

Study Guide

Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee

GaIMUN XIX



GalMUN SOCHUM Committee
- Study Guide -

Table of contents

I. Letter from the Chairpersons.....	3
II. Introduction to the Committee.....	5
III. Overview of the topic.....	6
IV. Key Terms.....	8
V. Past Actions.....	9
VI. Legal Framework.....	13
VII. Current Situation.....	15
VIII. Main Actors.....	18
IX. Points to be Addressed.....	22
X. Further Reading.....	23
XI. Bibliography.....	24

I. Letter from the Chairpersons

Esteemed delegates,

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the IXXth edition of GalMUN, and we want to congratulate you for persevering throughout the application process. The Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee or SOCHUM will focus on Preserving the Cultural Heritages of Sinking States, a topic that is very relevant for today's and tomorrow's generations.

Firstly, we encourage you to conduct thorough research on the topic area and country or organization you have been assigned. This will not only help you develop a deeper understanding of the issues at hand but also enable you to formulate informed and effective solutions during the conference. The topic is multifaceted, and even though the end goal seems to be obvious, there are many approaches and perspectives to be explored.

Secondly, we would like to remind you to familiarise yourself with the rules of procedure that will govern the conference. This includes understanding the format of the debate, the use of formal language, and the procedures for submitting and voting on resolutions. The more you understand the rules of procedure, the more effectively you can participate in the conference and advocate for your ideas.

Thirdly, we encourage you to engage with your fellow delegates throughout the conference actively. This includes attending social events and networking opportunities, as well as participating in committee sessions and informal discussions. Building relationships with your fellow delegates can not only help you develop a stronger understanding of the issues but also broaden your perspective and enhance your diplomacy skills.

Finally, we encourage you to come to the conference with an open mind and a willingness to learn and collaborate. The conference is an opportunity for you to engage in meaningful discussions, exchange ideas, and develop solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems. We hope that you will embrace this opportunity and that you will leave the conference with new insights and a renewed sense of purpose.

*Kindest regards,
The Chairpersons of the SOCHUM committee,
Ghionea Denisa, Matei Vlad, Vasilache Maria*

II. Introduction to the Committee

The Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, more commonly referred to as the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM), focuses on issues dealing with fundamental human rights in the international community. SOCHUM was founded in 1945 in reaction to the establishment of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

The Third Committee is the most important sub-body of the United Nations tackling social matters. From issues regarding international and regional human rights, breaches in international conventions, suggestions for better reforms regarding the well-being of global citizens, protection of endangered cultures, to diminishing of any type of discrimination, and overall the good functioning of societies worldwide, the SOCHUM Committee aims to provide new and strengthen the already existing programs for a general welfare that everyone can enjoy and benefit from.

Having 193 official members and being part of the General Assembly, it grants the committee the possibility to form proposals and adopt measures in various ways, even collaborating with other bodies of the UN. Because SOCHUM is so resourceful and powerful, the issues that are debated are to be considered as being crucial for the development of mankind. One aspect that shall not be seen as diminishing the importance of the council is its non-binding authority. The Third Committee, just like the other five, is not able to enforce its resolutions upon all of the United Nations member states, but those are still regarded as efficient frameworks for addressing numerous current humanitarian problems.

III. Overview of the topic

Since the pre-industrial period (between 1850 and 1900), due to human activities, the Earth's surface has been gradually heating long-term, defining the phenomenon of climate change/global warming.

The accelerating climate change poses gradually more threats, and perhaps the most overlooked is that of the rising sea levels, caused by increased melting of land-based ice, such as glaciers and ice sheets, and thermal expansion caused by the warming of the ocean. Perhaps this consequence doesn't seem as imminent or dangerous, but it's already changing millions of lives all over the Pacific Ocean. Up to 216 million people currently live on land that will be below sea level or regular flood levels by 2100, and this is a fact that doesn't seem to change any time soon, compelling us to find alternative solutions for the nations and cultures that risk extinction.

Low-lying countries are prominently endangered because even the slightest increase in the sea level leads to inundation, saltwater intrusion into freshwater sources, coastal erosion, and many other negative effects. Tropical cyclones and storm surges accentuate these risks, due to their extensive damage to infrastructure, communities, agricultural resources, and cultural heritage sites that are otherwise unique to the region and vary significantly by country. The respective cultural heritage encompasses archaeological sites and museums that can be relocated and salvaged, but also sacred natural landscapes and ritual sites that are invaluable and completely unique. Climate change threatens to degrade or even destroy such cultural assets, erasing much of the cultural practices and traditional knowledge passed down through generations, leading to the loss of irreplaceable cultural identity and legacies that have developed over thousands of years. Relocating these populations will damage cultural cohesion and destroy all connections to the ancestral lands that define their identity and nation. Furthermore, climate-change-induced migration will lead to a disorganized pattern of relocation, leading to the indigenous communities being assimilated into host countries and the extermination of traditional knowledge, practices, rituals, customs, and everything that defines their culture and identity.

National identity plays a vital role in shaping society, providing a sense of belonging, security, and continuity that is instinctually sought after by humans, and the loss of such heritage will have a profound psychological and socio-economic impact on any nation, no matter how resilient, and this is especially true in the case of such indigenous communities that have a strong cultural connection to the environment and their ancestral lands, integrating them into their way of life.

Indigenous populations being forced to relocate without proper measures to preserve their cultural cohesion and ancestral connection will disrupt social structures, leading to social fragmentation conflicts and inadaptation, which further increases their economic vulnerability and dependency on external assistance to survive. Being prone to marginalization and discrimination, which increases their vulnerability and limits their access to resources, they can be subjected to severe health effects, including mental health disorders, but also increase the risk of substance abuse. Because the transmission of traditional knowledge is disrupted, the respective communities will lose part of the heritages that define their cultures, such as traditional recipes, cultural practices, etc, factors that also have a profound psychological impact.

The endangered regions actively try to find innovative solutions to salvage their unique culture and national identity, but it seems that their proposals lack proper planning, expertise, infrastructure, or even funding. Time is also not on their side, given the urgency of the situation. Many states developed legislation and regulations for the conservation of heritage sites through the involvement of communities, and some also became deeply involved in proposing awareness and appreciation of their cultures, but it seems that the topic is still insufficiently attended. Through foreign aid, some states succeeded in obtaining funding and building coastal protection infrastructure, forging international cooperation mechanisms, and facilitating knowledge exchange and collaboration.

IV. Key Terms

L-TAP - Long-Term Adaptation Programme, refers to the creation of programs that take into account the potential effects of climate change, to prevent further efficiency of reforms

SIDS - Small Island Developing States, is a group of small insular countries, defined by the United Nations, that tend to have similar histories and current challenges in terms of development

Partial Autonomy - refers to a region within a country that has the benefit of promulgating its own laws, to some extent, and has a higher authority over that specific area compared to the central government.

INGO/ NGO - (International) Non-Governmental organization, an organization that does not operate on behalf of the state or other state institutions

MPP - Ministry for Pacific Peoples

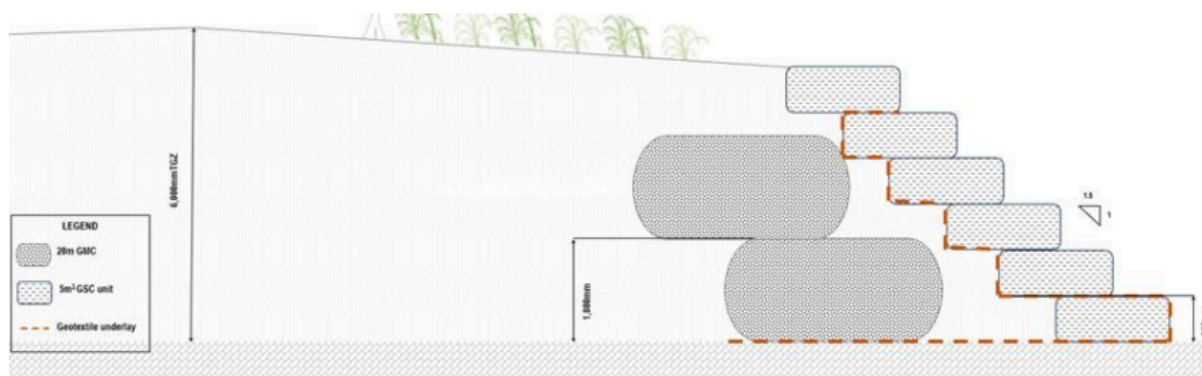
PAC - Pacific Access and Category and Samoan Quota

V. Past Actions

a. *The Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project (TCAP)*

The project is a 38.9 million dollar initiative funded by the Government of Tuvalu and the Green Climate Fund that aims to fight the drastic impact of climate change in the region.

TCAP builds retaining walls following a layered formation so the public can still access the water resources while being protected from erosion and the rising sea level. The bindings are built by stacking mega geotextile bags that are then overlaid with smaller geotextile bags (for additional stability), the fill material being obtained by dredging local lagoons (such as the Fongafale lagoon). This surface is graded so that stormwater and such can be drained into artificial swales that are gently reclined in order to efficiently convey water off the land into the ocean (this also applies to the pre-existing overland flow).



TCAP also features an L-TAP named "Te Lafiga o Tuvalu" (Tuvalu's Refuge). This plan proposes sustainable solutions to maintain and potentially increase Tuvalu's population beyond the year 2100. Through this project, the Government of Tuvalu aims to convert the reclaimed land into inhabitable space by providing essential infrastructure (sustainable water supply, food, energy security), and community-centered facilities including schools, hospitals, and government offices. The L-TAP also proposes designated ports and docks along the artificial land for boat access, green spaces for agriculture and recreational purposes, and an improved designated airstrip for international flights.

After the population successfully relocates to the reclaimed land, the previously inhabited part of the island will be remodeled to incorporate the same grid technology used for the

bindings, and this area will remain a green zone to provide forest resources and act as a buffer against storm waves.

b. Climate Heritage Network (CHN)

CHN is a global network of organizations and individuals that have been significantly involved in raising awareness and advocating for the integration of protecting heritage and national identity into climate efforts. Through conferences, campaigns, training programs, and much more, they have aided the cultural heritage sector address climate change by developing mitigation strategies, assessing risks, and emphasizing the importance of resilience. Their goals for 2022-24 have been to "Increase the quantity and quality of culture-based climate action" and "Transform climate policy".

c. New Zealand Migration Lottery

Since 2002, New Zealand has adopted a variation of the American visa lottery, allowing residents of a few nearby nations that share the legacy of the British Empire to legally immigrate and start a new life. The chosen nations are allowed 2,950 slots total yearly, the greatest share (1,650) being provided to Samoa, a former New Zealand colony. The remaining slots are shared between Tonga (former British protectorate), Fiji, Kiribati, and Tuvalu.

The eligibility to this lottery is conditioned by age (between 18 and 45), and those applying must be native-born citizens of the country in question, meet a minimum English language requirement, and fit the health criteria set for all migrants to New Zealand. This particular category of immigration can be found as the "Pacific Access Category and Samoan Quota" or PAC. The applicants apply for residence in NZ through a ballot system, supporting a fee of NZD \$1385, hoping they will be among the lucky ones invited to apply for residence by immigration.

The administration and implementation of the PAC are overviewed by the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (MPP), the principal advisor on such policies regarding other Pacific nations. Since its outset in 1990, this public service department of New Zealand has been advising the Government and supporting Pacific (or Pasifika) communities in the country. The MPP

promotes the preservation and celebrations of Pacific cultures, works closely with Pacific community organizations, and advocates for the improvement of education and employment opportunities and standards for Pacific peoples living in New Zealand.

d. Maldives Heritage Survey

The Maldives Heritage Survey is a non-governmental organisation, led by students that had envisioned a database composed of endangered tangible cultural heritage. Such a collection includes historic documents, 3D scannings of important buildings, mosques, statues and other remains. The project is mostly focused on highly endangered monuments due to natural causes and is currently trying to cover as many islands of the archipelago of Maldives as possible. Being open to the general public such a project has crucial importance, both on a local level, to help residents better understand their own history and culture, along with the importance of it, but on an international one as well, creating more awareness of the dangers of mass-tourism that the country is dealing with.

After the success that followed such a project, a larger scale one has been put into plan. The Maritime Asia Heritage Survey has the same goals and operates in the same manner as the Maldivian one, but is able to cover more endangered cultures. Brunei, Indonesia, Maldives, and Vietnam are now being represented in this new approach to heritage preservation too. At its fast expansion rate, it could be assumed that it will reach more countries soon, especially in the Southeast Asian and Pacific regions.

e. Kiribati buying land in Fiji

In the year 2014, when politicians in Kiribati started wondering about the future of their nation as the effects of climate change couldn't be overlooked anymore, the government decided to make a controversial purchase at that time. Kiribati ended up spending 5% of its annual GDP to buy 5500 acres of land in Fiji. The reasoning behind this purchase was for the government to be able to safely relocate its population if needed. This was the first time a nation has bought land abroad for such a purpose, however, there are still some issues with the plan. The government of Kiribati will not have any authority over the region, the area is

unable to host not even half of the entire population at maximum capacity, and the location is advantageous for trade.

In recent years. The government of Kiribati has been shifting the intended use for this land, now mostly using it for agricultural purposes. As climate conditions are getting worse, locals barely have the opportunities they have for farming anymore. Alongside China, a complex program has begun unfolding itself on the Fijian land in hopes of further economic development within the Kiribatian archipelago.

VI. Legal Framework

a. Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage

Signed by 175 countries, the Convention represents one of UNESCO's most important treaties that have ever been ratified.

The convention operates on both a national and international level under the following principles:

- Intangible cultural heritage refers to cultural practices, rituals, folklore, music, instruments, stories and tales, festivities, history, relation with nature, or any other aspect that is part of the foundation of a culture that cannot be physically recorded or preserved.
- On the national level, states are responsible for taking appropriate measures to preserve such intangible cultural heritage in their designated and specific territory and try to ensure the widest possible covering of all traditional practices throughout the entire nation.
- On the international level, the convention works through joint initiatives between states, promoting the exchange of information and strategies through the publishing of a Representative List, and a mechanism of assistance in cases of humanitarian emergencies.

b. United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Although not universally recognized by all of the United Nations member states, with only 168 signatories, UNCLOS still remains the main legal document establishing the clear governance of the seas.

Article 60 of the Convention details the specific regulations that countries building artificial islands need to respect, based on the following principles

- The construction of artificial islands may only be done with the approval of the country having autonomy over the Exclusive Economic Zone where the island plants are to be located.

- The creation, maintenance, and operation of artificial islands should not have an over-exploitative effect on the surrounding environment, and the biodiversity of the region should be taken care of.
- Artificial islands do not possess the official status of islands, they do not have any territorial sea of their own, nor do they contribute to the extension of borders of the home country. However, safety zones of no more than 500 meters may be established.

c. Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage

With 76 parties to the convention, this document aims to safeguard “all traces of human existence having a cultural, historical or archaeological character” that have been underwater for more than 100 years. The convention assures the preservation of historical sites and prevents illegal piracy activity.

- Signatory nations are responsible for properly taking care of any such sites located within their territorial waters of exclusive economic zones and are part of the Underwater Cultural Heritage Committee where they receive and offer advice on efficient preservation
- State parties are encouraged to promote the cultural heritage for educational, research or touristic purposes in hopes of educating the population about their importance
- The sharing of data among nations part of the Convention is highly promoted as well.

VII. Current Situation

The United Nations Presents its Purposes and foundation principles right from Chapter I, Article I of the United Nations Charter, focusing on “international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character” and wishing “to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats”.

Comparing those promises to the active risk of disappearance that so many nations are facing today, along with the lack of support, collective action, and even recognition on the international scale, it almost seems like the UN does not hold its promises very tightly. A crucial factor in regard to the issue is the cause of it, and it is safe to say that all of the nations on the globe have contributed their fair amount to global warming, some more than others. Especially because of this factor, it is the collective duty of what is supposed to be the most powerful organization to act in this manner and to ensure their so-called “respect for the sovereignty of each nation” will not fade away along with the shores of the Pacific.

Some countries have started incorporating a few measures and programs to have the citizens of more affected states, but in the status quo, what has been offered is simply not enough to better the conditions of the less unfortunate ones.

What happens when a country entirely disappears is a bit difficult to predict considering there has been no precedent of such events. Nations have disappeared before, but only in the political sense, the people continued living under new regimes, but this situation is entirely different. The national identity of one’s self does not disappear when one knows home is still in the same place, precious artifacts and buildings have remained untouched, the entire history of the land is being preserved for future generations to come, and the native languages are actively being spoken. However, when those are no longer aspects that former citizens can hold on to, what can be said about the national identity is that it is no longer there. The entire sense of belonging to a community, culture, and heritage is a crucial aspect of one’s living that will simply cease to exist.

On the political and governing side, it is again difficult to predict what will happen then, but in accordance with Article 2 of the Charter stating The Organisation is based on the principle of the “sovereign equality of all its Members, it is the duty of the United Nations to ensure

that those sinking nations will get to keep their seat in the UN and their authority shall continue to be recognised. However, it will generate various clashes as those seats will only hold power but no value or interest as there is no region left to govern over. It is uncertain what the organisation should further do in such a case, with no official legal document to consult and no prior case to look at.

Taking a glance at the most affected insular and archipelago nations, scattered all around the world, such as Fiji, Palau, Seychelles, Mauritius, Bahamas, and Maldives, it is within reach to say that their cultures are very similar and a universal programme would be able to work for all. However, such a statement would be utterly incorrect. There may be some similarities among those nations, but they are entirely different from the core. Those can be set apart by history, languages, holidays, religion, traditional clothing and practices, architecture, etiquette and numerous other variables. This entails that it is necessary for the Committee to split up the discussion and address the problem individually or at least in groups, instead of having a holistic approach to it.

Another crucial aspect that is to be considered is the gravity of the current issue and its impact on the people. What many would regard as a non-urgent situation should be classified as a serious crisis. The rising seas not only put in danger the homes of the people, but their entire lives. Necessary facilities such as education or healthcare become inaccessible, living conditions worse, diseases spread faster, jobs are being lost, and entire state economies are collapsing.

The culture lives within the people, the communities that have been formed on sacred lands for the past decades, centuries, and even millenniums. But in order to be preserved, it is necessary for the ones that find themselves within to want to protect it. This can only happen if they have the privilege to actively pursue and practise it. In simpler terms, native populations need to be assured of basic conditions first for their cultures to survive. If facing homelessness, hunger, poverty or any similar problems, survival comes first, while the culture remains underwater. Therefore, when the territories are to be sinking, the populations need to have already been brought to safety and plans need to be established long before the final wave hits.

Furthermore, the fight with the seas will continue to be a constant issue from now on, that will begin affecting all coastal countries in the near future. This means that solutions simply for the present moment are not enough, but finding ones that could be applied after years is the correct strategy to adopt: long-term plans in order to facilitate the safeguarding of cultural heritages and national identities in the most efficient way.

VIII. Main Actors

a. *Ellice Islands (Tuvalu)*

The highest point in Tuvalu is only 5 meters above sea level, and the rapid increase of the sea level ensures the complete submersion of the state by the end of the century. Gradually more citizens flee the country in pursuit of securing a stable livelihood and better economic opportunities, threatening Tuvalu's national identity and cohesion.

Rooted in Polynesian traditions, its culture incorporates unique music, dances, storytelling, and crafts that risk complete extinction. Tuvaluans try to protect their heritage through the TCAP, L-TAP, and diverse resilience-building initiatives led by local communities. The TCAP has yet to begin phase 2, as the progress is dependent on weather conditions and the workforce, but it surely gives Tuvaluans hope. In order to maintain their national identity even amidst the physical displacement and climate threats, the government is currently creating a replica of Tuvalu in the metaverse and planning to implement virtual citizenship.

Despite the progressive plans, Tuvalu is a state with limited resources, needing to uphold a firm commitment to collaborating with international NGOs and participating in global climate negotiations to obtain the necessary support.

Some time ago a little girl on the island of Nanumea asked me, "Prime Minister, what can you do to save me? How can you ensure I can continue living on my island?" That question struck at the bottom of my heart.

— Former Prime Minister of Tuvalu

b. *People's Republic Of China*

Recent attempts by the Chinese government to strengthen their international relations have significantly grown in number over the past decade. Despite officials claiming those initiatives are not being selfish, or in favour of China, worldwide facts say otherwise. Ever since Pacific countries have begun dealing with the serious effects of climate change, even confronting the question of submergement, China has been one of the first to be open to the

ideas of financial aid, program developments and joint meetings with the governments of those nations.

Many of those Pacific nations, although previously in opposition to the Chinese government, have accepted most of the proposed aiding programs. Most of them are microstates, their economy has not reached a stellar point, and are unable to sustain themselves in such conditions, China being their only option.

This ensures China more control over the region, as insular countries remain in debt, and the relation with those former rivals is improved. However, the intentions of the central government are yet to be questioned, taking into account their interest in gaining more control in the Southern Pacific area.

c. Republic of Maldives

With its highest point being only 5 meters above sea level, Maldives is one of the most affected nations when it comes to the rising levels of the world's seas. At the current rate by which the Indian Ocean is rising, by the next few decades, the nations should be already submerged, but those statistics only motivated the government to conduct more ambitious projects.

Not far from the capital city of Male, it is situated Hulhumale, an island that has been transformed from a lagoon to its current state. The government has engaged in such a project in order to offer citizens from all around the archipelago a chance to move closer to the capital and have more opportunities on a higher elevated land. The reform is based on constructing an artificial island by excavating sand beds and using the sand to elevate submerged platforms. Although the plan is far from perfect and has many backlashes on the environment and even brings potential risks it has been able to house many residents so far and is currently undergoing a second phase of building an extension.

Maldives' economy is mostly based on tourism, however, the country has significantly suffered from the negative effects of over-tourism as well. Many important buildings, monuments, sites, and locations are now in a degraded state, but visitors are not able to properly understand the Maldivian culture, undermining some aspects and over-mediatising some other ones. Those combined have led to an increased number of locals discouraged

from practicing their traditional rituals, while the history of the place is slowly fading away as well.

d. New Zealand

The coasts of New Zealand are unreliable for communities, as their position on the Pacific Ring of Fire assures the land is constantly uplifted or sunken by earthquakes. Because of land subsidence, the sea levels rise at a rate twice as rapid as their expectations, leaving them just 18 years before once-in-a-century storms become an annual event. Despite having the necessary funds and support, New Zealand has much less time to introduce climate adaptation plans before it's too late.

Through meticulous research regarding artificial seawalls on their coasts, it has been discovered that healthy salt marsh environments could be a part of the solution. In particular areas, they act as barriers and mitigate the impacts of the sea level rise, due to their role in stabilizing the soil and dissipating wave energy, as they vertically accumulate sediment and maintain their height relative to sea level. The resistance of the salt marsh is also dependent on the process of carbon sequestration, which strengthens the vegetation and promotes its growth.

Nevertheless, given that New Zealand still is much more stable than other Pacific Islands, the international community urges the state to create a formal migration policy for climate-related reasons, in order to facilitate the accommodation of citizens migrating from SIDS due to environmental factors.

e. Federated States of Micronesia

Consisting of four states: Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae, The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is one of the countries located within the Micronesian region, made up of low-lying islands. Some islands of FSM are not experiencing sinking the same way as other SIDS: instead of being submerged by the Pacific, these islands are eroded by the rising seas, being made almost entirely of sand and gravel.

Some coasts, such as the ones in Kehpara and Nahlap, contain huge boulders left behind by large storms, that could potentially act as “armour” against the waves. Even with these natural barriers or even artificial seawalls, low-lying reef islands are transient lands: most of them have been formed in recent millennia after the sea level fell and sediment started to build up on exposed reef platforms. Mangroves also play a crucial role in protecting Micronesia’s coastline from erosion, storm surges or tsunamis by stabilizing sediments and reducing the force of waves, the same as the previously mentioned salt marsh environments.

This island was so large that in the year 1850, it was the site of a pitched battle; some stories recall that fighters hid behind coconut palms to avoid musket bullets. But today, there is no sign of Nahla Pelo Hd, not even a mound of sand marking where it once was.

— *Patrick Nunn, Australian researcher*

f. UNESCO

The United Nations Scientific, Educational, and Cultural Organisation is one of the most active and impactful international bodies fighting for the preservation of culture. Their efforts consist of multiple strategies, working with UN member states to provide the best programs, the most notable ones being offering support for capacity-building initiatives, preservation through inventories and documentation, education and mass awareness campaigns, and most importantly the World Heritage Committee.

The World Heritage Committee is an organ of UNESCO, consisting of 21 members elected every 4 years by the General Assembly. The main goal of the council is to find new concrete strategies and the best methods for preserving crucial aspects part of endangered cultures. This process consists of multiple stages, from identifying heritage sites to evaluating them, followed by monitoring and reporting stages, and then a decision is finally made whether the site in question is critically endangered, and it is finally added to the official list. Only after those steps, does the committee begin to work directly with the country of origin in providing concise guidance and spreading public awareness.

Up to this date, the World Heritage Committee has recorded 1157 sites, from 167 countries and continues to hold its promises.

IX. Points to be Addressed

- Is it too late to stop the rapidly rising sea levels, or should governments only focus on adaptation?
- Should sinking countries sacrifice the surrounding ecosystems if it allows them to conduct projects protecting them from the sea?
- Do the countries contributing the most to the rise in sea levels have any moral right to take accountability?
- Is the creation of ‘virtual nations’ a feasible solution?
- Is it possible for a group to keep practicing their traditions the same way after relocation?
- How can a sinking country be defined?
- Should the United Nations and other international organizations adopt legal changes to already existing documents or bodies to accommodate the arising needs of such nations?
- Should the United Nations and other international organizations create new bodies to manage the crisis or promulgate new laws and measures?
- Should the United Nations form a universal framework to protect the laws of cultural and national cohesion?
- Could the question of relocating the entirety of a country be possible?
- Is technological development, with the goal of improving prevention mechanisms against rising seas, worth taking into consideration?

X. Further Reading

[Indonesia's sinking villages: a hopeless battle against rising sea levels | DW News \(youtube.com\)](#)

[How to save a sinking island nation \(bbc.com\)](#)

[Conservation of underwater cultural heritage: characteristics and new technologies - UNESCO Digital Library](#)

[Culture overboard! The climate shift of international cultural heritage law in the face of rising sea levels - QIL QDI \(qil-qdi.org\)](#)

[No Job Name \(unfccc.int\)](#)

XI. Bibliography

[Sinking islands, rising costs: The Maldives' race against climate change \(only.one\)](#)

[Cultural heritage is an essential resource for climate change science | PreventionWeb](#)

[Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage | UNESCO](#)

[Tuvalu: Why Is the Small Island Nation Sinking? | Earth.Org](#)

[Onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/jcop.22928](#)

[5,700 years of sea-level change in Micronesia hint at humans arriving much earlier than we thought \(theconversation.com\)](#)

[Sea levels rising twice as fast as thought in New Zealand | RNZ News](#)

[Tuvalu will be preserved in the metaverse as rising sea levels threaten to destroy the country | Mashable](#)

[Climate crisis: New Zealand urged to make it easier for people moving from low-lying islands - NZ Herald](#)