directly than broader human trafficking treaties.

However, its major limitation is that it is not universal. It was created through the Council of Europe, meaning many countries outside of Europe have not joined or implemented it. This weakens global enforcement because organ trafficking is often transactional, meaning the victim, broker, doctor, recipient, and transplant location may all be in different countries.

Possible Solutions

Mandatory Criminalization Frameworks

The possibility of requiring all Member States to explicitly criminalize organ trafficking and the action of trafficking a vulnerable indigenous individual as an autonomous crime in national legislation would be an essential possible solution, given that non-consensual organ removal, brokering, purchase of organs, and transplant tourism will no longer benefit from organ trafficking. This, however, required amending criminal codes in many member states, including specific offenses regarding non-consensual organ removal. The minimum penalty for this offense of high degree should be 10-14 years of imprisonment. This urges extraterritorial jurisdiction, especially in parties like the United States, Russia, France, the United Kingdom, and criminalizing offenses committed by nationals in source regions such as Pakistan and Bangladesh. India, Egypt, and the Philippines. Legally, adhere to this solution to both the Palermo Protocol and the Council of Europe Convention.

Regulatory Oversight of Worldwide Medical Facilities

All member states should be obliged to establish mandatory regulatory frameworks in all transplanting institutions, designating strict authorization and regular audits. This means that organ trafficking may only occur in permitted medical centers where proper regulatory oversight of medical facilities and personnel is established.

National Registries of Transplantation efforts and an accessible Traceability System

In all Member States, national registries were created to ensure worldwide transparency, traceability, and the safest transplantation of a human organ. This requires the establishment of a national registry for all organ donations and transplants in sourcing member states and destination member states, tracking organ origin/source, donor information, and recipient information. This way, countries may efficiently trace an organ transplantation from donor to recipients, and also establishes a extraterritorial registry, sharing for international cases that may arise.

Enhanced Protection for Indigenous Youths

Given their extensive vulnerabilities, the implementation of special protective measures for ethnic minorities in impoverished countries should be labeled and protected as especially vulnerable victims. This requires the implementation of campaigns on organ trafficking dangers, reaching out to populations at risk.

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Sustainable Development Goal #16, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, aims to promote peaceful societies, access to justice, and accountable institutions. This SDG is especially relevant to the issue of criminalizing organ trafficking rings targeting vulnerable indigenous youths because Target 16.2 specifically calls for ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children. Since organ trafficking rings often rely on deception, coercion, abuse of vulnerability, forged documents and organized criminal networks, this issue directly connects to the need for stronger justice systems and law enforcement. In this case, protecting indigenous youths requires not only criminalizing organ trafficking but also improving victim identification, prosecution of traffickers and cooperation between governments, healthcare institutions, and indigenous communities. Overall, SDG goal #16 is addressed by ensuring that vulnerable children are protected from trafficking networks and criminal groups are held accountable under national and international law.

Appendix

This section of the issue bulletin is dedicated to providing delegates with valuable

sources to utilize during their research.

https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2022/GLOTiP_2022_web.pdf?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Source A: This article provides a strong general understanding of the issues as it explains how human trafficking occurs explaining how organized criminal networks operate across borders.

https://www.who.int/health-topics/transplantation?utm_source=chatgpt.com#tab=tab_1

Source B: This source explains the global demand for organs and how the shortages contribute to the rise of the illegal organ trade. It provides insights through a healthcare perspective and urges strong regulation and enforcement measures.

<https://www.un.org/en/desa/state-world%E2%80%99s-indigenous-peoples>

Source C: This source explains the systemic marginalization of indigenous communities, including poverty, exclusion, and lack of legal protection, which forms a stronger understanding as to why indigenous minorities are especially vulnerable/high-risk on this issue.

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