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Introductions from your ECOSOC Dais

Hello delegates,

My name is Danielle, and I will be your chair for ECOSOC at StuyMUNC 2022. I'm a junior here at Stuy, and this is my third year in Model UN. A little bit about me, I'm also part of SING!, ARISTA, the lacrosse team, and the Big Sib program here at Stuy. In my free time, you can probably find me watching Formula 1 or looking for food somewhere.

As someone whose family is from the Philippines, a country that has suffered from brain drain, I'm beyond excited to chair this committee. I think that this topic needs to be discussed more, especially as the global economy continues to fluctuate and become more interconnected by the day. Immigration and emigration allows people, ideas, and skills to move around the world, but the trends are clear. Modernized countries, such as those in Western Europe and North America, are distinct favorites for immigrants, allowing those countries to benefit from a plethora of well-educated and knowledgeable people.

I hope you are all as excited to discuss this topic as I am, so come prepared and ready for a day in the shoes of the world's top officials. If you have any questions, please feel free to send us an email!

Best,

Danielle Que

dque30@stuy.edu

Dear delegates,

Welcome to StuyMUNC! My name is Shreya, and I'll be acting as the director for this committee. I'm currently a sophomore at Stuy, and I look forward to the next few years I'll spend with Model UN. I'm also a part of Red Cross, Key Club, and Girls Who Code. If I'm not hunched over my laptop, I can probably be seen doing the bare minimum of exercise by walking my dog.

The topic of brain drain has always been captivating to me because of just how much impact it holds on a global level. At its core, brain drain is a mere social phenomenon that has grown to have an intense grip on overall development in many areas, in ways both social and economic. The issue with brain drain is the issue most consistent with developing nations across time: lack of development. The relationship between developing and developed nations continues to affect entire populations of people, and there are so many unique takes on this multifaceted issue based entirely on where any given nation stands.

As is the case with every committee, there are multiple solutions and many ways that this conference could go. I look forward to seeing what you all come up with. Be open to ideas and try your best! Feel free to shoot me an email if there are any concerns.

Sincerely,

Shreya Das

sdas40@stuy.edu

Committee Information

The United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is one of the six main bodies of the United Nations, and is responsible for coordinating economic and social work within the UN. It plays a key role in fostering international cooperation and consulting with non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

This committee will be a General Assembly committee, which means that delegates will be representing specific countries in the UN. Delegates will be collaborating with one another to address the topic of the committee and agree on a resolution.

The general flow of committee will be as follows: following roll call at the beginning of the first committee session, the speaker's list is opened, in which delegates have the opportunity to give an opening speech to introduce themselves and their view on the topic. After that, the committee will consist of mainly moderated caucuses, in which delegates give speeches pertaining to specific topics, or unmoderated caucuses, in which delegates are able to network and discuss with other delegates, allowing them to form blocs, which are basically groups that work together to write a resolution to address the topic at hand. Once resolutions are

finished, they will be presented and voted on. Throughout committee, notes can be passed between delegates, so don't be afraid to let other delegates know your views on their ideas and if you'd like to collaborate with them in a future unmod!

Below we have outlined some of the committee procedures.

Roll Call: At the beginning of each committee session, the chairs will take attendance. Delegates must respond with either, "Present" or, "Present and voting." If the delegation wishes to respond, "Present," they are able to abstain from voting for that committee session. If the delegation responds with, "Present and voting," the delegation must vote at every turn. If a delegation arrives late, the delegate must send a note up to the dais to inform them of their presence.

Motions: Motions are used for opening and closing debate, proposing a speaker's list, moderated, or unmoderated caucus, and deciding to move to voting procedure. To propose a motion, lift your placard.

Speaker's List: List of delegates which is often used to start committees. The speaker's list is usually used to outline a country's agenda on the topic

and jumpstart the networking process. If at any point during committee there are no new motions, the chair will revert back to the speaker's list.

Moderated Caucus: a form of debate used to allow delegations to explain and debate their country's positions on a specific topic in front of the entire committee. For a moderated caucus to be considered, the motion must include the overall speaking time, time per speaker, and the topic which will be discussed. Subsequently, the chairs will call on countries wishing to speak until the allotted time for the moderated caucus is over.

Unmoderated Caucus: an informal style of debate used for delegates to have time to form blocs and work on draft resolutions. Formal debate rules are suspended, and delegates are allowed to leave their seats. In order to move into an unmoderated caucus, the motion must only outline the overall caucus time.

Although StuyMUNC 2022 does not require position papers, they are **highly recommended**. Position papers are a great way to summarize all of your research into one document that can be referred to throughout the committee and can help you understand and solidify your stance on the topic. They can also be a great way to prepare for the conference since you will thoroughly research your topic in the process of writing the paper. **If you would like to receive feedback on your position paper, please submit your paper to dque30@stuy.edu and sdas40@stuy.edu via email by April 29, 2022.** Papers should be a maximum of about one page long (single-spaced with 12 point font).

Committee Background

Human capital flight, or brain drain, is the economic phenomenon where skilled workers emigrate to a new country. In an era when more and more

people are gaining access to higher education around the world, the desire to work better jobs with better opportunities also grows.

However, when these workers do find new jobs in more developed countries around the world, it leaves their home countries, which are usually less developed, with less people to fill the necessary jobs to bring the country to the level of the world's most developed countries.



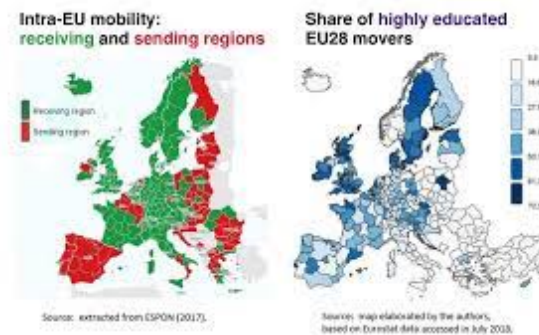
Types of Brain Drain

There are three main types of brain drain: organizational, industrial, and geographical.

The first, organizational brain drain, refers to when workers leave one company in favor of another. The second, industrial brain drain, refers to when a large number of workers exit an entire industry.

The third and final type is geographical brain drain, which refers to the phenomenon where many skilled workers depart a country in favor of

another. This type of brain drain will be the main focus of our committee.



Causes of Brain Drain

The factors that influence brain drain arise from both the home

countries and the countries that face high rates of emigration. These can be

separated into “push” and “pull” factors that influence emigration.

People from less developed to more developed countries will likely move due to poor circumstances in their home countries. A lack of economic or higher-education opportunities can be seen in many impoverished countries. Along with this, there can be less access to safe water and food or healthcare, causing an overall decline in quality of life. To cope with lowered quality of life, there is typically a higher per capita birth rate and an increased population, which can lead to food shortages and famines. Countries with lower economic output have greater restrictions on employment as a consequence. There are likely to be poorer working conditions in these areas, along with greater employee discrimination and lack of workers’ rights. A shortage of research facilities is also common, as less developed nations have less incentive to spend money on resources that reap long-term benefits, rather than immediate short-term solutions to current crises.

Political and social climates can also influence brain drain. Political instability is a common cause of brain drain, often causing unstable shifts to a country’s macroeconomics. There is often a more frequent change in politics and policies in these nations, which is

likely to damage overall economic performance.

On the other hand, more developed countries face greater emigration because they possess the resources that home countries lack. The “pull” factors from developed countries are viewed by migrants as appealing, and influence travel into those areas. Examples of this include more modernized educational systems, greater freedoms, and more opportunities for higher-education and employment. There tends to be greater globalization in these areas, leading to increased foreign opportunities and a more wide-spread and stable economic system. In more developed countries, worker unions and an interest in workers’ rights are more common, as are stable pay and more employment opportunities.

More developed countries are also favored because they tend to have more stable political climates. There is usually a more organized political system, along with greater freedoms protected for the general population.

The greatest cause of brain drain is the major difference in economic output and outlook from less to more developed countries. The lower GDP and CPI of less developed areas has many negative consequences, influencing the

arrival of foreign migrants into developed areas.

Economic Effects of Brain Drain

The economic impacts of brain drain differ from country to country, almost always dependent on the country's level of development. Because brain drain is the emigration of people from less developed to more developed nations, these countries are essentially in a zero-sum game.

The less developed countries, or the home countries, face a shortage of skilled workers, which are essential to the development of more impoverished areas. The GDP of home countries is generally less than that of developed countries and the loss of future workers, especially those in intellectual and economic fields, only adds further tension. The lack of human capital also causes a lack of innovation, causing lower progression in technology and sociopolitical climates. Less developed areas follow a common trend of lower globalization and industrialization, which closes off the country to foreign opportunities and causes a more narrow and localized economy. There is typically a larger focus on microeconomics than macroeconomics in these areas.

The loss of large groups of people also lowers the tax revenue brought in by these countries. The tax rates in less developed countries tend to be on the lower side to begin with, but profit is lessened because of brain drain.

The economy also serves a greater purpose in less developed countries, which is to push funding for social welfare programs and healthcare organizations. The lower revenue brought in through the action of brain drain means that there are less resources available for impoverished people, which furthers the cycle of lack of education and descends the country into further lack of progression.

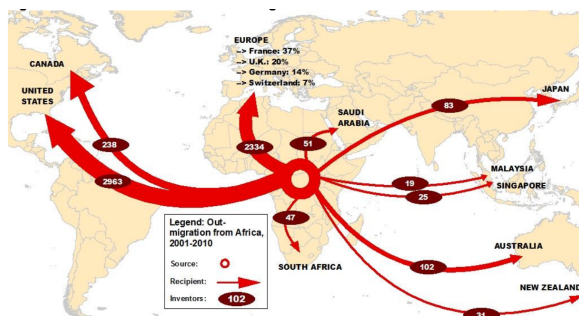
On the other hand, more educated people could serve as sources of greater economic freedom. Migrants can send remittances back to their home countries, financially supporting the people there. Migrants from foreign areas can also facilitate trade and foreign involvement in their home countries, easing transaction costs and technology transfers.

Developed countries receive many more educated immigrants, which

can affect both the number of and demographic workers in certain industries, as well as the skill and wage makeup in these areas. Many immigrants with a tertiary education come to developed countries, so there is an influx of more educated people.

Seeing Brain Drain

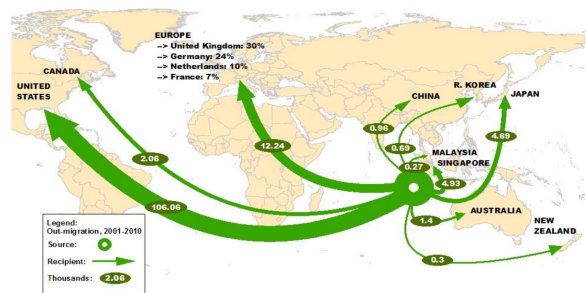
Brain drain is most visible in less developed countries, particularly in Asia and Africa.



Less developed countries in these regions tend to value education, and with the rise of education rates also came the rise of skilled workers seeking employment. These countries also have fewer opportunities for these workers,

However, due to the large number of migrants that find their way into developed areas, there is a significant narrowing of actual opportunities for immigrants.

either due to a high supply-low demand for workers, or a crowded job market for several extremely popular fields of work,



such as healthcare. Thus, workers are forced to look abroad to find a better job, and when they find that job, they will immigrate to the new country, leaving their home country.

Questions to Consider

Consider these questions in your research and during committee:

1. Is your country affected by brain drain? If so, how?
2. Does your country benefit from brain gain? How so?
3. What economic effect does immigration or emigration of workers have on your country's economy?
4. Is there such a thing as too much brain gain?
5. Does your country have current incentives to keep workers? To attract workers?
6. If your country does see some brain gain, do workers come from the same few countries? Do they come from all over the world?

Committee Positions

North America

This area, composed of nations in vastly different stages of development, has seen extensive amounts of immigration due to brain drain. Less developed countries, especially countries in the Caribbean such as Jamaica or Haiti, lose thousands of people due to emigration to larger and more advanced countries. Many people with a tertiary education level or higher in these nations move in search of greater opportunity in the job market, which lags the economic progression of the home countries and further delays development.

Global powers such as the United States, widely recognized by many other nations as technologically advanced and developed areas, are countries that face great amounts of emigration from less developed areas. Being on the receiving end, this increased population of often less-educated immigrants in more developed nations has helped balance out the labor market and stimulate economic demand in those areas. It is a concern, however, that as more immigrants come to these more developed countries, there will be less space for those opportunities to really come to fruition. To cope with large populations of people, adjustments in

wages and overall employment will have to be made.

South America

South America's switch to a free-market economy also changed the economic industry of this area. While the shift from private investments to a more domestic economy did help lower foreign debt, it also led to declining growth rates and increased unemployment rates. In countries such as Brazil, with a declining workforce and lowered funding for education opportunities, there is greater incentive for people to seek out greater opportunities elsewhere. More educated people in South America emigrate to more developed nations, which leads to further decline of South American work forces and slowing of economic progression.

On the other hand, the opportunity for greater education can also serve to benefit South American countries. Because it is often people with higher education levels leaving for more developed nations, there are often higher remittances being sent back to their families in the home countries. As remittances, especially in areas like Latin America, contribute to overall GDP and can serve as stabilizers in minor economies, emigration allows for

greater opportunity in this area than without. Greater opportunity in foreign areas can reap rewards for the home countries of immigrants.

Europe

Europe is a region of two sides, with the western half reaping the benefits of brain gain, and the eastern half having to deal with the effects of brain drain. For countries like the United Kingdom and Germany, they have always appealed to immigrants from across Europe because of the better job opportunities and a chance for those with higher education to put their minds to something larger. For other countries like Spain or Italy, immigrants from Africa often come looking for better jobs and opportunities, but many end up disappointed as the job market is unable to keep up with the increasing demand.

The story is far different in Eastern Europe, where the politics have a large effect on the economy and immigration. The lasting effects of the dissolving of the USSR can be seen as many workers are intent on going to university and learning hard skills in science and technology, yet have little opportunity to apply them to large projects as there are very few in countries like Ukraine or Slovakia. In countries like Finland or Belarus, where Russia has a considerable amount of influence, many workers want to leave

to find better opportunities to increase their fortunes and apply their skills.

Africa

Many of the countries in Africa are underdeveloped, the negative effects of brain drain are felt intensely in this area. As some of these countries, such as Libya or Ethiopia, are already suffering through states of civil unrest or lack of proper resources for education or funding, many people living in this area choose to emigrate to nations with greater economic prosperity. One of the bigger issues with brain drain in Africa is the loss of educated workers, which are a necessity for pushing the area into further development. African countries with the greatest burden of poverty often suffer due to lack of effective medical equipment and personnel, which can influence things like overall hygiene and population growth.

Many African countries spend a substantial amount of their public fundings on the education system, but more pressing than the cost of education is the cost of sanitation in this area. Many African countries, as they currently are, lack the ability to sustain the population they already do have and cannot account for more, especially in regards to things like vaccines or clean water. While the effects of brain drain reduce the population, they also cause

instability in the African continent and delay progression.

Middle East

This region has been plagued by conflict and war, but also seen the benefit of brain gain. In war-torn countries like Afghanistan, skilled citizens, such as doctors and linguists, often work with foreign militaries in exchange for protection, and more importantly, the chance of emigration to more developed countries, such as the US¹. As more educated laborers move abroad, the country has progressively stagnated economically, as the people necessary to advance the Afghan economy will move and reside elsewhere.²

On the other hand, especially in the Arabian Peninsula, countries face the double-edged sword of economic development in relation to brain gain and drain. This is because they are some of the fastest growing economies in the world, and appeal to many foreign workers looking for a better life or better paying jobs in order to send money back to their families. However, in countries like Saudi Arabia, the rapid development has also pushed many people to emigrate from these countries as the population boom and small job market left many unemployed. This trend has come and gone every few years as oil (the main export of the region)

sales boomed and fell, but with the heightened call for more sustainable power sources today, it's likely an unsustainable economic trend for the Middle East.³

Asia & Pacific Islands

Nearly all countries in Asia suffer from brain drain, and very few see any sort of brain gain. In countries such as China and India, their large populations are often stuck with very little class movement, so the few from lower classes that are able to get educated have a more difficult time getting jobs in their home country, forcing them to immigrate elsewhere in hopes of more opportunity. In smaller countries, like the Philippines or Malaysia, the vast majority of young workers, especially college graduates, want to move abroad to start a new, better life. For example, in the Philippines, many nursing students move to the United States to fill the needs in the healthcare industry, which drains the Philippine healthcare system of many of their possibly brightest nurses.

The more developed countries in Asia, like Japan and South Korea tend to attract the most educated workers from all over the region, and even the world, as their role in modernizing technology opens up many opportunities for the most educated workers. However, many eventually struggle to find jobs due to

the limited job openings and a large pool of talent, from both native and international applicants.

For Australia and New Zealand, two of the more developed countries in the Pacific, their situation is much like Japan and South Korea. Countries like Tonga and Fiji lose workers to these two countries as they offer better jobs and benefits, and more opportunities beyond the island communities.⁴ However,

Australia and New Zealand also attract people from China and Europe as the culture is appealing and the best jobs appeal to the well educated and those with previous experience.

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