Arbeitskreis Indianer Nordamerikas (AKIN)
Working Circle Indians of North America
Human Rights Work for Indigenous Peoples
E-Mail: office@arbeitskreis-indianer.at
www.akin-group.org
www.facebook.com/arbeitskreisindianer/
Meetings: every 2nd Monday

Activity Report 2025

Organizational activities

March 2025

General Assembly AKIN - The existing board was re-elected.

Chairman:	Peter Schwarzbauer
Deputy Chairman:	Gawan Maringer
Treasurer:	Matthias Neitsch
Without specific function:	Angelika Fröch

April 2025

General Assembly of the "European Alliance for the Self-Determination of Indigenous PeopleS" (hereinafter referred to as the "Alliance") via Zoom. The Alliance consists of the following members:

- Aktionsgruppe Indianer & Menschenrechte (AGIM), München, Deutschland; www.aktionsgruppe.de
- *Arbeitskreis Indianer Nordamerikas (AKIN), Wien, Österreich; www.arbeitskreis-indianer.at*
- Comité de Solidarité avec les Indiens des Amériques (CSIA-NITASSINAN), Paris, France: www.csia-nitassinan.org
- Internationales Komitee für die Indigenen Amerikas Schweiz, Zürich, Schweiz: www.incomindios.ch
- MENSCHENRECHTE 3000 e.V. (HUMAN RIGHTS 3000), Freiburg, Deutschland: www.menschenrechte3000.de
- Tokata-LPSG RheinMain e.V.; Seligenstadt, Germany: www.leonardpeltier.de
- Verein zur Unterstützung nordamerikanischer Indianer (ASNAI), Berlin, Deutschland: www.asnai.de

The Alliance Board of Directors was re-elected and consists of:

Chairman:	Peter Schwarzbauer (AKIN)
Deputy Chairman:	Sylvain Duez-Alesandrini (CSIA-NITASSINAN)
Treasurer:	Monika Seiller (AGIM)
Deputy Treasurer:	Helena Nyberg (Incomindios Switzerland)

January-December 2025

Weekly meetings of AKIN via ZOOM, some meetings already held again physically at Matthias Neitsch's place.

In addition to the Alliance's General Assembly, four virtual meetings took place throughout the year, where AKIN representatives participated.

Campaigns/Protest actions

April 2025

AKIN donates €1,000 for Leonard Peltier's medical care.

April–May 2025

Gawan Maringer's participation in the 24th session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the UN in New York. Advocacy and support work for allied indigenous representatives on site.

June 2025	Visit by representatives of our partner organization in the Alliance (TOKATA) to Leonard Peltier.
July 2025	Letter of protest from AKIN and the European Alliance to the U.S. Forest Service calling for the prevention of a gold mining project in Spearfish Canyon (Black Hills).
September 2025	Facebook post about Orange Shirt Day on September 30 in Canada, which commemorates the thousands of Indigenous students who died in residential schools in Canada.
October 2025	Matthias Neitsch attempted to reopen the discussion about the term “Indian” with the managing director of Südwind. No response so far.
November 2025	Statement by the European Alliance for the Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples on the ongoing attacks against autonomous indigenous communities in Chiapas, Mexico – addressed to the Mexican government, the governor of Chiapas, and the Mexican embassies in the countries where the Alliance’s partner organizations are based.

Media work/Press releases/Press reports

January 22, 2025	Forwarding of the press release from the Society for Threatened Peoples Germany to the Austrian press regarding U.S. President Biden’s last-minute commutation of the sentence of indigenous political prisoner Leonard Peltier to house arrest.
December 17, 2025	Interview by Klaus Hartmann with Gawan Maringer on the topic “Is it still okay to say ‘Indian’ today?”. Published by the Freidenker Verband (https://www.freidenker.org/?p=23915)

Articles written for the AKIN website (www.akin-group.org/)

January 2025	Claus Biegert (Honorary Member of AKIN): Visiting Leonard Peltier on the Turtle Mountain Reservation — Home Again After 49 Years [Zu Besuch bei Leonard Peltier im Reservat Turtle Mountain — nach 49 Jahren wieder zu Hause]
June 2025	Angelika Froech: "Indian"—is it still okay to use this term? I[ndianer — darf man das noch sagen?]
September 2025	Monika Gamillscheg: Native American Fashion: From Roots to Runway – Review of an exhibition at the Världskulturmuseet (The Museum of World Culture) in Gothenburg, Sweden [Native American Fashion: From Roots to Runway - Rezension einer Ausstellung im Världskulturmuseet (The Museum of World Culture) in Göteborg, Schweden]
October 2025	Article on the book presentation on November 26th, 2025: Winnetou — Karl May in Critical Times [Artikel zur Buchpräsentation am 26. November 2025: Winnetou — Karl May in kritischen Zeiten]

Events

May 5th, 2025	Lecture by Peter Schwarzbauer on the topic “Native Americans of North America—Still a Struggle for Survival” in several classes at the highschool in St. Pölten.
May 17th, 2025	Lecture by Peter Schwarzbauer on the topic “Working Group on North American Indigenous Peoples (AKIN) – An Austrian Human Rights Organization Advocating for Indigenous Rights” before the Karl May Club Austria.
November 26th, 2025	Book presentation of “WINNETOU – Karl May in Critical Times” by Klaus Farin & Gabriele Haefs (eds.) (Hirnkost Verlag) at the Wieden Public Library. Co-organized with the Karl May Club Austria. The event also included a brief presentation by AKIN.

Indigenous visits

In October 2025, our honorary member Milo Yellowhair (Oglala Lakota) visited us.

Miscellaneous

Our new contact data: www.akin-group.org/ ; email: office@akin-group.org

Regular distribution of the **newsletter** by e-mail to all interested parties registered on our homepage: News of current events and new articles on our website about the situation of Indigenous Peoples of North America.

Regular posts and links of current articles and videos on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/arbeitskreisindianer/)

In April 2024, and also in June 2025 AKIN supported Dr. Doerthe Rosenow (International Relations - King's College London) in her **research** on contacts between Native Americans/AIM and the German/German-speaking peace and environmental movement in the 1980s.

Fallweise Unterstützung von Schüler*innen bei der Verfassung von vorwissenschaftlichen Arbeiten zum Thema „Indianer“ für die Matura.

Selected fotos

Representatives from our partner organization in the Alliance (TOKATA) visited Leonard Peltier; here Claudia Weigmann-Koch, and Michael Koch, accompanied by Leonard

Representatives of the "European Alliance for the Self-Determination of Indigenous PeopleS at the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)" at the UN in New York. From left to right: Pascal Elsner (Incomindios), Monika Seiller (AGIM), Helena Nyberg (Incomindios), Gawan Maringer (AKIN)

AKIN Facebook post marking Orange Shirt Day in Canada on September 30, a day dedicated to remembering the thousands of Indigenous students who died in residential schools in Canada.

Visit by our honorary member Milo Yellowhair (Oglala Lakota) – pictured here with Thomas Müllner