

EL MUNDO



Design: Konrad Sileński

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THE OPENING CEREMONY

China waiting for the Supreme drop



Photo: Aleksandra Stankiewicz

The Opening Ceremony of StetiMUN2017 officially began with all the attending countries' flags being carried into the auditorium. Shortly after, Martyna Bobala, the Secretary General greeted all the attendees with a thank you speech to the sponsors and organizers. It was followed by the astounding music performance of John Lennon's "Imagine" by Wiktoria Jelińska. Then next we had a pleasure to hear our honorable guest, professor Renata Nowaczewska from the University of Szczecin, give a gripping speech about leading topics of the conference. We could also watch a short film made by StetiMUNTV which included events from day's before Get-Together and registration, also featuring interviews with Chairs and delegates. It was clearly visible that all the delegates took the preparation to the conference seriously and presented themselves in a formal way wearing suitable attire to properly represent their respective countries. Some of them even took a step forward in their patriotic intentions, for instance, the delegate of the United Kingdom showed up wrapped in their country's flag, on top of that, calmly sipping tea from a fancy cup all throughout the ceremony. Not only that, we could also notice other countries proudly having portraits of their leaders framed on the tables or set as wallpapers of delegates' laptops.

Opening speeches begun with China's, which was interrupted by the delegate of France, Jan Peński. That stirred the atmosphere and created quite a chaos, resulting in more rule-breaking by delegates, such as applause after calling-out of USA delegate wearing a controversial "Make America great again" cap, lack of adequate language or even in Germany's case, trying to deliver their opening speech in German which was obviously declined by the Secretary General. As the ceremony lasted more than planned, some of the delegates started showing signs of being worn-off. Majority of attendees got distracted playing on their phones, browsing their social media or even trying to keep up with the newest fashion trends anticipating for the Supreme drop. Some of them also decided to actively seek for some romantic adventures, as some of the delegates exchanged little letters asking each other out. The ceremony was filled with truly exciting events- one of many being North Korea's delegate unexpected leave during the heated debate with Russian Federation. The balcony was also filled with curious visitors, wanting to experience at least a moment of the conference. After such a beginning of StetiMUN, we are impatiently looking forward to what comes next!

Paulina Sobiesińska & Nicola Mazurkiewicz



Photo: Aleksandra Stankiewicz

SECURITY COUNCIL

We've got the tea

Photo: Aleksandra Stankiewicz



The SC committee started off with icebreakers and the game "2 truths and a lie". Little did we know that the deliberations would be funnier than the game itself. The first policy statement was read out by the delegate of France and that was first of many controversies to be heard during the debate. And that is because the delegate of France, along with the delegate of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, along with the delegate of the United States of America provided us with a marvellous scenario and a role-play between all three of them. However, the delegate of Russian Federation assured us that it was an honest and heartfelt discussion and nothing was prearranged. The most shocking point came during the break when the delegate of the USA, along with the representatives of Russian Federation and UK investigated who wrote the inappropriate words and stereotypical insults about each country on their placards. Less or more surprisingly, it turned out that the guilt was on the French and Chinese side. However, where there's a crime, there's also a punishment. The guilty delegates' punishment was to sing out loud the anthem of Democratic People's Republic of Korea (a doubtfully pleasant performance;)). After solving this affair, the house proceeded to the unmoderated caucus - 30 minutes discussion about the nuclear threat of North Korea. The discussion was so heated that the representative of UK had to be censored.

The delegate commented on it by delicately sipping his traditional english tea (he was also doing it during other spicy moments of the debate). Now, it's high time to say a good word about the Chairs of the Security Council. Throughout the whole meeting they remained cool and focused, although the house had its hard moments. They did a really great job in carrying out the discussion and helping out the delegates in stating out their positions. At this point, we noticed an outstanding attitude, a masterful and vast knowledge of the rules of procedure by the delegate of the USA. He knew every little detail about the conference and managed to carry out a thorough discussion with each and every delegate. He was well prepared and professional throughout the whole debate. However, the majority of the delegates was not happy about it and decided to censor him whenever it was possible. Hmm, and we thought that the censorship was only the issue of the DPRK. Among the other most influential delegates of this committee, there were also the representatives of the UK, Russian Federation, France and China.

Marysia Zawadzka & Sandra Prolejko



Photo: Natalia Michalska

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

A heated debate with a fruitful ending...

The topic of today's discussion in the Human Rights Committee was organ harvesting. The squad of the committee consisted mostly of female delegates, with exception of the delegate of China - who appeared to be completely dominated by them. The appearance of the delegates has been inarguably professional and no accidents concerning this field have happened. The discussions started by France mentioning China's stance concerning the problem of human harvesting. Here, the response of China's delegate was expected but the delegate stayed quiet. Then the first heated debate came up when the delegate of Mexico proposed legalisation of organ trade as a way of reducing the number of illegally obtained organs. Unsurprisingly such a brave statement met with a loud disapproval of most countries' delegates, with exception of the delegate of Russia. Despite the importance of the topic, some delegates were disinterested, whether the talks concerned their country or not. The delegate of Israel seemed to be falling asleep, the only thing keeping them awake were messages between the delegates of Egypt and Democratic Republic of Korea. Some delegates, like the ones of China and Germany, seemed more into their phones than taking part in the discussions. Later on, the delegates were giving their statements and while most of them were clear and understandable, the delegate of China seemed quite confused and unsure of his own presentation. The delegate gave two contradictory responses, firstly stating that the organ harvesting in China did take place but later when asked to clarify, denied its existence. They seemed to lack knowledge concerning China's situation. After the fruitful beginning of the committee the focus came back to China's situation, still without comment from China's delegate, mainly the Falun Gong case, concerning taking of the organs from the prisoners, without their consent. During the discussion two groups of different beliefs have clearly began forming. The first one, the bigger one, among which were the delegates of UK, France, Israel, Australia, USA, Sweden, had a more traditional view and was focused mostly on educating its citizens and raising awareness about the cases of organ harvesting. The other group, much smaller, consisting only of the delegates of Russia, Mexico, China and Egypt, wanted to take a completely different and bolder approach.

Finally, the delegates have proposed their resolutions. The delegates of France and UK's resolution focused largely of trying to prevent any possible cases by educating society on the matter, raising awareness through campaigns and condemning taking organs from living donors. Their way of explaining is that while they can't control people, they can try and educate them and make suggestions. The other group wanted a more open minded approach to the problem. They wanted the implementation of policy of presumed consent, making everyone a donor after death, unless denied, they wanted harsher penalty for the criminals and also education on the matter. When the voting ended, the decision was very clear - France and UK has won with 14 votes in favour of their resolution. Nevertheless, the delegates of Mexico and Russia managed to get some amendments into the final version, like extracting organs from living donors only if it's not detrimental to their health and 3D organ printing and cell research eliminating the possibility of a shortage. Even though the UK delegate wasn't in favour of the idea, others thought it was quite innovative. Of course, a meeting without a punishment wouldn't be complete. The delegates from France, UK, Democratic Republic of Korea, Russia Federation and Australia had to a little dance, with a bit of help from the Chairs. The most active participants have been delegates from France, UK, Mexico and Russia, and event though not everyone joined in, the discussions have been very heated. The delegates of France and UK strongly encouraged everyone to actively participate in the next debate, looking subtly at the delegate of China. Fortunately this exchange of views ended with the final resolution.

Roksana Marjańska & Klaudia Łuczka



Photo: Natalia Michalska

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

“Look out for the Russian propaganda!”



Photo: Aleksandra Stankiewicz

On the first day of Economic and Social Council's debates, the topic of international cooperation against the problem of migrant smuggling was raised. As this is a timely issue, all of the Delegates were eager to discuss it, so soon after our strict Chairs warned the Delegates about what is prohibited during the debates, the Delegates proceeded to declare their policy statements. During the presentations plenty of questions have risen, so the debates were lively from the very beginning. As more and more page notes were exchanged between the delegates of Germany, France and Belgium, we could notice a strong unity being formed. Our expectations were confirmed later, when after the unmoderated caucus, France, Germany and Belgium submitted their resolution. However, not everyone seemed pleased with the ideas presented - the most persistent ones in the opposition being the Russian Federation and the USA, with several countries following. Due to that, the EcoSoc Committee experienced some stress while voting for the resolution. The Delegates could not come to an agreement and the roll-call voting had to be repeated many times. As a couple of countries changed their vote, from "in favour" to "against", France and Germany Delegates began to question those countries' policies - even accusing them of being influenced by Russian politics. The Delegate of France and the Delegate of Germany reminded everyone to keep to their policies, and not blindly follow the Russian Federation. With the Russian propaganda or not - the house's decision on the resolutions still remains undeclared, and so we are looking forward to seeing how the issue will be resolved on Friday.

Even under pressure, the EcoSoc committee did not fail to entertain its Delegates. After lunch, the Chairs: Kornel and Kuba, proceeded to punish the Delegates for disobeying some of StetiMUN's rules. The first punishment was for the late-comers and it involved the infamous "butt-spelling". As usually, this caused much joy in the committee and it has helped the Delegates to perk up. The Chairs also remembered to discipline the Delegates who did not submit their political statements in due time, those who were not using English during the conference and those who were using their phones. The punishment for that was karaoke and soon, the entire EcoSoc was singing "Can't help falling in love" alongside with Elvis Presley.

Even though the Debates were running smoothly for the majority of the time, some obstacles also appeared. The Chairs had to deal with a malfunctioning computer, but it was not a big problem for them, as a trusty MacBook is always by their sides. Nevertheless, the Leaders of the EcoSoc committee are not irreplaceable either. As the debates continued, Kornel became a living example of what problems can be caused by sleepless nights before the conference. It all started with just yawning but mistaking the Delegate of Russian Federation with the Delegate of the United States of America (a few times!) was definitely not left unnoticed by the House. We are hoping to see our Chairs and Delegates more rested on Friday, for the second day of discussing Economic and Social issues.

Wiktoria Kurasińska & Iga Sokół



Photo: Aleksandra Stankiewicz

UNESCO

I demand an apology for that



Photo: Mateusz Semeniuk

Limitation and control of information flow used as a political weapon was a massive discussions point during Thursday's UNESCO debate. The day was filled with incisive opinion exchanges, pointing out logical mistakes and voting for whether or not a delegate should apologize to the other delegate. Every representative had to answer a question whether their country is controlling the information flow and why. All of them, obviously, answered they didn't do anything wrong. The first part of the program was a formal debate. The delegate of United States of America started the discussion. She quickly met her nemesis – the delegates of Russia and Democratic People's Republic of Korea, who quickly started cooperating and were very determined to get rid of west mindset sneaking into their countries. DPRK and USA had a really strong argument which lasted in many whispers and frowning upon between the girls. Both of the sides expected an apology, but none of them received it. There're few other conflicts. The delegate of Ukraine accused the delegate of Poland of speaking as Polish government supported Polish mindset, while in reality it only represents one party. The delegate of Iran reminded the delegate of Germany about the time it hid from public the rape of over 1300 women in 2016. The delegate of United Kingdom asked the delegate of Russia, why the country does not let information coming from other countries in and she couldn't find words to respond. Delegates with similar points of view joined either American or DPRK-Russia side. Although those two camps were created, the delegates still kept on positive terms. Japan's and Saudi Arabia's representatives exchanged a few jokes when no one was looking, and Colombia's and Japan's representatives face-palmed themselves while one's of Iran's

speech. Most delegates didn't face any doubts to their speeches - China, Belarus, Chile and Colombia had a peaceful debate. There are obviously a few dramas. First, the delegate of the USA wrote on a page Allahu Akbar and sent it to the representative of Iran. He was mad and demanded an official apology. The Chairs decided that since it was followed by "god bless" it's not really offensive and in the end the USA didn't have to apologize. After some time, Turkey offered starting a debate about the Internet being free for people, but being controlled by the government, which resulted in even more arguing and more demanding of apologies. The most exciting element of the debate was the punishments on delegates, which happened mostly because they were late. Belarus and Turkey had to do a couple-yoga; USA and Korea sang a romantic song from High School Musical 3. UK, Germany and France had to sing a song from Hamilton. After being humiliated, the delegates demanded the Chairs to be punished for being late as well. Agata and Natan tried to get away with it, but suddenly the Secretary General came in and ordered them to wear princess tiaras and dance to Mean Girls' Jingle Bell Rock. It was quite a surprise, since they didn't do so badly! This day's debate was full of strong opinions exchange, but still fruitful and entertaining.

Marta Dziarkowska & Oliwia Kurlej



Photo: Diana Opiela

COUNTER-TERRORISM COMMITTEE

All guns blazing

After a prolonged opening ceremony, the delegates were gradually flowing through the corridors to eventually settle down in their conference room. It was easy to detect stress on the delegates' faces, albeit, it was even easier to notice the orange socks with dachshunds (or border collies - it was difficult to decide their race) on the feet of the Counter-Terrorism Committee's delegate of Egypt. With all delegates in the room, the CTC's first sitting began without any difficulties. After the roll call was performed by the Chairs, Jakub Laskowski and Kacper Paszyński, the delegates started acting. Although some of the members of the committee were engaged in a number of various activities, some unfortunately unrelated to the topic (the French, Greek and British representatives' iPhones were used frequently), there quickly appeared a motion to choose the first of the two topics chosen by the committee, which are gun restrictions and immigration. The motion, raised by the delegate of Italy, Bartosz Celt, ended in a very close vote, therefore the Chairs had to decide the topic - gun restrictions. The countries began with their policy statements. The first to present their agenda were the countries which volunteered, that is, inter alia, the United Kingdom, the United States, Ireland and France. The statements quickly divided the delegates into more or less two opposing sides - the ones for gun restrictions and the ones against. This division prevailed till the last minute of the meeting and kept the votes on the draft resolution tied. The two opposing parties were: the European countries voting for severe restrictions of gun availability and the USA, in an unexpected understanding with countries of the Middle East - voting for the public to commonly possess firearms. The main arguments of the European countries were the extensive amount of shootings in the USA due to gun availability and the spread of terrorism in Europe because of which their purpose is to reduce the access to firearms. The USA countered with a statement that if European citizens had an easy way of acquiring guns, the terrorists would have been prevented, albeit by force. The reading of statements broke the ice between delegates, friendships and rivalries were formed, and the readings themselves lead to a couple of interesting situations, including Belgium offending Iraq and not apologising, and the delegate of Iraq concluding his statement with the all-too-well-known words: "Allahu Akbar". Once the readings concluded the Chairs arranged a lunch break, and the motion to suspend the meeting was swiftly passed. After the break, the debate recommenced a 15-minute caucus, after which the USA delegate came late, therefore he was excluded from the discussions until the next roll call.

This made the Chairs execute punishment too hurriedly, accidentally ignoring the delegate's earlier request. He was later spared, the Chairs and the delegate of Italy, however, did not have so much luck. Kacper and Kuba were punished for their earlier mistake while the delegate of Italy was repeatedly speaking in the first person instead of the required third person. His punishment was to dance the traditional Russian "Kalinka" dance. The Chairs both had to sing - Kuba sang ABBA's hit "Dancing Queen" while Kacper had the privilege of performing a song of his choice, which turned out to be some Russian song (he sang it in Russian!). After the somewhat funny intermission came the time for the resolutions. The delegates were given twenty-three minutes to form alliances with other countries, draw their draft resolutions and later present them. During the presentations, the tension between the delegates of the UK and the USA reached its climax. This was followed by a suspenseful voting session which ended in a failure of both resolutions, as neither of them was backed by the necessary majority (2/3 of the votes). As a matter of fact, both voting sessions ended up with eight votes for and eight against. The final conclusion will hopefully be reached tomorrow, which promises us more fruitful debates on the topic.

Julia Patynek & Michał Szałajko



Photo: Mateusz Semeniuk

OFFICE OF DRUGS AND CRIME COMMITTEE

Long road to success

The first day of the Stetimun 2017 Conference at the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime Committee could be undoubtedly distinguished as a fruitful one, due to the fierce discussions resulting in the attainment of the resolution concerning the subject of human trafficking with focus on sexual slavery in South Asia. There were two parties, each presenting different views on the topic. The first one, consisting of the main countries involved in the issue, such as Austria, Indonesia, Cambodia, focused on a somewhat controversial approach, suggesting a law providing a sexual device to peoples of both genders when they come of age. The more reasonable resolution was provided by the representatives of the Western Countries, however, taking into account the varying ethics of each nation and aiming for the balanced development, the delegates collaborated, in order to create one satisfying and appropriate solution of the problem, concluding the key was the prosecution of the victims and traffickers involved in sexual slavery. Nevertheless, alike any road to success, this certainly proved to be a bumpy one! Starting with the punishment for the lack of position papers from the delegations of the Netherlands, Poland, Afghanistan and Venezuela, which definitely proved that they knew how to move to Jingle Bells just like the iconic Mean Girls, we then moved to the ice-breakers, exposing some of the deepest and darkest longings and secrets of the delegates. Was it the peer pressure that caused the views and the overall attitude of the delegate of France, to have changed completely, literally overnight? During the get-together he seemed to represent truly honourable values, stating that he would rather have no money, yet be a father of three, than have no children but own an imposing fortune. However, during the ice-breakers, contradictory to his previous statement, he chose winning a lottery over finding true love, which was met with the disappointment of the female part of the committee.

Nevertheless, it was not the confession of the French representative, that proved to be the most controversial, as it was the distinguished delegate of Slovenia, who was constantly in the spotlight throughout the whole day. Firstly, he stood out due to his, not so distinguished music preference, claiming that he would rather listen only to Nickelback for the rest of his life, than have to read iTunes terms and conditions everyday. Still, whereas this statement could be excused by the delegates, as well as the Chairs, the next actions of the delegate definitely could not. The downfall started with his choice to raise the motion for the official language to be changed to German, which clearly didn't get him on the right side of the Chairs. Going further than that, he was exposed for writing inappropriate notes to his friends, making it seem as if he was, perhaps, more interested in being the Stetimun's Gossip Girl, rather than in participating in the debate. All in all, the slight inconveniences did not spoil the course of the discussions and the resolution managed to pass, which leaves us wondering whether the next day will prove to be as successful. And more importantly, will it include as many dramas as this one?

Natalia Pilarczyk & Paulina Rycombel



Photo: Marta Łuniewska

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

The First day in ICC

The debates of International Criminal Court began with a failure of the Defence, one of the evidences fell down. It was the Muslim religious text - Quran. After that, the President of the International Criminal Court, Alicja Černohorska, introduced everybody into debate. Then the time for the ice-breaking came. The delegates had 30 seconds to ask one another about private things like favorite hobbies or their ideal job. During the Mock Trial The President of the ICC had many reservations to the Defence about their behaviour, like not raising their placards when speaking or turning their heads in the wrong directions. After the coffee break and some punishment for being late (let's mention Head of the Jury singing „All Star” from „Shrek”, or Judge Maja dancing and the Witnesses doing push-ups) the real trial begun. Prosecutors presented the evidences. They did it in a professional way, using videos, showing relations from nutrition bomb explosions and pictures of places devastated by king Salman. The Debate didn't end because of time frames. We expect second the part as fruitful as the first one.

Wanda Slendak & Maja Fałczyńska



Photo: Aleksandra Stankiewicz

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP debates full of misstatements



Photo: Aleksandra Stankiewicz

At the beginning our Chairs, Lidia Jędrzejak and Julia Pińkowska made the effort to introduce the rules of discussion to the delegates. Unfortunately, not all of them were appreciative of that and they chose to distract the Chairs. Later it turned out to be one of the contributors to the amount of punishments that they have received. Every one of them was punished for something, which was funny to watch, but it showed how unprepared they were. For example, the delegates didn't know the required vocabulary or they were frequently forgetting to use it. The China and Indonesia representatives were on their phones and were not paying attention whatsoever. It wasn't the first time the China delegate did something not entirely appropriate for he tried to use polish once during his performance. He started a conversation with the delegate of Denmark and was brought to order several times before he finally calmed down. He also sighed a lot after being told to yield the floor back to the Chairs. The delegates from Indonesia and Poland also didn't show much interest in the discussion, what was showing in their behavior. They both kept leaning back and forth in their seats, stretching their legs out or stifling yawns. Poland delegate's posture while speaking was inappropriate – he kept his hands in the pockets of his trousers. The representative from Nigeria kept picking at a placard and supporting his head with his arm so as not to fall asleep. His clearly visible boredom ended quickly when he left the room and never came back, which was kind of odd. Nearly everyone was dressed properly, what contributed to achieving an official character of the debates. Only the delegate of Nigeria had a t-shirt under his jacket.

The delegate of Saudi Arabia made effort to dress up, but he should have had prepared his costume a little earlier than at the beginning of the debate. In addition, he came to the room and started consuming his lunch, which was inpolite.

However, the discussion remained professional, thanks to more experienced delegates of United Kingdom, Japan and Philippines. They were well prepared and had good, rationalized points of observation, were really active and confident. Sadly, they had no mercy for other delegates, which were participating for the first time. For us, that was just pure unfriendliness. Their advantages were definitely professional language and firmness, but their attitudes actually came across as slightly arrogant. We think that some of UNDP delegates haven't prepared themselves properly and that caused their nervousness. Remember that practicing your speeches can help you make a better impression. What is more, please note that smirking can be taken as an offense to others.

Zuzanna Szatkowska & Kamila Kierczuk



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