

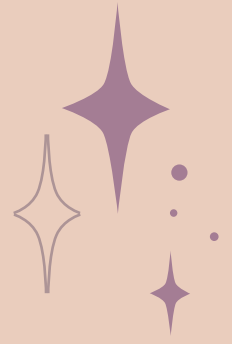


hsan
MUN

The title 'hsan MUN' is rendered in a highly stylized, multi-layered font. The letters are cut out from various colored papers with crumpled or textured surfaces. 'h' is on blue paper, 's' is on teal paper, 'a' is on white paper with a yellow border, and 'n' is on pink paper. Below, 'M' is on light green paper, 'U' is on orange paper, and 'n' is on blue paper. The letters are arranged in two rows, with a blue orbital line and starburst icons framing the text.

XIX

Polarized Polish Polls



Written by Jenson Huang | Layout by Ashley Van | Edited by Celine Chen and Michelle Lee



Source: Notes From Poland

A deeply polarized Poland will be heading to the polls on October 15, 2023, to decide the future of their nation—more specifically, new members of the Sejm, the lower house of their parliament, and the Senate, the upper house. Current polls suggest that five entities have a substantial chance of passing the threshold required to receive representation in parliament. The current leader is the nationalist, conservative United Right (ZP) coalition, which is led by Law and Justice (PiS). The party’s unofficial leader, Jarosław Kaczyński, has the chance to win a historic third term. On the opposing side is the centrist Civic Coalition (KO), led by Donald Tusk, who is a former prime minister and president of the European Council. This alliance is currently behind by around five percent in opinion polls. There are also a few other notable parties in the election: the Third Way coalition, New Left coalition, and far-right Confederation all stand at around ten percent. All parties have the potential to play a pivotal role in the formation of Poland’s next government.

Leading up to this election has been a series of bitter campaigns. According to Ryszard Luczyn from the Polish think tank Polityka Insight, “For PiS and KO, the campaign is not about winning new voters but mobilizing their supporters and demobilizing that of their rival.” For instance, critics of the current Polish government under the PiS believe that it has made the judiciary biased, transformed the public media into a source of propaganda, and taken advantage of state resources for its own benefit. The government itself, however, claims that they are improving the efficiency of Polish courts, implementing a fair economy, and protecting Poland’s Catholic national identity.

A notable instance was when a journalist from TVP state television, which is essentially controlled by PiS, interrupted a news conference held by Tusk, the leader of KO. The journalist shouted a question related to one of PiS’s major critiques of Tusk’s campaign: his alleged connections with Russia and Germany. This is just one of many examples of PiS utilizing TVP as its mouthpiece. A Civic Platform lawmaker, Radek Sikorski, attempts to paint an image of what is occurring in Poland to the rest of

the global community—“Imagine the BBC taken over by Breitbart and you are getting an inkling of the tsunami of Goebbelsian propaganda that spurts forth 24/7 from state-controlled media.” Although TVP is not a main communication platform in Warsaw and big cities where voters support the opposition, it is a main information source for those in the countryside, who are core supporters of PiS.

PiS’s strong support comes from the generous social benefits that it provides to families and pensioners. However, with this support, PiS has made controversial changes to the election system, judiciary system, and media. KO, on the other hand, has promised to improve relations with Belgium, have an increased focus on education and healthcare, and protect minorities and women’s rights. PiS has framed its opposition’s goals as threats to Poland and its traditions, as LGBT and women’s rights will supposedly topple Polish families. Furthermore, PiS argues that KO and their leader, Tusk, are agents of Germany and the European Union, and will compromise Poland’s sovereignty. The animosity between the two polarized parties has even reached the point where PiS Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki asked “Whose flag does Tusk [the leader of KO] bear in his heart?” at a rally.

As Poland heads to the polls in the coming few days, it is a nation deeply divided, struggling with competing visions and values. The results of the upcoming election will not only determine the composition of Poland’s government but will also have major implications for Poland’s role in the world and the nature of its institutions. A PiS victory would worsen the tension between Poland and Belgium. Moreover, after Robert Fico’s victory in Slovakia’s election, a PiS victory would symbolize Central Europe’s return to nationalist populism, hindering efforts to support Ukraine and safeguard democracy. Poland’s future, shaped by the choice of its people made on October 15, will resonate far beyond its borders.

Source: Maciej Luczniewski via Brookings Institution



In the Crossfire

Understanding the Israel-Gaza Conflict

Written by Megan Lu | Layout by Ashley Van
Edited by Celine Chen and Michelle Lee

On October 7th, 2023, blaring air raid sirens rang throughout Israel. Civilians were warned to take cover from incoming rockets fired by Hamas militants towards southern and central Israel. On the same day, Israel launched its own counterattack, sending jet fighters to raid Gaza. As prime minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu proclaimed, “Israel is at war.”

Despite some claiming that the Hamas attack was a “surprise,” the conflict’s emergence is not entirely unprecedented given Israel and Palestine’s complex history. Ever since the early 1900’s, there have been numerous confrontations between the two groups due to conflict of interest and religion. The British first took control of Palestine after World War I. At the time, the area consisted of a Jewish minority and an Arab majority; still, the UK was given the task of establishing a “national home” in Palestine for the Jewish people. To the Jews, Palestine was their homeland, but it was also home to Palestinian Arabs who thought the same. The Holocaust during World War II led to an influx of Jewish immigrants arriving in Palestine, which only exacerbated the tension between Jews and Arabs.



Source: Yahya Hassouna via Getty Images

ian populations: the Gaza Strip and West Bank. To this day, the UN still considers the Gaza Strip to be occupied by Israel, given that its airspaces, borders, and sea are under Israeli control.

All this history culminates in a few main takeaways. Despite numerous attempts at peace settlements in the early 2000's, Israel and Palestine still have drastically different goals. The Palestinians want control of East Jerusalem, which they believe is crucial to their religion. The Israelis, however, wish to occupy all of Palestinian land. This clash perfectly represents the polarization that exists in the world: after decades, the two sides have not arrived at a compromise. Currently, the most popular solution proposed is the "two-state" solution, consisting of a Palestinian independent state in Gaza and most of the West Bank. The recent development of the Israel-Gaza conflict, however, makes the "two-state" solution much like a far-away fantasy. So what role does Gaza play in this conflict? Gaza fell under Hamas control after the 2006 Palestinian elections. Hamas, a Palestinian militant group, intends to "liberate" Palestinian territories and claims that Israel is an illegitimate state. Despite its extremist views and rash conduct, the UN has not labeled Hamas as a terrorist group. Hamas has used extreme methods to achieve its goals, such as sending suicide bombers into Israel. In the current conflict, Hamas has taken Israeli civilians, including women and children, hostage to counteract Israel's continuous military raids.

Yet, Israel does not remain entirely innocent. Previously, Israel sent police to raid the Al Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem, resulting in an eleven-day war between Israel and Hamas. Though Israel intends to target Hamas, many Palestinian civilians have been caught in the crossfire. Just last week, 1900 Palestinians were killed in air strikes. A number of Palestinians have also been detained in Israeli jails.

Extensive civilian involvement makes the conflict a humanitarian crisis. Prior to the conflict, Gaza's conditions were already dire. More than half of the population was in poverty. On top of that, there is an ongoing water crisis, with numerous households lacking access to clean water. Now that Gaza is under siege, hospitals are failing, homes are crumbling, and safe areas are nonexistent. Currently, the only route out of Gaza is the Rafah Crossing, but officials have not confirmed the crossing's opening. Organizations like Amnesty International have already urged Israel to lift its siege on Gaza. While we, as students, may lack the ability to influence major international conflicts, our awareness of these issues can decrease the polarization between ourselves and the international community.



Source: Mohammed Salem
via Reuters

Opening Ceremony

Written by Rachel Lu | Layout by Daisie Lee | Edited by Celine Chen and Michelle Lee



HSINMUN XIX

HSINMUN XIX's opening ceremony was emceed by Hannah Fu, the deputy secretary-general. She started off by introducing the members of the secretariat team, then passed the baton to Principal Charles Chang Chien. He explained the significance of this year's theme, "Reaching the far ends of the spectrum – decreasing the polarization of conflicts," in regards to the increasingly digital world we live in, as communication is needed more than ever before to ultimately find suitable solutions.

Next, the Dean of the International Bilingual School at Hsinchu Science Park, Ms. Karen Wu, stepped up to give a brief speech. She expressed her heartfelt appreciation towards everyone who contributed to the making of HSINMUN: the student MUN team, admin team, and MUN advisors. HSINMUN, according to Ms. Wu, is a beacon of hope, and delegates must find common solutions that make an impact on important world issues.

Following Ms. Wu was Mr. Benjamin Krystal, one of the IBSH MUN Advisors. HSINMUN XIX, boasting over 20 participating schools and 350 delegates, is his sixth HSINMUN. In his welcoming speech, Mr. Krystal encouraged delegates to listen attentively and use their lobbying time wisely. He also wished for student leaders to try their best to make the conference experience meaningful for delegates. Finally, Mr. Krystal urged everyone to remember that many issues could be solved if people from opposite ends moderate their views and work together to find a suitable solution. After a brief interlude involving a group photo with everyone participating in HSINMUN XIX, this year's keynote speaker, Professor Ian Rowen, took the stage. As an expert of the geopolitics of cross-strait tourism, he provided HSINMUN attendees with a deep insight into the complicated web of conflicts between the two countries involved. To start off, he argued that conflict and polarization are not necessarily negative; just as they are able to drive a motor as a battery, polarization can also lead to unity and new beginnings. In 2014, former Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou attempted to use tourism and economic integration as a means to depolarize Taiwan and China. Some scholars believed that this strategy would threaten Taiwan's independence. However, in reality, tourism actually served to enhance Taiwanese national identification and fostered the growth of the Sunflower Student Movement. Professor Rowen used this example to demonstrate how conflict is sometimes necessary for change, and could lead to new forms of unity.

Next, the Parliamentarian, Cheng-Yuan Li, and the Secretary-General, Ethan Robert Skonicki, presented the chairs with their gavels. The audience was also pleasantly surprised with a route video and emergency video made by the press team. After the video, the strike of eight gavels echoed throughout the gym, indicating that HSINMUN XIX had officially begun.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 1

Written by Lea Lu | Layout by Daisie Lee | Edited by Wei-Hsi Mar and Michelle Lee

This year, GA1 is tasked with tackling Addressing the weaponization of artificial intelligence in the military (301) and Measures to ensure peaceful development within the Indo-Pacific region (302). The committee spent the first day of HSINMUN XIX debating the measures of peaceful development within the Indo-Pacific region. Allysa Lin from Hsinchu International Academy describes the committee to be like a hotpot, explaining that every country has a different view on the issue, just like the numerous hotpot ingredients floating and colliding in a delectable hotpot, competing to make an appearance in the mouth of the resolution. Lin also gave a shout-out to her chairs, complimenting their beauty.

Overall, everyone in GA1 has had a great time with nature. They occupy one of the classrooms closest to the campus' sun-kissed grassland. With huge and pristine windows, one wonders how Delegates, Admins, and Chairs maintain their laser-like focus, meticulously crafting the best resolution for GA1's issues.



HSINMUN's GA2 addresses two main issues: Preventing illegal financial flows and promoting transparency in the global financial system (401), and Addressing the issue of digital divides and promoting universal access to information and communication technologies (402). The first day of General Assembly 2 (GA2) has been marked by productive debates on preventing illegal financial flows and promoting transparency in the global financial system. This committee holds numerous creative delegates who have provided imaginative analogies, including Albert Hsu (IIS), Olivia Chang (IIS), Candy Liu (HCAS), and Charlene Hsu (AAIA).

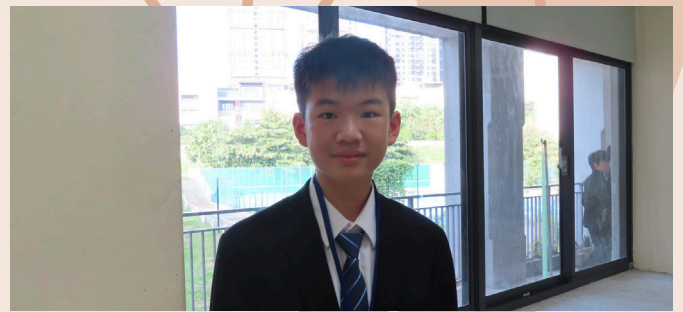
Hsu characterized the committee to be like a plate of ratatouille because GA2 is full of interesting perspectives and ideas interacting in a whirlpool-like nature, requiring every observer a long time to understand the complexity of the debate. To exemplify this ratatouille-like state, Chang sheds light on the ample opportunities to learn and engage in this committee aside from its rigor. She claimed that the committee has to be the cuisine: live octopus. One would be scared to try it at first but will fearlessly follow after seeing others partake in the experience. Similarly, Liu sees GA2 like a bag of freshly bloomed popcorn, as everyone gets the opportunity to speak up (pop up)! Lastly, Hsu cannot help but be reminded of Oreos at GA2 because everyone wore black and white attire. A gathering of formally attired teenagers creates the perfect ambiance for an Oreo soiree. In sum, GA2 is akin to an enchanting culinary adventure.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 3

Written by Lea Lu | Layout by Daisy Lee | Edited by Wei-Hsi Mar and Michelle Lee

This year, the delegates in General Assembly 3 debates over two main issues: Addressing the global water crisis: ensuring sustainable access to safe and clean water for all (501) and Addressing the Yemen humanitarian crisis (502). Located on the second floor, GA3 accommodates many reserved delegates. Just the first day, many of the Delegates have expressed profound gratitude for their first day at HSINMUN in GA3. Samuel Hsu from St. Dominic Catholic High School, Delegate of Spain, shared how he successfully overcame the challenge of navigating a paper-based conference procedure. As electronic devices cannot accompany Delegates on the podium, Hsu had to increase his handwriting speed to craft the best speeches under time constraints. Carolin Hofmann, Delegate of South Korea, from Hsinchu International School also overcame a hurdle: the fear of social interactions. Moreover, David Lin, representing China, from the International Bilingual School at Tainan described GA3 as a pack of Sour Patch Kids. He articulated that the debate was “hard to catch on at first,” like the sharp acid taste of the gummies, but soon went from acid to sour, and sour to sweet! The rigorous debates of HSINMUN never cease to captivate the participants.



The GA4 Committee (SPECPOL) this year at HSINMUN focuses on developing measures for a political settlement in Cyprus (601) and addressing the Rohingya refugee crisis. (602) According to Co-Chair Jim Wang from Hsinchu County American School, the debate generally went smoothly. This mostly stems from the fact that most of the delegates are experienced. Although the newer delegates struggled a little with speaking up and sometimes even went off track, the committee as a whole was able to recover fairly quickly. The delegate of France, represented by Bryleigh Sylvester from the American School in Taichung, also thought that the debate flowed nicely. Although she is relatively new at MUN, she has already spoken multiple times, surpassing her goal of talking at least once. She describes HSINMUN XIX with a bubble emoji, largely in part due to the teddy bear merchandise given to the participants of the conference. Representing Israel, Abigale Sung from Hsinchu International Academy also agreed with Sylvester, and even used the eye emoji to express her excitement for the second day of the conference. When she participated in previous conferences, she was sometimes unable to keep up with the debate flow. However, she has since learned how to be prepared and listen attentively to other delegates in order to actively participate in the debate. Perhaps the most used emoji to describe HSINMUN XIX would be the fire emoji, though the reasoning differs slightly from delegate to delegate. Some chose to use the fire emoji due to the tasty food and lively debate, while others chose the emoji simply due to the high temperature of the room.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 4

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 6

Written by Rachel Lu | Layout by Daisie Lee | Edited by Wei-Hsi Mar and Michelle Lee

HSINMUN XIX's GA6 addresses two main issues: combating the rise of ideological extremism and hate speech (701) and developing strategies to eliminate international terrorism and handle crimes against humanity (702). Both topics are extremely prevalent in the modern world, as they both seek to create a more peaceful and collaborative society without violence or extremism. The first day of the conference already yielded many exciting and surprising memories. For example, when Co-Chair Amy Wang from International Bilingual School at Hsinchu-Science-Park entered the committee room, she was shocked to see a collection of adorable bears sitting on the desks. Many delegates were equally surprised by the cute and fluffy gift when they first walked in. According to Wang, delegates displayed great enthusiasm and were promptly raising points of information. Although many of the delegates were inexperienced, Wang was impressed by their positive attitude and ability to adapt quickly to MUN procedures. Some delegates did struggle at the beginning but were ultimately able to pull through and keep their morale high. Notably, Crystal Huang from Pacific American School, representing Russia, took pride in her involvement with a resolution that committed human rights violations. When asked, Huang described HSINMUN as the head exploding emoji, highlighting the mindblowing knowledge one is blessed with through participation in MUN. With such a productive first day, delegates of GA6 are sure to continue the momentum as the conference progresses.



The ECOSOC committee tackles two major issues this year: developing measures to increase independence in the least economically developed countries (1001) and developing measures to combat the economic impact of war (1002). The first day of the conference mostly focused on the first issue, with the second issue most likely debated upon on the third day. While debates themselves were slow-paced, delegates were lively during unmoderated caucuses and lobbying. Although the chairs had to step in and provide the delegates help with writing amendments and speeches during a particular lull in debate, the support proved to be fruitful and delegates promptly submitted amendments as soon as the unmoderated caucus ended. ECOSOC, being a middle school committee, was filled with first-timers who often committed minor mistakes like speaking using first-person pronouns. Luckily, the chairs were able to gently correct the delegates when they did so, and debates proceeded without any major obstacles. Co-Chair Cosmo He from the International Bilingual School in Hsinchu-Science-Park recalled a particularly inspirational moment from the delegate of Australia when she stated that "Today is really not my day." Although many delegates struggled to adjust to the complicated MUN procedures, the day ultimately ended on a positive note. He is optimistic that the second day of the conference will proceed even more smoothly, now that the delegates have become even more experienced and passionate from the activities from the first day.

ECOSOC

As the oceans around us are becoming more endangered by human interference, it is crucial that we address the issue of ocean acidification and pollution. Similarly, as we strive to minimize and undo the harm brought on by unsustainable business practices, creating strong policies that hold organizations accountable for their environmental impact is imperative. The Environment Committee focuses on “Measures to combat ocean acidification and pollution” (901) along with “Developing measures to limit environmental damages done by corporations” (902), and the delegates debated with the intention of reaching a resolution regarding these issues. Mia Guo (IBSH), the Delegate of Saudi Arabia, notes the great variety in attitudes of the people on the committee: “Some are very enthusiastic in MUN... Certain people are shy, making conversations awkward while others are easy to talk with.” Nonetheless, all delegates, whether shy, extroverted, or enthusiastic, were eventually able to finalize their resolutions. However, multiple delegates noted how their main submitter was stuck in the Approval Panel and was forced to skip lunch as a result. Despite having many serious and stressful moments, especially for the first-timers, the Delegate of Brazil, Sylvia Shih (HIS), recalls an interesting occurrence when merging resolutions was taking place, “We came to one [resolution] that said [to] be vegetarian and not eat meat in order to save the world. We all thought it was hilarious and laughed so hard.” The delegates’ efforts toward creating a positive environment are evident in this committee, and they conclude that it was a unique experience.



Especially in light of recent developments, the dispute between Israel and Palestine, which has attracted the world’s attention, has been an intricate and persistent issue with significant international implications. Similarly, in the ongoing global campaign to tackle extremists and maintain world peace, dealing with the challenges of prosecuting, healing, and reuniting people involved in terrorist operations is of extreme importance. As delegates of the Security Council, members will debate over “The issue of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict” (101) and “Measures to prosecute, rehabilitate, and reintegrate those involved in terrorist activities” (102), and try to arrive at a general consensus. This year, all delegates appreciate the opportunity to debate and describe the experience as thrilling and exciting. Additionally, both chairs and delegates have remarked on the great organization of this conference. Delegates found themselves debating with many contrasting stances, and all delegates appreciated the meaningful insight provided by each other. However, the tense atmosphere was lightened when, as Sarina Tsai (AAIA), delegate of the United Kingdom, retells, “France confidently gave a speech on the wrong topic and only realized after several POIs.” A common theme among all participants is how they agree that this conference has been enriching and given them unprecedented insight into the global community. For instance, the delegate of Malta, Charles Chung (KAS), noted how he overcame a struggle when “[he] woke up early to write [his] resolution, and managed to finish three clauses before the meeting.”

This year, the delegates of the Human Rights Council are assigned to debate the issues: “Regarding the lack of representation for women and girls in political leadership” (201), as well as “Measures to combat the refugee crisis in war-torn regions” (202). The UN has continued to uphold the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the fundamental framework for international human rights laws. Nonetheless, the protection of human rights is often overlooked in the modern world, namely for women and refugees—the main focus of this year’s HRC. It is up to the delegates to engage in meaningful debate and contribute to powerful resolutions, which they accomplished very efficiently. All delegates agree that the discussions conducted were engaging, informative, and respectful. Moreover, many delegates were extremely meticulous when reviewing resolutions, which elevated everybody’s experience at this year’s conference. Most importantly, the atmosphere at this year’s HRC was welcoming and friendly, which encouraged everybody to participate, contribute, and come up with feasible solutions to the lack of representation for women in political leadership positions, as well as the refugee crisis in war-torn regions. As in every committee, some issues were encountered, such as a few delegates being too shy to speak up at the very beginning. However, the HRC soon overcame all obstacles to engage in a superb exchange of ideas.



The issues debated in the UNDP are often extremely relevant for delegates in the modern age. This year, the issues tackled were “Promoting sustainable economic growth and job creation in LEDCs” (801) and “Addressing child labor in Sub-Saharan Africa” (802). In order to mitigate poverty and guarantee economic stability and equitable advancement, it is crucial to encourage sustainable economic growth and the creation of jobs in less developed countries. Furthermore, addressing the issue of child labor in Sub-Saharan Africa is an urgent human rights issue that calls for coordinated action. Delegates had to cooperate and come up with solutions for both of these issues that have troubled policy-makers around the world. Arthur Chen (TAS), the President, notes how “the atmosphere was kind of shy at the beginning of debate, but around tea time [they] managed to rouse the delegate[s] to debate each other on points.” Winston Chiu (TAS), the Deputy President, also points out that although “delegates were a little apprehensive to make statements at the start...[they] were eager to speak and make changes to the reso[lution].” Delegates likely had to become familiar with the new procedure since, according to Chiu, “UN4MUN procedure was hard to explain, and delegates weren’t sure what to elaborate on in the reso[lution].” Once delegates became comfortable, many of them began to contribute to the discussion, creating an engaging and passionate environment. The experience of all delegates was evident from their use of elevated diction and sophisticated rhetoric.

Advisory Panel

Written by Megan Lu | Layout by Tara Kelly
Edited by Celine Chen and Michelle Lee

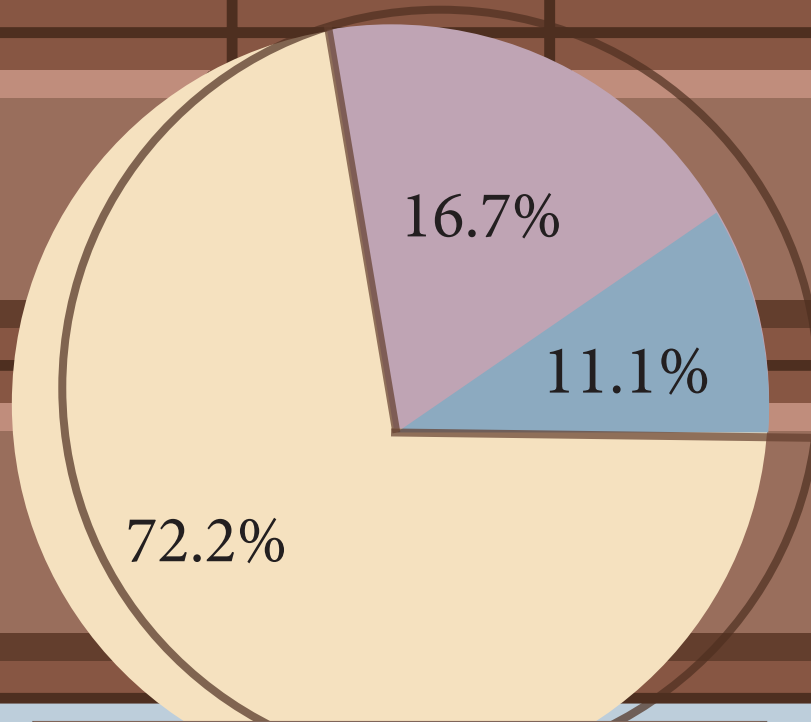
The Advisory Panel (APQ) is a unique committee where students serve as “experts” on a topic rather than represent a member state. For HSINMUN XIX, the committee addresses Measures to implement and promote long-term sustainable growth in Haiti (1101) and Developing strategies to promote sustainable urbanization in MEDCs and combat its negative effects on the environment (1102). Sophia Wu (AAIA), the President of APQ, expresses her satisfaction towards the quality of debate, commending the fact that all delegates hold “a positive attitude towards MUN and are excited about learning new skills.” Though only one expert had prior experience with APQ procedures and everyone was shy initially, all experts were adaptable and curious; they didn’t hesitate to help one another whenever confusion arose. In particular, the expert of Germany took on a huge responsibility and volunteered himself as the main submitter to multiple clauses. Deputy President Yichia Lee (IBSH) also comments that seeing every expert’s efforts was “pretty inspiring,” giving the experts of the United States and Singapore special shoutouts for defending their stances.



This year’s International Court of Justice (ICJ) tackles issue 1201: Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Croatia v. Serbia). ICJ procedures differ significantly from those of regular committees and resemble a debate more than standard Model United Nations committee. In ICJ, two opposing sides, representing Croatia and Serbia respectively, exchange arguments and evidence, while multiple judges determine the outcome of the case. The Presidents of ICJ play their part by guiding the advocates in preparing their cases weeks before the conferences, as the advocates have spent countless hours compiling evidence and preparing their witnesses. While the unfamiliar procedure intimidated some delegates at first, the judges quickly got used to the debate flow. Judge Phoebe Hsu (TAS) found the multitude of country names confusing in the beginning, but quickly overcame the challenge after a morning of debate. On HSINMUN’s second day, ICJ progressed swiftly to one of the most exhilarating parts of the debate – witness examination. Judge Morris Guo (IBSH) says that one of the witnesses represented their character perfectly, even remembering miniscule details like “a farm or a horse named Peter” and pulling out eye drops to mimic tears.

ICJ

No
Yes
Maybe



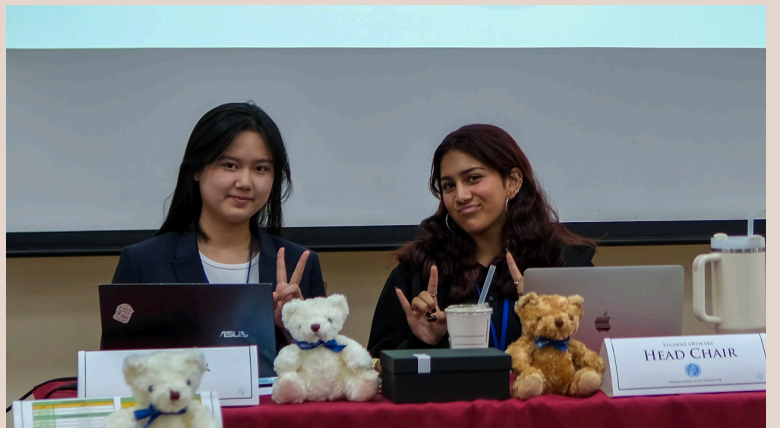
Chair Poll

Do you think the theme of Reaching the Far Ends of the Spectrum: Decreasing the Polarization of Conflict is necessary?

From numerous wars plaguing various parts of the world to the prophecy of the unavoidable environmental crisis that is going to devastate the world and its population, we continue to tackle seemingly unsolvable crises relevant to the world today. Accessing just one aspect of an issue is never the solution- it is only through continued research and discovery, done meticulously and intricately, that we truly see the “light at the end of the tunnel.” The same goes for polarizing views on an issue for debate: it is only through the continued clashing of two entirely different stances that we finally see the entire spectrum of the issue.

Thus, this year’s theme is Reaching the Far Ends of the Spectrum: Decreasing the Polarization of Conflict. A majority of the chairs expressed the need for delving deeper into the theme, expressing that it reflects the main issue the world is dealing with right now- one that is hard and unresolved. Still, others believe that rather than merely decreasing polarizing conflicts, what’s more important is recognizing the need for polarization in stances: they draw debate and bring attention to critical issues. Sometimes, they say, polarisation is indeed required for a healthy democratic community. All in all, it is about pushing towards the limits- the “Far Ends of the Spectrum”- that marks the purpose and importance of the continued conferences and debates in Model UN.

DAY 2



HSIMM



XIX







MUN Anecdotes

Written by Lea Lu | Layout by Ashley Van | Edited by Celine Chen and Michelle Lee

The single most talked about anecdote today took place in the International Court of Justice (ICJ) Committee. Witness Kingston Yu from Pacific American School, who played the role of Boro Matic, a Serbian refugee, took out his eye drops to simulate crying as he recounted the burning down of his barn and the death of his beloved horse Peter.

Yu's testimony was truly unforgettable. Natasha Lee (PAS), Phoebe Hsu (TAS), John Kao (AST), Joon Kim (HIS), and Morris Guo (IBSH) all dedicated their MUN Stories Survey to his lore.

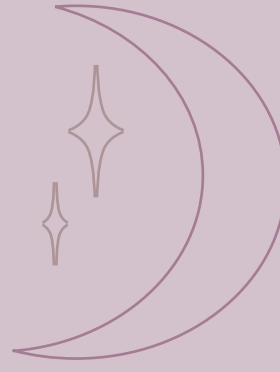


Kingston Yu (PAS)



Coral Hazeldine (HIS)

Next up, we have the Co-Chair of the Security Council (SC), Coral Hazeldine (HIS). During a conference, Hazeldine vomited right after delivering a speech due to food poisoning from lunch! On the note of embarrassing moments, Marcella Wu from Hsinchu County American School tripped herself on her way to the podium during STMUN, a MUN conference hosted by I-Shou American School and Kaohsiung American School, both of which have numerous students present at HSINMUN XIX.



In the lineup, we have Peggy Kou (I-Shou International School), who is representing France in the Environment Committee. Kou recounted how at one of the conferences she participated in, she encountered a clause that proposed “Limiting environmental damages of corporations through hanging up clothes to dry them instead of using dryers.” This example highlights the innovative and considerate nature of solutions that delegates construct during Model UN Conferences.



Peggy Kou (IIS)



Sylvia Shih (HIS), Delegate of Brazil from the Environment Committee, had a similar experience. Shih was merging her resolution with her bloc’s when she read: “In order to save the environment, we need to be vegetarian.” Initially, Shih found it amusing. However, upon reflection, she discovered that being vegetarian can help preserve the environment in impactful ways. This highlights how the collaborative nature of Model UN has its way of educating us about various solutions to world problems.

Finally, we have the Delegate of Saudi Arabia, once again a representative from the Environment Committee, Rou Jiun Mia Guo (IBSH). Throughout her MUN career, Guo eagerly anticipated her reunion with a girl named Melody, whom she had previously attended school with. It has been two years since she last saw her. It was not until HSINMUN XIX did Guo finally meet her! Guo was talking to her brother Morris Guo (IBSH) about Melody when Melody suddenly appeared behind her. This was a heartwarming yet surprising moment for all. It demonstrated how despite HSINMUN being known as a place to make new friends, it is also a place to be reunited with old ones!



Mia Guo (IBSH)

This or That

HSINMUN EDITION

Written by HSINMUN Secretariat Team | Layout by Ashley Van | Edited by Celine Chen and Michelle Lee

Opening
Ceremony

Closing
Ceremony

Lobbying

Debating

Black
Blazer

Colorful
Blazer

Silent
committee room

Chaotic
committee room

First
Conference

Last
Conference

Teddy
Bears

Mousepads

Taxi

Walking

Impromptu
speech

Pre-crafted
Speech

Heels &
Dress shoes

Sneakers

Digital
Conference

Physical
Conference

Out-of-city
Conference

Within-city
Conference

Masthead

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