THE COMMUNICATOR



Navigating Diplomacy in an Age of Divergence

MUNISH 36 annual session : Nov 26'

WHO me? The World Health Organisation!

In the context of the United Nations, the World Health Organisation (WHO), was founded with the aim of monitoring and coordinating responses to international public health crises and outbreaks. They define health as, not just the absence of illness or disease, but as a state of physical, mental, and social well-being. This resonates with the topics they're discussing at this year's MUNISH: the question of rising vaccine hesitancy, regulation of artificial intelligence in digital health systems, and the governance of biotechnology and genetic engineering.

Vaccines revolutionized the way we view the medical field. Over the past 50 years, they've saved an estimated 154 million lives, reduced infant mortality by 40%, and continue to impact how doctors, researchers, and healthcare professionals view disease control and eradication.

However, the rising issue of 'vaccine hesitancy' has captured the attention of MUNISH delegates. Vaccine hesitancy is the delay or outright refusal of parents or individuals to receive vaccinations for themselves or their children despite availability. This is fueled by misinformation, ideological beliefs, and safety concerns, meaning that it has grown into an escalating global problem. This year the MUNISH WHO wishes to introduce systems that address the misinformation and unequal access to vaccines that have prompted vaccine hesitancy. It aims to build trust and credibility at a community level in places with low vaccination percentage rates. On the other hand, Artificial Intelligence is currently being used to interpret medical images and patient data, to help plan treatments and identify medical risks. As time goes on AI is becoming more, and more ingrained in our health systems bringing up legal, ethical, and moral implications. Especially since AI doesn't automatically understand that all patients need to be treated the same regardless of race, gender, and economic status. This is because AI gathers information from every available source and it's unknown how accurately it can discern bias, meaning it could accidentally amplify inequalities and disadvantage patients unnecessarily. The MUNISH WHO aims to develop and propose regulations to protect patient confidentiality and ensure that AI technologies used have sanctions to prevent limiting or overstating patient treatment.

WHO me?

The World Health Organisation!

Finally, the discovery of new discoveries in the field of biotechnology has caused discussions to spring up addressing the concept of genetic engineering. Biotechnology is well known as the science of hope, and has been used to increase crop yields, producing vaccines, and pharmaceuticals, and enables the production of environmentally sustainable products.

Unfortunately, over the years, the usage of biotechnology has spread into experimental fields that could potentially harm human health and well-being. For example, the genetic engineering of food crops began with the aim of increasing crop yields due to the unsustainability of converting large quantities of land for agricultural use.

However, researchers speculate that ingesting genes transferred into crops from organisms not normally used in food, might introduce new allergens into our population. The UN has also identified the risk of biochemical engineering evolving into a pathway for biochemical terrorism. In the past, researchers at the State University of New York produced a live polio virus from chemicals and publicly available DNA fragments.

It indicates that even small errors in biotechnology can become dangerous, and in the wrong hands the consequences would be catastrophic. As the annual MUNISH conference comes to a close, the WHO aims to develop regulations that contain and reevaluate the rule and protocol currently in place to regulate biotechnology.

In the hopes of building a better future, the MUNISH World Health Organisation has been tirelessly working to create applicable and feasible solutions to help solve these issues.

World Health Organization

Delegate Personality Quiz

Answer these 4 quick questions to test what kind of MUN delegate you are! Track your chosen letters (ABCD) and tally them at the bottom.

1. A major international crisis breaks out. What is your immediate first move?

A) Sprint to the front of the room and establish yourself as the leader
B) Gather a small circle in the back of the room to secretly map out an alliance
C) Start a massive groupchat, pass notes to keep everyone laughing and connected
D) Look up from your laptop and hope nobody picks you to speak

2. During lobbying, where can you be found?

A) Writing a resolution, actively convincing others to sign on it
B) Talking to your 'rival' country, convincing them to merge under your terms
C) In the hallway talking about the MUNISH party
D) Sitting at your desk watching youtube

3. Its the night before MUNISH day 1, how does your room look like?

A) You have 45 tabs open on your computer, printed papers everywhere, and are rehearsing a speech.
B) You are in bed spying on other delegates instagrams...
C) A fashion show. Your playlist is blasting as you throw around clothes
D) You are frantically searching information on wikipedia about your assigned country because you forgot you signed up for MUNISH until today

4. You have a long day at MUNISH after partying at madurodam, how are you surviving?

A) Fueling up on caffeine
B) Thugging it out
C) Keeping the mood up by socialising with your friends
D) Pretending to be awake but secretly taking a nap

Delegate Personality Quiz

MOSTLY A: Locked-in Delegate

You came to MUNISH with the goal of exercising your own academic excellence, you are the backbone of your committee's resolution, and you enjoy leading. These past days may have been stressful, but you enjoy hustling. Take a deep breath, you've earned a break!

MOSTLY B: Mysterious Delegate

You are quiet, and nobody can guess your next move. You are also good at strategy and planning, but work in solitude. At closing ceremony you might happen to meet some other mysterious delegates to socialize with.

MOSTLY C: Social butterfly

Your favorite part of MUNISH is the outfits and the party. Your playlist is always blasting, you are active on the committee group chat, and were the life of the party at madurodam. Try channelling your social skills into convincing others to sign a resolution!

MOSTLY D: AFK Delegate

You forgot you signed up, but had fun watching youtube and being with others! You are also currently mastering sleeping with your eyes open...
You're just here for the good vibes and a certificate. Raise your placard once before the conference ends, we believe in you!

The Anatomy of MUN friendships

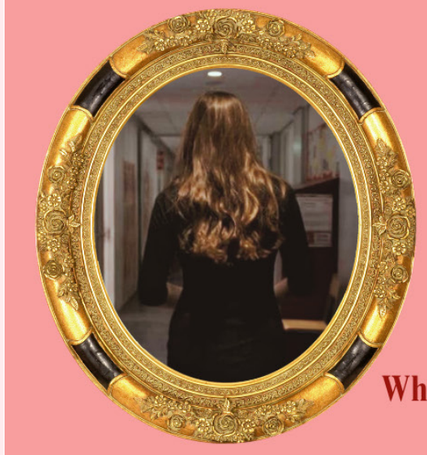
Most MUN conferences create opportunities to learn new skills, practice public speaking and interact with people from all around the world. Participants have the chance to learn about new cultures, meet new people from different backgrounds and start conversations with people they would have never met otherwise. That's the beauty of MUN; everyone has a shot at making new friends by simply meeting in hallways, working alongside each other or via mutual acquaintances. We will dissect in detail how and why these friendships form

Lucian Keuck from HSC and Artemis Reumer from CORPUS met during the MUNISH party and formed an instant friendship after Artemis complimented Lucian's rings. Both explained how they wanted to be friends after seeing each other's style and mutually wanting to start a conversation. Lucian and Artemis agreed they'd keep in touch even after MUNISH. They added that MUN friendships could survive even after MUN conferences and that keeping a friendship strong really depended on how close both people got. Artemis explained how making friends through MUN was kind of like meeting and befriending a "coworker" in comparison to a non-MUN friendship . They agreed that the best way to make friends in conferences like these was to be social, be open to people and talk to others as much as possible while also attending social events. Lucian added that complimenting others can work well as a first interaction if the other person responds well to it. At the end of the interview, Artemis described her friendship with Lucian as "an immediate click" and he added it was "spontaneous in the best way".

MUNISH isn't just about participating in conferences but also making long-lasting friendships with people you'd never have met otherwise. From meeting in the most random places to being the best of allies during debate time; there are so many ways people become friends through MUNISH.



Unofficial Awards



Who had the best hair?
Evi van den Berg, Head of Press
''It's all natural''

Who is most likely to become famous?
Gaia Gobbi, Media Team
''There's a reason why I'm in media''





Who made the funniest speeches?
Gaspard Castlenovo, Delegate of Albania in GA3
''I'm never being a witness for ICJ again.''



Who spent the most time in the corridors?
José Correa, Delegate of the United Kingdom, NATO
''No man is more unhappy than he who never faces adversity. For he is not permitted to prove myself.'' (Seneca)



Who is most likely to become a politician?
- Nicolo Ferraro, delegate of Honduras GA3
''The greatest fear is Fear himself.''

MUN Celebrities



Ban Ki-moon

As the former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon is also a former MUN delegate. He continued participating in conferences throughout his high school and university career, before graduating from Harvard and joining global diplomacy. Ban Ki-moon is the perfect example of how participating in MUN conferences is the ideal gateway into working for the United Nations. "*You never know where this conference might lead. You could end up as the Secretary-General of the United Nations, or maybe your country's UN Ambassador*".



Rainn Wilson

Rainn Wilson is an American actor best known for his role as Dwight Schrute on the award-winning sitcom mockumentary The Office! As a teenager he attended Shorecrest High School in Seattle, where he was an active member of the MUN club as a delegate. As any self proclaimed *"Model United Nations Nerd"* he returned as a guest speaker at an opening ceremony for an MUN event in New York.

As the former president of the International Court of Justice, Stephen Myron Schwebel began his MUN career in high school and then continued to help found the United Nations Council of Harvard. Over the course of his life Schwebel received several academic awards for his work and was appointed an Honorary Fellow by Trinity College and the University of Cambridge.



Stephen Myron Schwebel

MUN Celebrities

Chelsea Clinton is the first daughter of the former President of the United States of America, and participated in MUN as a teenager during her high school years. She's the Vice Chair of the Clinton Foundation, an author, and an Adjunct Professor at the public health graduate school of the University of Columbia. Even now, she still fondly remembers her time as a delegate:"*I loved Model UN & was a proud member of our high school team for 3 years*".





Unsurprisingly, the King of the Netherlands, Willem-Alexander was an MUN delegate! However, many delegates here today will be surprised to hear that they've walked the same halls as King Willem-Alexander. In 1983, he also attended THIMUN as a delegate, and then went on to formally open the 25th, 32nd, and the 50th THIMUN sessions.

Celebrity Lookalikes!!



Delegate of Canada, UNHCR & Brody J. Boling (Brodeez)



Delegate of France & Baby Masha



Head of Delegate Affairs
&
Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III
(How to Train Your Dragon)

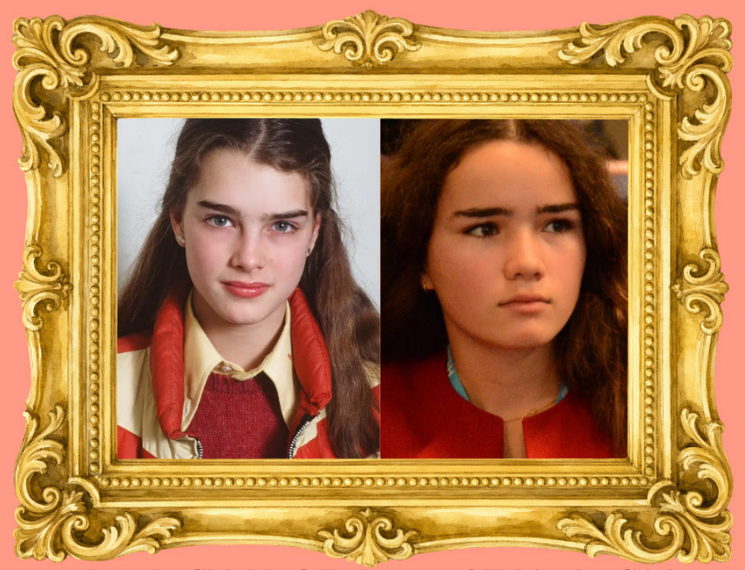
Delegate of Iraq, & Walker Scobell



Celebrity Lookalikes!!



Kris Jenner & MUN Director Cora Lavesini



Brooke Shields & Delegate of Ethiopia, GA4



Chris Brown & Security Staff member



Kendall Jenner &
Delegate of Lichtenstein, GA4

What is the ICJ?

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the main judicial organ of the UN and is responsible for settling legal disputes between states in regard to international law. They have been asked to re-examine the 2007 judgment on whether Serbia and Montenegro violated the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide during their conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina between 1992 and 1995. Bosnia and Herzegovina claims that Serbia and Montenegro are accountable for acts of genocide against the Bosnian Population, either in direct participation, collusion, or failure to avoid and punish the acts in question, as is required by the Genocide Convention. The accused, Serbia and Montenegro, deny the accusations, claiming that they neither authorised nor committed genocidal crimes and that the evidence is insufficient for the legal standard needed to prove them guilty and for them to take responsibility for the accusations. Due to this, the Court must consider complex issues tied to the concept of genocide, the standard of proof needed to establish international responsibility, the extent of duties imposed by the Genocide Convention, and lastly the attribution of behaviour to a state.

This raises important issues about the interpretation of the Genocide Convention and the scale of state culpability under international law. These proceedings may have an impact on how international law decides government duty to prevent, punish, and react to genocide in addition to the particular accusations presented by the parties. The Court's decisions will also shape how international law is applied and enforced in the future. In the ICJ, the evidence is contested as well as submitted. The counsel of the respondent can object, and the judges vote on whether to admit it. Separately, the judges rate each piece to decide which ones matter most. By the time the rulings came down, both the counsel of the applicant and the respondent were working with less than half of what they brought.



The argument then evolved into proving that Serbia breached two obligations in the Genocide Convention: the failure to prevent, and the failure to punish. The question was no longer whether Serbia committed the genocide, but whether it failed to prevent and punish it. In July 1995, 7000 to 8000 men and boys were killed in a town called Srebrenica, and the arms were supplied by the Serbrian state.
Witnesses for the case were recruited from other committees by the academic advisors, then questioned by the judges and the opposing side. The counsel was bound by the court's formal procedure, but the judges had fifteen minutes to prepare and ask any questions they wanted. One of them, David Harland, testified to what he had seen himself. "*I was on the ground in Bosnia from 1993 to 1998, and I co-authored the official UN report on the Srebrenica massacre.*"





Closing statements ran today, and the judges are at this moment preparing the verdict that will be announced at the closing ceremony.



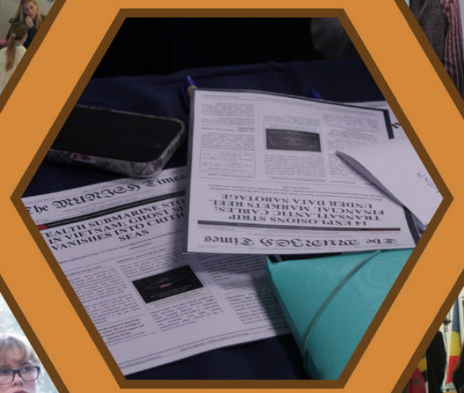
DAY 3 in PHOTOS!!



















DAY 3 in PHOTOS!!



















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Check out the MUNISH website: