**Hello to all recipients of this message. Please take the time to read this message very quickly. Part 2 is important for your actions.**

**INTRO:** This information will first be sent to the email groups "Europe for Peltier 2024", "European Alliance for the Self Determination of Indigenous PeopleS", "Member list TOKATA-LPSG RheinMain" and Whats App group "Europe for Peltier" as well as individual recipients selected by us.

We will then go to the media with the planned campaign and promote participation on our social media pages.

Before we introduce you to the central, new campaign, here is some information on other parts of the **EUROPE FOR PELTIER 2024** campaign, as well as the **Official Leonard Peltier Ad Hoc Committee**, the **Oglala Commemoration Committee**, **Tokata-LPSG RheinMain**, the **Society for Threatened Peoples** and **FREE THEM ALL BERLIN**:

* To mark the anniversary of Peltier's arrest on February 6, actions took place again this year in several European countries, ranging from vigils and rallies to newspaper articles and advertising campaigns. We have summarized this in a YouTube presentation. Here is the link to the five-minute YouTube clip: <https://youtu.be/gFFdsN5FGck?si=qB5TPkVIp4nc6alb>
* At the end of February 2024, the 54-page German-language brochure "INDIGENOUS RESISTANCE IN THE AMERICAS" was published by FREE THEM ALL BERLIN with the support of ROTE HILFE, CAFE LIBERTAD, NETZWERK FÜR POLITISCHE GEFANGENE, MUMIA-BÜNDNIS and TOKATA-LPSG RheinMain. Two articles on Leonard Peltier are also included. You can order the brochure for postage and a small donation (i.e. at least € 5.00) from us (at mailto:lpsgrheinmain@aol.com) or download it at [Download: Brochure "Indigenous Resistance in the Americas" - Free Them All Berlin (nostate.net)](https://freethemallberlin.nostate.net/2024/03/05/download-broschuere-indigener-widerstand-in-den-americas/).
* As the next action point, we have chosen the Days of Political Prisoners (March 18) and Revolutionary Prisoners (April 17) to draw attention to Leonard Peltier's fate. Again, similar to February 6, activities took place in several European countries, which we will document in the coming days in the form of a YouTube post.
* At the beginning of April, we launched an initiative to get in touch with the Human Rights Commissioner of the German Federal Government. We will report on the further progress later in May.
* As in previous years, we will be planning activities around Oglala Commemoration Day (26 June) at the upcoming EUROPE FOR PELTIER 2024 meeting.
* Against the background of the permanent lockdowns in USP Coleman 1 and Leonard Peltier's state of health, the OLPAHC has called for action, which we have also multiplied here in Europe (see also [Leonard Peltier still needs support. Call-Write-Donate - Tokata-LPSG RheinMain e.V.](https://www.leonardpeltier.de/13622-leonard-peltier-benoetigt-weiterhin-unterstuetzung-anrufen-schreiben-spenden) ). Currently, we would like to draw your attention to another series of actions. Leonard Peltier's lawyer Jenipher Jones wrote to us: "*I have just submitted a complaint to the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture. (see also* [Leonard Peltier's medical situation: Request for communications to the UN Human Rights Council, Special Rapporteur on Torture and Special Procedures - Tokata-LPSG RheinMain e.V](https://www.leonardpeltier.de/13732-medizinische-situation-leonard-peltiers-antrag-auf-mitteilungen-an-den-un-menschenrechtsrat-sonderberichterstatter-fuer-folter-und-sonderverfahren-gestellt)*.). )We have just launched* ***The World Is Watching: Free Peltier 2024*** *and are working with some people from Mumia's team. I hope we can all work together to raise international awareness for Leonard.*
* The **STP** has written various letters of support for this. And our association "Tokata - LPSG RheinMain" will also be campaigning for Leonard Peltier in 2024 with a variety of activities, e.g.: monthly and event-related vigils and rallies in several cities; reading and lecture tours, newspaper articles, concerts ....

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**Part 2**

EUROPE FOR PELTIER 2024 was created primarily against the background that this year we saw an accumulation of several possibilities in the fight for Leonard Peltier's freedom and that Leonard is also celebrating his 80th birthday this year (hopefully in freedom). The three possibilities are:

Compassionate release (release on compassionate grounds), Parole (parole release) and Clemency (pardon by President Biden in connection with the presidential election). With regard to Compassionate Release, we heard during the ICCPR consultations in Geneva last October that an application was pending. On the second option, Parole, there is now news and this brings us to another important campaign for us here in Europe as well, because we are now launching a new and important campaign in consultation with both of Leonard Peltier's lawyers, Kevin Sharp and Jenipher Jones. And here we really have to **hurry**.

***From the conversations with Kevin and Jenipher, the following therefore emerges, which should also guide our actions:***

A hearing before the Parole Commission (PC) will take place in June 2024, probably on June 5. As a reminder, the last hearing before the PC was in 2009, when one of the advocates/witnesses for Leonard was the now deceased author of IN THE SPIRIT OF CRAZY HORSE, Peter Matthiessen. A parole release was rejected at the time, citing the seriousness of the crime, and Peltier could submit a new application in 2024. This application has now been submitted and a date has been set.

According to Jenipher Jones, her co-counsel, Moira Melzter-Cohen, is leading Leonard's parole efforts. Kevin Sharp is also involved and is responsible for Leonard's advocates/witnesses, among other things. According to a conversation with Kevin Sharp last Thursday, one of the people already scheduled to be involved is someone we had also favored and communicated with, the prosecutor overseeing the prosecution, trial and sentencing at the time and now a proponent of Peltier's pardon, James H. Reynold.

**The question now is how we in Europe can support the Parole Commission Hearing?**

What is important is what we were already told by the lawyers at the first ZOOM meeting in January and was also formulated earlier by Kevin Sharp, namely evidence of the "international interest and worldwide attention" in the case of Peltier and his freedom. In this context, the following actions were certainly important contributions:

* The RISE UP FOR PELTIER COALITION's fact-finding trip through Europe and the numerous talks with parliamentarians in Italy, Switzerland, France and Germany as well as with UN representatives in Geneva, 2022
* The postcard campaign by Tokata-LPSG RheinMain in cooperation with the EUROPEAN ALLIANCE .... for Peltier's freedom to the US President, in which groups from 15 states are participating. Since 2021, 66,000 postcards have been distributed and many thousands have been sent to the White House. Another 1,000 cards will be reprinted shortly and can be ordered at <mailto:lpsgrheinmain@aol.com>
* The appearances of the WAREPROTECTOR COALITION and, on behalf of the OLPADC and Leonard Peltier and his defense of TOKATA-LPSG RheinMain at the ICCPR consultations before a high-level US panel in Geneva, October 2023.
* International petitions and signature campaigns for Peltier's freedom. Tokata-LPSG RheinMain alone has sent 15,807 signatures to the White House in the last 6 years and copies to Kevin Sharp. ([Almost 2,500 signatures are again being sent to the White House for Leonard Peltier's freedom](https://www.leonardpeltier.de/13121-german-english-fast-2-500-unterschriften-gehen-erneut-fuer-leonard-peltiers-freiheit-an-das-weisse-haus-seit-6-jahren-reichte-unser-verein-ueber-15-000-unterschriften-ein-over-2-500-new-signatures). [Since 6 years our association submitted over 15,000 signatures/Over 2,500 new signatures are going again for Leonard Peltier's freedom to the White House. Since 6 years our association submitted over 15.000 signatures - Tokata-LPSG RheinMain e.V.](https://www.leonardpeltier.de/13121-german-english-fast-2-500-unterschriften-gehen-erneut-fuer-leonard-peltiers-freiheit-an-das-weisse-haus-seit-6-jahren-reichte-unser-verein-ueber-15-000-unterschriften-ein-over-2-500-new-signatures)) Kevin Sharp emphasized once again that these are important indications and arguments for his negotiations and also for the Parole Commission Hearing. We are therefore sending another 330 signatures for the upcoming hearing, which we have received again since December 10, 2023, to both lawyers, the Parole Commission and the White House. Total since 2017: 16,137 signatures

This brings us to one of the answers that Kevin Sharp gave us. Now for the second answer: **letters of support should be sent en masse from Europe to the Parole Commission, campaigning for Peltier's release on parole**. These letters can be written by organizations as well as individuals.

**What should be in the letters?** Please focus on the following aspects: Health situation, age, human rights. We will write down a few keywords at the end of this appeal. Please do not refer to the legal-political aspects, i.e. the questionable nature of the charges, the construction of the indictment, the extradition from Canada, the conduct of the trial, the conviction and ongoing imprisonment. These are not productive indications for parole release and are more likely to have the opposite effect on the Parole Commission, even if all this is true.

**What should letters look like?** Please write your letters in a polite, non-confrontational style. Humanitarian arguments are the most convincing at this point. Please leave out all legal aspects, as we presented them critically and confrontationally in Geneva. We are not presenting you with a draft collective letter. Collective letters have considerably less effect than individual letters from people and organizations. Dawn Lawson from OLPAHC and Kevin Sharp have recently pointed this out once again. So write short letters to the PAROLE COMMISSION on the basis of the above-mentioned aspects "health situation, age, human rights". We will mention a few key points later.

**What do I do if I don't think my English is good enough for a letter?** Our tip: use a translation program for your letter, e.g. DEEPL. Link: [DeepL Translator: The most accurate translator in the world](https://www.deepl.com/de/translator) . In the free version, you have 1500 characters at your disposal. You have to write and translate longer texts in stages.

**Where do I send the letter**? Please send your letter as soon as possible to

**U.S. Parole Commission**

**90 K Street N.E., 3rd Floor**

**Washington, DC 20530**

**United States of America**

**Important:** Please send us **copies of your letters** (whether handwritten or printed) to our address either by post or preferably by email. We will collect them and then send copies to both Kevin Sharp's and Jenipher Jones' law offices as soon as possible.

All documents should be available in the USA by the end of April at the latest, i.e. with the US. Parole Commission and the two attorneys. We will take care of the permanent forwarding of your copies until the end of April. (After that we will be in Ukraine for a week). Here is our address:

Postal: TOKATA-LPSG RheinMain e. V.

c/o Dr. Michael Koch

Aschaffenburger Str. 135

D-63500 Seligenstadt

Germany

(best by Eilbrief)

Email: <mailto:lpsgrheinmain@aol.com>

**Keywords for your letters:** health situation:

Leonard Peltier has been ill for many years, sometimes seriously, in many respects.

He has been suffering from jaw problems for decades and currently also has dental problems. He does not receive adequate dental treatment.

He almost bled to death during an operation and was in a coma.

Peltier had a stroke and suffers from diabetes, high blood pressure and heart problems. The heart problems made heart surgery necessary in 2017.

Since 2011, Peltier has been suffering from pain in the prostate area, the causes of which are unknown to us.

20, Peltier was diagnosed with an abdominal aortic aneurysm, which has not yet been operated on. There is a risk that Peltier will bleed to death internally within minutes if the aneurysm bursts.

Leonard Peltier increasingly suffers from movement and balance problems. This is exacerbated by the constant lockdown and the associated lack of movement options. He is increasingly dependent on a walking aid.

Peltier's eyesight has been deteriorating dramatically for some time. Adequate ophthalmologic treatment, which is urgently needed, is not being provided.

Leonard Peltier was diagnosed with Covid 19 in 2022.

Age:

Leonard Peltier will be 80 years old on September 12, 2024. This means that after his arrest on February 6, 1976 at the age of 31, Peltier is now in his 49th year in prison.

Detention situation and human rights:

Against the backdrop of Peltier's advanced age and his precarious health situation alone, and due to prison conditions that have a significant negative impact on these two aspects due to constant lockdowns and inadequate medical care, Leonard Peltier's civil and human rights are considered to have been violated, as summarized by the UN Working Group on Discriminatory Detention 2021 in a 17-page report.

We therefore ask you, the US Parole Commission, to release Leonard Peltier from prison on parole. For humanitarian reasons alone, the Commission should decide to take this step. Many hundreds of thousands of people around the world would welcome this decision as a decision of humanity and justice, but also as a decision of reconciliation with the indigenous population of the USA.

Yours sincerely

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**TIME IS RUNNING:**

Please remember now, it is very urgent. It is best to write this week. You do not have to list all the points mentioned above. Concise summaries of Peltier's health and age and his impending death in custody will suffice. The letters should not be too long and should be polite in style, not confrontational but emotionally and factually convincing.

On behalf of Leonard Peltier, his family and friends, his lawyers and support groups, thank you

Michael Koch

TOKATA - LPSG RheinMain/Germany

*The campaign will be documented as an action by* ***EUROPE FOR PELTIER 2024*** *and the participating cooperation projects and individuals*