

UN: Hearing on Puerto Rico

Escrito por José M. López Sierra

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This June 18, 2012, The United Nation's (UN) Special Decolonization Committee will hold a hearing on Puerto Rico (PR).

The United Nations (UN) is in its third decade trying to decolonize the last 17 remaining colonies. Puerto Rico is the oldest and most populated colony with close to 4 million people!

In 1960, the UN determined that colonialism is a threat to world peace, and therefore declared it a crime against humanity!

The UN's Special Committee for Decolonization is responsible for working towards a colony-free world. To that end, it holds an annual hearing to discuss the Puerto Rico case. This year it will be on June 18th 2012. Most people are oblivious to this! Why?

I have never seen these hearings broadcast on Puerto Rican television in all of my 32 years living here! I haven't because they are not broadcast by the Puerto Rican TV stations. You would expect that the government run WIPR-TV would, but it does not either. Here is another example of PR being run backwards for Puerto Ricans! So the logical question is why isn't this hearing at the UN about Puerto Rico blacked-out in Puerto Rico?

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This is the best example to show that the PR government works for the interest of the United States (US) and itself, and not for the people of PR. This is how and why PR has been a colony of the US for 114 years. Here is another way.

In 1953, the US asked the UN to removed Puerto Rico from its list of colonies. The US claimed that with the creation of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico in 1952, she stopped being a colony. The UN accepted.

Through the years, the UN realized that PR never stopped being a colony of the US. Nevertheless, the UN has never returned PR back on its list of colonies. How could that help in decolonizing PR? We have to work with the truth to solve problems for real! Obviously, that decision is on the side of being part of the problem instead of the solution!

We the people, and the UN should insist that these hearings be publicized and broadcast throughout the world in order to get as many people involved who also believe that colonialism is a crime against humanity to demand its immediate abolition. With the truth, we can all see clearly. But with lies, we are left in the dark! Who does that benefit?

The hearing will start at 10:00 AM. You need to go through the Visitor's Entrance on 46th Street and 1st Avenue to get your ground pass between 9:00 and 9:45 AM. You will need a valid picture ID card. Flags and banners are not permitted in the conference room. You need to say that:

I am answering Secretary General's Ban Ki-moon's call to get involved in decolonization. I want to attend today's hearing on Puerto Rico decolonization.

Should anyone be denied access to the hearing, he/she should join the protest outside the UN at 46th Street and 1st Avenue. We would have the above banner for identification. The demonstration would be from 10 to 5 PM. The protest would be for denying us access after the Secretary General invited us to get involved! So the obvious question would be: Is the UN really trying to decolonize?

I will be addressing the Committee that day. My keys points will be:

- Need to publicize the hearing throughout the year
- Educate the public about the decolonization process
- Why decolonization can't be a domestic matter
- Put back Puerto Rico on the UN list of colonies
- Colonialism is intolerable to democracies
- Puerto Ricans need to talk amongst ourselves and decide what we want
- Why the pressure for decolonization must be high to achieve decolonization

If you can't attend the hearing, you can see it via the UN's Webcam.