

## Home assignment – HUMR5502 – due 26 November

*Choose one -1- of the following two questions:*

### 1. Indigenous Peoples and the State

Various definitions of 'indigenous peoples' have been put forward and most of them include references to the relationship between the state (on whose lands the group in question lives) as well as to self-identity. With a particular view to the legal definitions given in e.g. ILO Convention 169/1989 and UNDRIP, and in the light of debates about group formation and citizenship as presented throughout the course, discuss the strengths and weaknesses of such definitions in terms of facilitating the inclusion of affected groups. Use at least two actual cases to illustrate your discussion.

Also use the cases to evaluate how such definitions have shaped actual political processes inside as well as outside of indigenous society.

### 2. Ethnicity and Politics

Few if any contemporary states are without social and political conflicts typically imagined as 'ethnic' in character. Moreover, such conflicts are frequently long-lasting, deep, violent and quite difficult to solve. Why is this so? Select at least two cases of entrenched ethnic conflict and make use of different disciplinary perspectives for analysing the conflicts in question and for explaining the apparent power of ethnicity as a political and social force.

How do the different perspectives stand in relation to each other, and how can they be (or not be) useful in a peace process?