



## NAVAJO NATION HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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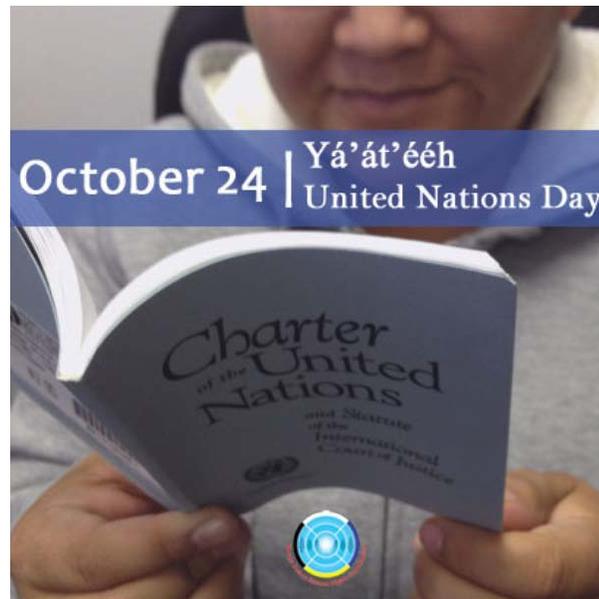
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### NNHRC observes United Nations Day today

SAINT MICHAELS, Navajo Nation—In observation of United Nations Day, the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission shares that this day in history, the Charter of the United Nations came into force on October 24, 1945. It is the founding treaty of nations with common interests in protecting rights of human beings all over the world.

In a statement about the 67<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.N. Charter's ratification, Leonard Gorman for the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission stated,

“During the first four years of the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission, Navajo human rights issues have been elevated into the world community. The Commission has worked diligently with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to assess the United States' obligation to Navajo human rights. The Commission also worked steadfastly with the U.N. Special Rapporteur Anaya to register concerns with the U.N. Human Rights Council. The Commission recognizes that Navajo human rights are nurtured and more often protected by international standards than U.S. domestic laws. The Commission has expressed its comfort in using U.N. laws to protect Navajo rights. The Commission wishes a happy birthday to the United Nations and thanks its founding nations.”



*Photo: Staff member, Elaine A. Begay for the Navajo Nation Human Rights Commission, is featured in the social networking meme about United Nations Day.*

NNHRC also welcomes U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's statement that the United Nations must keep pace with its global scale activities including human rights.

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Said Ban Ki-Moon, “We are living through a period of profound turmoil, transition and transformation. Insecurity, inequality and intolerance are spreading. Global and national institutions are being put to the test. With so much at stake, the United Nations must keep pace across the spectrum of its activities—peace, development, human rights, the rule of law, the empowerment of the world’s women and youth.”

Lastly, Gorman said, “While the U.S. has an assortment of commitments to international human rights binding treaties it needs to expeditiously implement the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.”

To read the U.N. Charter, visit <http://www.un.org/en/documents/charter/index.shtml>.

To participate in United Nations Day events in the cities which are scheduled from October 24-October 27, visit <http://www.unausa.org/calendar/search> to view the schedule.

*According to the United Nations Association of the United States of America, “In 1947, two years after ratifying the UN Charter, the UN General Assembly adopted a U.S.-sponsored resolution declaring October 24 United Nations Day. Since then, UN Day has been observed in countries large and small around the world. From that time forward, each U.S. President has issued an annual proclamation asking citizens to observe UN Day, and to reflect upon the importance of the UN to America’s national interests.”*

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