



Centre de documentation, de recherche et d'information des peuples autochtones  
Indigenous peoples' centre for documentation, research and information  
Centro de documentación, investigación e información de los pueblos indígenas  
Исследовательско-Информационный Центр Документации Коренных Народов



# Activity Report 2023



Rémi Orsier  
Director of Docip

*In 2023, Geneva and Docip celebrated the centennial of the arrival of Deskaheh, the first Indigenous representative to come and work for the recognition of the rights of his Nation.*

*This was also a year of change for Docip, which has seen a large part of its team renewed, undertaken with the aim of responding ever more effectively to the needs of Indigenous delegations.*

## The Foundation

Docip is a non-profit foundation under Swiss law whose objective is to support Indigenous Peoples in the defense of their rights, mainly in connection with UN and European institutions. It aims to facilitate the participation of Indigenous representatives at the international level, in particular by providing them with necessary information, translation and interpretation services in 4 languages (French, English, Spanish and Russian), and by training and supporting them in their local and international advocacy.

Since its creation in 1978 on the initiative of Indigenous delegations who came to Geneva to defend the recognition of their rights, Docip has been collecting statements they have made at the UN\*. This collection has been included in UNESCO's\* Memory of the World Register.

## Key Data



9 employees



Annual budget of approx. 1 million Swiss francs



200 volunteers



2 offices

# Values

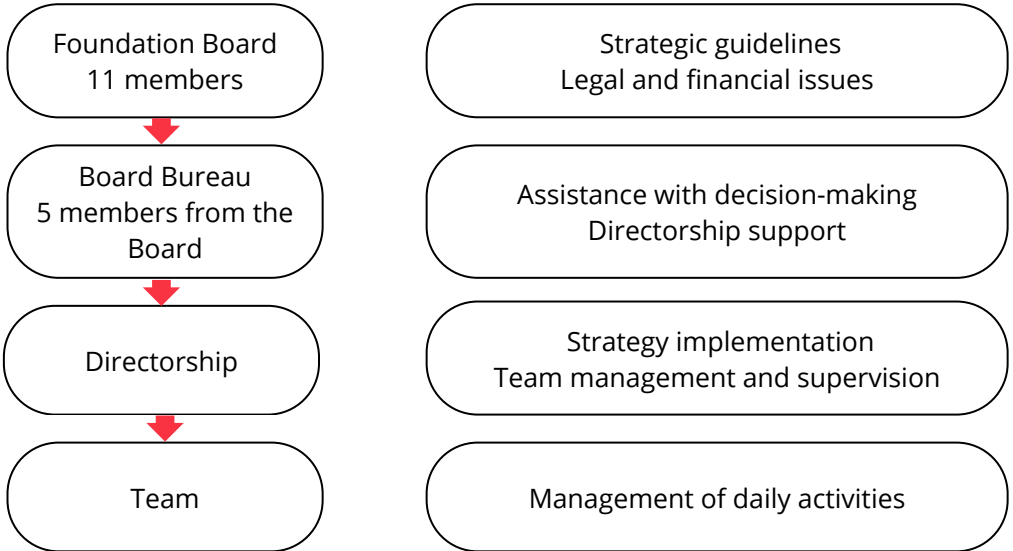
*Non-interference*

*Neutrality*

*Reciprocity*

*Consultation*

## Internal Operations



## Areas of Activity

### Technical Services

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- Non-conference Services p.4
- Information & Documentation p.5

### Specialized Services

- UN & EU Legal Support p.6
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# Technical Services

Docip's technical support mainly consists of interpreting services, translation, provision of workspaces, assistance with organization of meetings, and dissemination of information.

## Conference Services

During conferences, Docip offers interpreting services, translation, workspaces, support for the organization of meetings, and information dissemination.

Docip's working languages are French, English, Spanish and Russian. Other languages are added, if necessary.



11 conferences,  
including 9 UN  
conferences



1,500 delegates  
supported



10 preparatory  
meetings



92%  
satisfaction

## Non-conference Services

In addition to conferences, Docip offers technical interpreting services during online events and translates documents useful for advocacy. It continually disseminates useful information to Indigenous delegations.



77 events



32 organizations  
supported



240 hours of  
interpretation



36,000 words  
translated in  
4 languages

# Documentation Center

Docip's Documentation Center comprises:

- a library containing over 3,000 documents (monographs, periodicals, etc.) relating to the rights of Indigenous Peoples; and
- an archive preserving and making available more than 15,000 statements made by Indigenous Peoples before various UN mechanisms.



100% of statements collected

## Publications



Two Summary Notes



4,130 recipients

Each year, Docip distributes at least two documents: the Summary Notes of the discussions held during (1) the EMRIP\* session and (2) the UNPFII\* session.

## Dissemination of Information

In order to facilitate Indigenous participation in international events, Docip regularly shares information on current and upcoming conferences, funding opportunities, and calls to contribute to various international mechanisms.

This information is disseminated via a weekly electronic newsletter (or separately, as needed, for important items), but also on social networks: Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram and LinkedIn.



463 Facebook posts



50 weekly letters



More than 500 responses online



25,000 website visitors

# Specialized Services

## UN Legal Support

During the main conferences on Indigenous Peoples' rights, Docip provides support to delegations, including: discussions on advocacy strategies, making contacts, drafting of statements, drafting of requests for support, etc.

Outside of conferences, Docip supports Indigenous delegations on a case-by-case basis before UN human rights mechanisms, including UPRs\* and treaty bodies.



Support for UPRs  
in 6 countries



23 statements  
improved



42 meetings  
organized

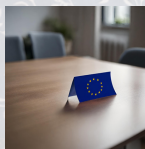
## European Union Legal Support

Docip's European office supports and guides Indigenous delegations in their advocacy actions at the European level, on a case-by-case basis. In addition, Docip relays requests for amendments made by Indigenous delegations to Members of the European Parliament.

Finally, in conjunction with the Geneva office, it facilitates the submission of requests for protection of Indigenous human rights defenders.



93 suggestions  
for amendments



38 meetings with  
key European  
stakeholders



24 human rights  
defenders  
supported

# Training

Docip provides training to Indigenous delegations in several forms: in person in Geneva, online, and in the field. In 2023, only the first two types of training were carried out.



6 people trained in person



90 people trained online

## Centennial of the Arrival of Deskaheh

Docip was actively involved in the celebration of the centennial of the attempted appearance before the League of Nations of the Haudenosaunee chief Deskaheh, the first Indigenous person to demand recognition of the rights of his People at the international level.

An exhibition produced by the Haudenosaunee Confederation with the support of Docip and the City of Geneva was installed on the banks of Lake Geneva for more than a month. It provided an opportunity to showcase Haudenosaunee identity, the history of Indigenous struggles, and the centuries-old link that unites Geneva and Indigenous Peoples.

The opening of the exhibition took place during the EMRIP\* in July, which provided an opportunity to organize a march of Indigenous Peoples and their allies between the UN\* and the exhibition venue, echoing the march of Indigenous delegations that had returned in 1977 to defend the recognition of their rights.

# In 2024...

2024 will be a busy year for Docip in terms of conferences and other activities. The expected reorganization of the Documentation Center has the goal of making more accessible the thousands of documents in Docip's care. Training activities will be conducted in the field, and technical support will be provided for a wider variety of conferences. Finally, celebrations related to the Centennial of Deskaheh's visit will continue, notably with a bilingual publication.

## Glossary (in order of appearance)

UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
EMRIP	Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
UNPFII	United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
UPR	Universal Periodic Review

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## Contact us



+41 22 740 34 33



docip@docip.org



@docip\_en



facebook.com/docip.org

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