**Project Title:** Interpretation and Translation for Language Justice  
**Countries of Project Implementation:** Brazil, Haiti, and Spain  
**Community Partner:** EqualHealth Campaign Against Racism  
**Sponsoring University:** Tufts University  
**Designated Project Leader and Student:** Leanne Loo  
**Project Implementation Dates:** June 01, 2022 to August 31, 2022

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**PROPOSAL**

**Summary**

The Campaign Against Racism (CAR) works to dismantle structural racism and its effects on health around the world by supporting local actions, efforts, and networks, which aim to change the conditions that impact health and lives of those most affected by racism, because racism kills. We are organized to connect the historical threads between racism and capitalism to radically imagine a future in which sociocultural, political and economic systems work towards health equity, rather than against it.

We center the voices of communities and acknowledge that racism manifests differently in various global contexts and intersections of systems of oppression. We have 24 chapters committing to local actions in building global solidarity across 10 countries. Our chapters in the United States work with local communities, healthcare institutions, and movements to addressing localized impacts of structural racism. For example, our Atlanta chapter works with mutual aid networks and first responders to support unsheltered and formerly incarcerated people while also advancing an abolitionist vision. Our chapter in Las Cruces, New Mexico has been working on United States-Mexico and in immigration and customs enforcement (ICE) detention camps where they have been advocating for detention abolition and elimination of the structures that create health disparities. Globally, we have 4 chapters in Africa, namely Liberia, Zimbabwe, Uganda, and Rwanda, who work with health students and professionals to tackle medical racism. In Europe, our Barcelona chapter in Spain organizes around unaccompanied minors and migration. Our Brazil chapter works with Black, Indigenous, and LGBTQI communities to interrupt the impact of social marginalization on health through research and institutional change. In Asia, our India chapter organises around casteism, working with the Dalit community and other marginalized castes to realise their full rights and freedoms. Across our chapters, we have separate working groups where our members collaborate to address issues that resonate across different contexts and to build solidarity.

Some working groups include the following:

1. **Declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis**
   - The group writes and publishes in respected academic journals such as the New England Journal of Medicine and Health Affairs to build momentum around declarations of racism as a public health crisis, the importance of reparations in health equity, and abolitionist praxis in dismantling racism and racial capitalism. The aim is to specifically highlight and feature the expertise and politics of Global South chapters and prioritize language justice, especially in interpretation during our meetings and writing translation.

2. **Haiti Against White Supremacy**
   - The working group is organizing in solidarity with our Haitian CAR comrades to organize in response to white supremacy against violence Haitian migrants and to connect the Haitians struggle to the global struggle to dismantle the migration industrial complex.

3. **Global South Vaccine Equity**
   - The project aims to dismantle vaccine apartheid through a shared global struggle that will centre the local experience of the lived impact of vaccine apartheid. Through coalition building, utilizing international legal frameworks, interdisciplinary organizing, we will build power with tactics that take these local injustices to a global organizing strategy that dismantles the operationalization of racial capitalism within and beyond the vaccine context.

One of our campaign’s priorities is centering the Global South in all our collective processes as we build practices in solidarity with the most impacted communities. **Language justice is fundamental to ensure inclusion and participation of all chapters of the campaign and working groups. Thus, we are committed to supporting translation and interpretation to ensure all voices are heard and facilitating in chapters implementing their strategic goals.**
Our proposed project, titled “Interpretation and Translation for Language Justice,” aims to create spaces and ensure language justice within our campaign by utilizing funding from the Projects for Peace prize to hire and compensate translators, who translate written text, and interpreters, who translate speech in real-time. Translation and interpretation are critical to build solidarity across movement spaces and to work across artificial borders. Although this is a simple proposal, it is one that is integral to our mission and that will make immediate, material difference.

We currently require translators and interpreters in Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Spanish in a variety of our cross-chapter, working group, and campaign communications to better share resources with and continuing learning from our members in Haiti, Brazil, Spain, and members in English-speaking countries for whom English is not the first language. Current campaign communications are predominantly in English, a present reality made possible from centuries from British colonialism and empire. Even as we center the Global South, in our political orientations, the fact that the majority of our events and communications are in English exclude non-English speaking members, which does not allow for them to be a part of our most radical and courageous chapters from organizing spaces and opportunities. Furthermore, every month our working groups meet twice a month for six hours total at the very minimum; these include but are not limited to campaign-wide all-chapter calls, political education calls and communications. Although email and WhatsApp have been the primary forms of communication for upcoming events, political education resources, and opportunities to organize together, we only have funding for two calls a month and minimum email translation for our largest events.

Therefore, with the funding from Projects for Peace, we can not only provide adequate language services from English to Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Spanish, but we can also hold webinars in Haitian Creole, for example, and interpret the content into English. Such an interpretation from Haitian Creole into English is powerful because it reorients who holds power and whose knowledge counts toward the Global South and those who need to be most centered as justice moves forward. In summary, our goal is to shift the hope for language justice into a reality through adequate translation and interpretation that the Projects for Peace Prize can make possible. Centering the Global South is also about centering the People of the Global Majority, aka BIPOC, queer, gender nonconforming, and disabled people from the Global South and across the world. We are building peace and addressing conflict through the modes which people communicate the most: speech and text. This project has been approved by the Coordination Committee of the Campaign Against Racism.

**Expected Outcomes and Prospects for Future Impact**

We expect more chapter members from Haiti, Brazil, and Spain to attend and participate in our all-chapter, political education, and working group calls and a greater centering of Global South people. Making spaces more inclusive and accessible in language and practice allows emergence strategies that are not based in current paradigms that do not center justice, equity and dismantling capitalism. Prioritizing language justice within our campaign will allow our chapters to support each other in recognizing the global nature of racism while sharing organizing lessons, for example. Our cross-chapter working groups will be able to invite non-English speaking guests and to collaborate with non-English speaking organizations. It will also allow for learning, growing and sharing lessons, practices and priorities that are focused on centering those most directly impacted, rather than those who are privileged in spaces. It will also allow for emerging spaces and redistribution of power in terms of leadership and expertise from those who are most directly impacted. Within the Global South Vaccine Equity Group, for example, language justice will allow us to better achieve our goal of creating a shift in current structures of global health governance and to reimagine public health without apartheid led by solidarity that is based on justice and equity. With the Declaring Racism as a Public Health Crisis working group, language justice will allow for the context of the work to better reflect the realities and lived experiences from other places across the globe to strategize, build solidarity, and move together in challenging racism and intersectionality.