

****FORMAL NOTICE OF THIRD-PARTY TREATY INTEREST,**

DEMAND FOR PARTICIPATION,
AND RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

Re: Convention for the Cession of the Danish West Indies to the United States (1916) and Contemporaneous Diplomatic Assurances Concerning Greenland

I. IDENTITY OF NOTIFYING PARTY

The People of the United States Virgin Islands (“the People of the USVI”), acting through their duly authorized representative, the **Caribbean Institute for a New Humanity (d/b/a ACRRA)**,

hereby issue this **Formal Notice of Third-Party Treaty Interest, Demand for Participation, and Reservation of Rights**.

II. PURPOSE AND LEGAL CHARACTER OF THIS NOTICE

1. This Notice is issued to formally and unequivocally assert that the People of the United States Virgin Islands constitute an **indispensably affected third party** with a direct, continuing, and legally cognizable interest in the interpretation, application, execution, and continuing effects of the **1916 Convention for the Cession of the Danish West Indies** and associated diplomatic assurances.
2. This Notice **does not assert that the People of the USVI are a “High Contracting Party”** to the 1916 Convention.
3. This Notice **does assert** that:
 - the People of the USVI were the **direct subjects** of the territorial transfer effected by the Convention;
 - their political status, nationality, civil rights, and juridical personality were expressly deferred, conditioned, or left unresolved by that transfer; and
 - those unresolved conditions continue to produce legal and practical effects today.

4. This Notice is **procedural and preservative in nature**. It does not request any tribunal or authority to reach the merits of any dispute at this stage.
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III. FACTUAL AND LEGAL BASIS OF THIRD-PARTY INTEREST

5. The 1916 Convention transferred sovereignty over the territory and population of the former Danish West Indies to the United States without:
 - consultation with the inhabitants,
 - a plebiscite,
 - or treaty-guaranteed civil or political rights.
 6. The contemporaneous diplomatic assurance issued by the United States regarding non-objection to Danish sovereignty over Greenland formed part of the **same diplomatic context** within which the Convention was negotiated, ratified, and executed.
 7. The People of the USVI were:
 - neither parties to the Convention,
 - nor beneficiaries of enforceable protections within it,
 - yet were the population whose legal status was fundamentally altered by its execution.
 8. As a matter of international law, treaties and diplomatic settlements may generate **legally cognizable effects for non-signatory populations** whose rights, status, or legal personality are directly conditioned by their execution.
 9. The People of the USVI have **never acquiesced** in the closure, extinguishment, or final settlement of claims arising from Denmark's colonial governance or from the legal consequences of the 1916 Convention. This position has been **formally and continuously asserted** through the institutions of territorial self-government, including by **Resolution No. 1680 (2005) of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands**, which expressly condemned slavery, affirmed Denmark's historical responsibility, and sought reparative engagement through international and bilateral processes.
 10. Resolution No. 1680 further recognized and endorsed the role of **ACRRA** as the vehicle through which reparative justice discussions and international engagement concerning Denmark's colonial obligations were to be pursued, thereby confirming the representative capacity under which this Notice is issued.
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IV. DEMAND FOR PARTICIPATION AND PROCEDURAL INCLUSION

11. Accordingly, the People of the USVI hereby formally demand that, in any:

- interpretation,
- negotiation,
- dispute resolution,
- arbitration,
- or diplomatic engagement

concerning the 1916 Convention or its continuing legal effects,

they be accorded, at minimum:

- a. **Timely notice** of such proceedings;
 - b. **Access to the record** of such proceedings; and
 - c. **An opportunity to be heard**, whether through amicus submissions, third-party briefs, or other appropriate procedural mechanisms.
12. Any process purporting to interpret, apply, or give legal effect to the 1916 Convention **without such participation** is hereby placed on formal notice as procedurally defective with respect to the rights and interests of the People of the USVI.

V. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

13. The issuance of this Notice is **without prejudice** to, and shall not be construed as a waiver of, any rights or remedies available to the People of the USVI under:

- international human rights law,
- the law of treaties,
- the law of state responsibility,
- regional or universal human rights mechanisms,
- or any other applicable legal framework.

14. The People of the USVI expressly reserve the right to:

- pursue claims against the United States and/or the Kingdom of Denmark in appropriate fora;
- invoke the 1916 Convention and its associated diplomatic framework in such fora; and

- challenge any exclusionary process that purports to determine their legal status without their participation.

VI. NON-ACQUIESCENCE

15. Silence, inaction, or failure by any State or institution to acknowledge this Notice **shall not be construed as acquiescence** by the People of the USVI.
16. This Notice is intended to defeat any future claim that the People of the USVI:
 - lacked legal interest,
 - failed to assert their rights,
 - or acquiesced in their exclusion from treaty-related processes.

VII. EFFECTIVE DATE

17. This Notice is effective upon issuance and service.

Issued on behalf of the People of the United States Virgin Islands

Caribbean Institute for a New Humanity (d/b/a ACRRA)
Authorized Representative

Name: SHELLEY A. H. MOORHEAD

Title: PRESIDENT

Date: 22 JANUARY 2026



President | **Caribbean Institute for a New Humanity (d/b/a/ ACRRA)**
Former Minister of State for External Affairs | **USVI Office of the Governor**
Commissioner | **U.S. Virgin Islands 2017 Transfer Centennial Commission**
Former Secretary-General | **Inter-Virgin Islands Council**
Former Chairman of the Standing Committee | **Inter-Virgin Islands Council**