**COURSE   
‘BUSINESS AND NATURAL RESOURCES RIGHTS’**

**SESSION 10**

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| **Session title** | **Simulation of the proceedings of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights involving indigenous community** |
| Type of the session | Seminar |

**SESSION ABSTRACT**

The session is a simulation of the proceedings in the case of the *Kichwa Indigenous People of Sarayaku v. Ecuador* adjudicated by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights in 2012.

This case involved the granting of a permit by the State to a private oil company to carry out oil exploration and exploitation activities in the ancestral territory of the Kichwa Indigenous People of Sarayaku, without previously consulting them. The company’s activities included the installation of high-powered explosives in several parts of their territory, depriving the people from subsistence activities and cultural practices. The forcible entry caused destruction of sacred sites and led to confrontations between the indigenous community, the company and Ecuador’s armed forces.

The class shall be divided into groups: one representing the applicant, and other – the respondent. Relying on the facts of the case, the groups are required to produce argumentation and perform a simulation of the proceedings.

**SESSION READINGS**

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| **Mandatory** |
| *Kichwa Indigenous People of Sarayaku v. Ecuador, Inter-American Court Of Human Rights Judgment (2012),* ***PART I ONLY (INTRODUCTION OF THE CASE):*** [*https://corteidh.or.cr/docs/casos/articulos/seriec\_245\_ing.pdf*](https://corteidh.or.cr/docs/casos/articulos/seriec_245_ing.pdf) |
| **Optional & recommended** |
| Confirming Rights: Inter-American Court Ruling Marks Key Victory for Sarayaku People in Ecuador. September 2012. Available at: <https://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/confirming-rights-inter-american-court-ruling-marks-key> |
| A Hard-Earned Victory for Indigenous Rights in Latin America: Sarayaku v. Ecuador. August 2012. Available at: <https://earthrights.org/blog/a-hard-earned-victory-for-indigenous-rights-in-latin-america-sarayaku-v-ecuador/> |