



HUMUN IV



STUDYGUIDE

THE LEAGUE OF PLANETS



MAHAD AKBAR

SECRETARY GENERAL

Greetings Delegates,

My name is Mahad Akbar, and I am honored to welcome you all as the Secretary-General of HUMUN IV. This conference has meant a lot to me, and to a lot of other people who have been involved with it. In the past three editions, I have gone from an ACD, to a USG to becoming Secretary-General and I have come to cherish every single one of those experiences. HUMUN is a place where having actually productive conversations is prioritized above all else. I hope that you spend your time here, actually trying to learn, grow and become better equipped to live in a world that needs critical thought. Our commitment to making this conference about more than just winning is not a gimmick, we take a lot of pride in ensuring that all of you gain something from your committees. The most valuable thing you can take away from this conference is not a trophy, it's the ability to look back on your time here and remember actually having learned something. The majority of our current EC have been where you are now, I think that fact alone speaks volumes to the kind of impact this conference has on people. My only request to you is to respect yourself and the people around you. Don't be afraid to ask for help, and don't make anyone feel worse if they need help.

Best,
Mahad Akbar
Secretary-General,
HUMUN IV.



ASHAHAD ABBAS JOKHIO

UNDER-SECRETARY GENERAL

Welcome Delegates,

My name is Ashahad Abbas and I shall be serving as the Under Secretary General for the crisis committees at the 4th iteration of Habib University Model United Nations. I am a Sophomore, and currently pursuing a degree in Computer science, and a minor in Communication and Design. My Model United Nations plus debate experience covers a lot of stuff. I have rendered my services as the MUN captain of Nixor College back in 2019-20. I have attended renowned conferences such as LUMUN, ROTMUN, MUNTR, etc as a delegate and won accolades.

The secretariat and the academic team at HUMUN this year has focused on maintaining the quality of the agendas shedding light on various facets of the political affairs. Our vision is to include those stakeholders in the discourse who are mostly neglected and given the least amount of limelight when it comes to discussions on the MUN platform.

Our aim, at this year's HUMUN edition, is to provide a safe space for the delegates to learn, unleash their hidden potential, and collaborate with people from different backgrounds in the committee. We hope that the delegates take the conference as an opportunity to break the ice and motivate themselves to speak if they are not confident enough to address a group of people. Discussing world affairs, identifying the challenges, and then working on the resolutions with the spirit to include everyone's opinion will make this conference a great experience for all the delegates.

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE DIRECTOR



ZUHAYR MUNEEB

COMMITTEE DIRECTOR

Hi Everyone,

My name is Zuhayr Muneeb and I'm in my final year, pursuing Social Development and Policy. It is my honor to be the chair of this committee. It is wonderful to be part of HUMUN once again. It is a conference I believe that truly strives to enlighten its participants and help them engage with some of the most prevalent issues of our world.

The League of Planets follows in a similar vein and serves to understand the consequences of the space race of the 21st century. Taking place about 300 years into the future, the committee is set in a timeline where the entire Solar System has been colonized and is under the firm control of Corporate Entities. The committee seeks to understand what happens in a hyper-capitalistic world (in this case Solar System), where the elite is no longer on the same planet as the working class, where they are free to exploit the planet without worrying over the personal physical consequences they will have to face in form of environmental degradation or even revolution. On a destabilized planet Earth, where rebels now control most of the planet, and there exists a threat of their rebellion spreading to other planets. What arguments will there exist, will they be in favor to destroy the planet or to preserve and if so then why.

Hope to see you all there and well prepared.

Yours Sincerely,
Zuhayr.



MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE DIRECTOR



HAMZA FAROOKHI

COMMITTEE DIRECTOR

Greetings delegates,

My name is Hamza Farookhi. I've recently graduated from Habib University majoring in social development and policy and minoring in history. Between working a full-time corporate job and coaching debates at Cedar College, I find myself as your chair for the League of Planets at this year's HUMUN. This conference is very near and dear to my heart as this conference began during my first year at university and is now in its fourth iteration. It is wonderful to see it grow, and now in a post-pandemic Karachi, it will be the first conference that will welcome back fully in-person Model United Nations.

As for the committee, it will function as a crisis committee. This topic and committee while fictional in nature, does have relevance in today's political and economic landscape. With billionaires involved in their own personal space race, and getting increased levels of access to the Earth's many resources. It is a committee that will test your diplomacy skills, your response in the face of many crises, and your ability to work within your limited powers and personalities. The only thing that will limit you in this committee is your own imagination.

I look forward to meeting all of you this February in person and wish you all the best of luck for what should be an eventful weekend.

Best Regards,
Hamza.



COMMITTEE OVERVIEW & MANDATE

ASSISTANT COMMITTEE DIRECTORS

FAWWAZ AHMED
RIDA KHAN

The year is 2357, the Solar System has been colonized. With Various planets and their satellites serving either as new habitats for our species or being mined for their resources. A few corporations for the past few centuries have remained in control of most of these assets, making them the de-facto rulers of the Solar System. Earth, once the cradle for all life has been suffering a long period of decay. Terrible environmental disasters wreak havoc upon all corners of the world. Growing uncertainty and lack of any substantial assistance have forced the masses to rise up in rebellion. Day by day forces of resistance grows stronger. There now exist resistance groups on a global scale. They are able to organize and disrupt the production, essential transactions and crucial procedures of the ruling corporations through any means viable. Their message is clear, that Earth and its people will no longer be exploited by elites living Off-Planet, that change will be brought either through peace or through violence. The instability on Earth threatens all its neighbours, near or far. Dissent and unrest on this scale if not quelled properly will traverse the Solar System at the speed of light. Putting in danger the order organized by the ruling corporations. The order that is necessary to maintain for the continuation of businesses and the growth of profits. The League of Planets has formed this Special Commission to deal with the crisis on Earth. The Commission has invited all personal deemed as influential and essential in dealing with this matter. Including the CEOs of the major corporations, leaders from different resistance groups on Earth, central diplomats as well as other important figures. The League of Planets must decide on a lasting solution for the problems on Planet Earth. Whether Earth is worth saving, if so then how best to do it. Or to wipe the planet clean using Nuclear Weapons to prevent any chaos from spreading in the rest of the Solar System. In this pursuit, delegates must lookout for the most beneficial situation for them, whether as a CEO, politician or resistance leader.



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History

When humanity first took to the stars, people dared to hope. The riches of the galaxy would save the ailing Earth and the Earthers would prosper. The Big Five had other ideas. The five corporations, free from Earthly concerns, were able to create new worlds to suit their needs. The Earth could now be this giant resource cow they can milk without regard.

As people inhabited these new planets in rapid numbers, there was a need for someone to mediate the conflicts between the people and the corporations, should they emerge. Enter the Planetary Leaders, a government chosen by the people bought and paid for by the corporations.

In 2250 the Earth leader was being sworn in and an arrow pierced his heart and he fell. Many heard a small hooded figure, wielding a bow, screaming "Liberty or Death". It is generally agreed that the person was Fariha Fukushima, the idealist rebel leader, architect of the First Fukushima Rebellion. This was only the first symbolic blow of a masterful rebel operation that ended with the entire Asian continent coming under the control of the Fukushima resistance. After the fall of New Karachi - the capital of the Asian territories - it was clear that the rebels had amassed great strength that could not be easily challenged.

In the Second Fukushima Rebellion, Fariha turned her eyes to the European and American continents. Fukushima hoped her resistance would inspire many more. While new rebellions sprang up all over the Earth, they weren't the cavalry Fukushima hoped. In Europe, the Ramrakhianis cut a deal with Core Energy Corporation. The Ramrakhianis have no grand ideas of redistribution and they brutally rule over the European people. A century later, the Ramrakhianis and the Fukushimas are still fighting for control over the Americas. New Africa controls the African continent and the Eastern Seas fall under the control of the Tasman Pirate Confederation.

Current Events

The recent events have been a growing concern for all in the Solar System. Since the rebel groups have taken complete control of the Earth, there have been rising tensions between the major corporations. There is growing uncertainty and high levels of mistrust between all companies and their heads. There is a threat of war across the Solar System, for if a few or even one of the major corporation's falls due to the production halt on Earth, there will be a power struggle to fill the vacuum, one that will drag everyone into it. The League of Planets has called a Special Conference to prevent any such incident. Representatives from the four major rebel groups have been invited, so have the CEOs of the major corporations, Planetary Presidents, and Diplomats. This conference must decide the fate of the planet, which in turn shall decide the fate of the entire Solar System.



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Rebel Movements

In the past century, there have been a growing number of rebellions throughout Earth. Slowly these small movements joined together to form larger groups. Currently, the planet is under the control of four major groups. The groups themselves are not monoliths and have tensions within themselves, due to contentions within the factions that make them up. While some groups are headed by idealists who wish to create a fair and equal world for all citizens of the planet other groups may not share in their idealism and work towards more material goals, at times these lead to clashes amongst the rebels as well? In the meeting of the League of Planets the rebel groups must decide whether to band together putting aside their difference or find another way to negotiate the crises on Earth in their favor against the corporations.

Phelps Jong

Captain of Tasman Pirate Confederation

Phelps Jong rules the seas of Eastern Asia and Oceania. He started his piracy career by attacking the shipments of the Core Energy Company, making quick profits by selling the materials to smaller merchants near the Tasman Sea. Phelps' was a small enough pirate that did not bother the corporation much, it was only after he joined his mission with another pirate, Rod Jellema, that his fortunes grew. Together they were able to make the entire Tasman Sea, and later a large part of the Pacific Ocean their territory. They did this by joining forces and sinking the ships of every other pirate. Once the Tasman Pirate Confederation was the dominant player in the region they were able to tax the corporations for protection or threaten to hijack ships and cargo if payment and demands weren't met. These brought a lot of riches to Phelps personally, who learned that he was quite fond of the luxuries that wealth afforded him. He is not an idealist like other rebel group leaders and looks out for personal gain beyond all else.

Rod Jellema

First Mate of Tasman Pirate Confederation

Rod Jellema is the second in command of the Tasman Pirate Confederation. Much like his captain he does not have many idealistic ambitions about the future of Earth or its inhabitants. He finds many comforts in material wealth, which he feels he has been cheated out of since Phelps seems to have kept most of it for himself. It was Jellema's plan to form an alliance with Phelps, and he is seen with the confederation as the wiser one.



Fateh bin Saad

Leader of New Africa

Leader and founder of the New Africa rebel movement, which has in recent years taken control over the African Continent. Fateh's movement started with a few hundred rebels that soon spread from the coast of Sudan to engulf the whole of North Africa. Later the movement merged with several other rebel groups. Many of the other leaders were charmed by Fateh's strong and idealistic goals for the people of the planet and accepted him as their head.

Fateh though, strategic and decisive often lacks the cunningness of the corporations, for this reason, he appointed Noah Zulu as his second in command. Noah Zulu's deal with Oxygentia Ltd provides the revenue with which the New Africa recruits are armed and fed yet this angers Fateh greatly, who wanted to convert all factories on the continent so that they make produce necessary for the inhabitants of Earth and no one else. Fateh's unbending ideals can either break the corporations or push them further away from negotiations.

Noah Zulu

Second in Command of New Africa

Noah Zulu is second to Fateh bin Saad in ruling New Africa. Before this, he led his group of militant environmentalists in the Southern regions of the African continent. Though broadly aligned with Fateh's ideology he sees him as too naïve. Zulu believes that the only sustainable future for the people of Earth is one where there is an agreement between the corporations and rebel groups. He worries that too much hostility on Earth would make it an unappealing prospect for the Big Five corporations who in response may destroy Earth, just to get rid of the risk of rebellious ideas spreading onto other settlements. His relationship with Fateh suffers from time to time, recently there are reports that there is a great argument going between them since the treaty with Oxygentia was signed. A treaty for which Noah Zulu had courted Lady Oxygenaya, and put in much effort.

Sana Fukushima II

Leader of Fukushima Resistance

No one dared question the authority of Fariha Fukushima. She delivered the killing blow to the Earth Representative, led the military takeover of the Asian territories, and authored the book "Liberty or Death: A Song for the Earth" which provides the guiding principles for the rebellion christened with her name. While Fariha Fukushima led by the example of her strength and ideals, her niece is more of a politician. Loved by the people for her work in overseeing the welfare state of the Asian territories, she quickly rose through the ranks of the resistance and won a hotly-contested election. Her surname only helps and she too has made a cult following around herself. Many of the subjugated people of the Americas and Europe chant her name, calling for their savior. Her aims for the Earth are the same as her aunt's: liberty, restoration, redistribution.



Engineer Scheherazade

Co-leader of the Fukushima Resistance

Much of the dissent in the election of Fukushima's niece revolved around cries of nepotism. To appease that faction of the resistance, Fukushima recognized a co-leader, Engineer Scheherazade, granting them power over the Middle East where much of the arms and artillery of the resistance comes from. Despite the turbulent circumstances that led to their election and competing views on the issue of resource sales, Scheherazade has worked well with Fukushima and they have put together a formidable partnership, that is till now.

Vishal Ramrakhiani

Leader of Ramrakhiani Group

Anticipating the rise of militia resistance, the Core Energy Corporation recruited the Ramrakhiani family. Descendants of Varun the Destroyer, hail from a strong martial legacy and have recently acquired a taste for the finer things in life. Vishal Ramrakhiani is a mercenary warlord in every sense of the word. Son of the original patriarch of the Ramrakhiani clan, he has continued his father's work. He violently stamps out any dissent, indulges in the riches provided by the CEC, and has carved the name of the Fukushima niece on a bullet he wears on a necklace around his neck. While he is very much the CEC's creature, his recent meetings with other corporations have alarmed the CEC.



■ CEOs.

In the 21st century, it was the private corporations that dominated the space race. This was due to the fact that national space agencies the world over were short on funding, mainly due to economic crises which forced many governments to take austerity measures and cut funding to programs deemed unnecessary. On the other hand, private corporations were encouraged by the interest of their founders to explore the Solar System. The gap only increased as the decades continued. Corporations were able to attain de-facto ownership of resources on satellites and planets where they first landed. The world leaders were able to appoint Planetary Leaders, as symbolic political representatives of the new settlements. Most of the control of the natural resources and profits accrued from these new habitats remained firmly in the hands of the businesses.

In the 24th century, there are five major corporations that dominate the Solar System. Each headed by a CEO, who have for the past century remained in a gridlock, each unable to gain dominance over the rest. Yet from time to time they all look for opportunities to destabilize the status-quo to gain an upper hand. The crises on Earth can serve to break or make the futures of these CEOs and their companies.

■ Mikahil Volya

CEO Edison Industries

Edison Industries, which led the charge of electronic vehicles in the 21st century, later diverged into primitive space travel. Over the centuries the company branched on to incorporate many diverse endeavors. Especially the invention of solar sails, technology that harnessed the potential of solar winds and propelled the company to new heights. The Volya's have been board members since the start of the company, Mikahil is their most recent CEO candidate, he must ensure that the company does well so as to continue the line of CEOs being selected from the Volya family.

Living on Ganymede, Mikahil is sentimental about Earth, especially about resources and labor, he wonders if there is a way to preserve it, so as to increase company revenue and gain an edge over the rest as well as ensure the dominance of Volya's within Edison Industries.

■ Mishael Francis

CEO of New Horizons

New Horizons, a company formed in the 21st century focused solely on commercial space travel. It was founded by one of the richest people at that time, George Balding, the founder of the wildly successful company, The Nile.



New Horizons, controls 70% of the resources on Mars, much of its revenue is generated from industrial activities there. The company relied on transporting labor from Earth to Mars, as labor acquired from Earth is cheaper and more in line with the harsh working policy of the company. Yet in recent years, due to the growing rebel forces on planet Earth, there are growing concerns that workers on Mars will get inspired by the rebels on Earth and cause issues for New Horizon. A few incidents have already occurred, the news of which has had to be suppressed so as not to let the other Four Corporations smell blood. Recruiting labor from other settlements has greatly affected the profit margins of the company, and a solution is required for the corporation to maintain its reputation.

Mishaal Francis has been recently elected by the board of members. Known within the company for her pragmatic approach to problems and possessing a will to do whatever she deems necessary. Mishaal needs to find some resolution to the crisis on Earth to secure the prosperity of New Horizons.

Lady Oxygenaya VIII

CEO OXYGENTIA Ltd

When the Oxie family decided to move to a new home in the Solar System, their primary concern was the availability of sufficient oxygen. So the Oxie family decided to open multiple factories that manufacture oxygen containers on the Earth. These containers were then supplied to the Solar System regularly and soon each settlement became dependent on them. The Oxie family was able to patent numerous ways of producing and capturing oxygen. These patents allowed them to have complete control over the oxygen industry in the Solar System. A monopoly that continues to this day, allowing them to control the price and supply of the product.

Oxygentia is a family-owned corporation and has remained so for centuries. It was founded from the fortunes of the Oxie family which were made by owning one of the largest pharmaceutical companies on Earth in the 21st century.

The recent rebel revolts have caused great damage to the Oxygentia and the Oxie family. Earth has been the biggest industrial complex of the company. The rebels have forced them to shut down more than half of their activities. The rest of the industrial activities take place under the control of the rebel group New Africa, which takes a 50% cut of the profits.

Lady Oxygenaya VIII must find a way to resume the entire production capacity of the Oxygentia Corporation or risk losing the monopoly the Oxie family has held for centuries.



Farhad Shaikh

CEO of the Core Energy Corporation

The Earth's Core is being mined for Core Fuel by the Core Energy Company (CEC), the new energy resource that is running the Solar System. It facilitates all space travel and lights the new colonies. After the First Fukushima Rebellion, the board of directors was quick to act. They recruited the Ramrakhiani family and stopped the Fukushima Resistance from getting control of Europe, where most of their Core mines are. While their power in the Solar System is formidable, they recognize that Core mining isn't sustainable. They want American lands to secure their resource for centuries to come. While Ramrakhiani forces are waging a dedicated campaign in America, they aren't thrilled about the new patriarch Vishal, who is rumored to be meeting with other corporations and may not remain loyal to the CEC for much longer.

Farhad Shaikh, the CEO of CEC, has been struggling for years to keep the company from going under. Though he does not want to believe in the rumors regarding the Ramrakhiani, he must decide whether he should search for new allies or rely on old ones, as CEC desperately searches for a resolution to the problems that plague Earth and their profits.

Vera Romanov

CEO of the Romanov Conglomerate

The Romanov Family benefited the most when the Big Five took the stars. Their Terraforming technology wasn't much used on Earth, but it made them hugely important in colonizing the Solar System. In the Solar System, there is no question of their dominance. However, the other four corporations continue to be competitive because of their resource reserves on Earth. Earth still being a factor does not maximize the Romanov's advantages. The policy question facing each Romanov CEO has been simple: conquer the Earth or destroy it? While they oscillate between these two paths, they have consistently maintained instability in the Earth. America is resource-rich and they make sure neither the Fukushimas nor the Ramrakhianis gain a foothold there.

Their new family head Vera Romanov stands at a fork in the path. The growing instability on Earth can spread at any moment across the Solar System and damage the balance the Romanovs have created. It seems far more convenient to destroy the planet. The challenge for Vera is to convince the others.



Diplomats

Certain important personalities have been called to this special meeting of The League of Planets. These people may not fit any particular homogenous official role, yet they are here to do what they have done best all these years. Bring unwilling parties to compromises, to help groups understand how best to obtain certain objectives. To forge new alliances or strengthen old ones, at the same time looking out for their objectives and gains. Keeping close tabs on the inner functions of powerful people, controlling the flow of gossip and information, and other such skills are possessed by these seasoned diplomats. The League of Planets will certainly be a much-awaited challenge.

Reismaz

The League of Planets has appointed diplomat Reismaz. His appointment as a diplomat is not coincidental for he has remained the CEO of the company Oxygentia Ltd for a brief tenure. He also has significant share-holding in the Big Five companies. He has been influential in bringing corporations to the negotiation table whenever two have locked horns. His role in the conference is to help push negotiations onwards wherever they stall, at the same time ensuring that his ambitions aren't sacrificed.

Don Radstone

As corporation conflicts and rebel activity run rampant on the Earth, the League of Planets chose a special diplomat to mediate between the various interests. The appointment was not without controversy. The Envoy, Don Radstone, was involved in a very public love affair with the now-deceased Tatiana Romanov, former heir to the Romanov Conglomerate. Don Radstone in the past has been vital in being a messenger between rebel groups and corporations and has been crucial in helping them come to a compromise. The recent treaty with Oxygentia and New Africa was brokered by him.

Hilma Wolitzer

Hilma Wolitzer rose to popularity when she arranged the marriage between the Romanovs and the Volya's, a marriage which resulted in the resolution of a decade-long conflict. She understands the strengths and weaknesses of human bonds. Unlike other negotiators who focus on profit margins and utility maximization, Hilma is aware of the behavior people behind those numbers are engaging in. She collects information on what the relationship dynamics are between CEOs and board members, between rebel leaders and their second in command, and between Planetary Presidents and their sponsors.



■ Planetary Leaders

Planetary leaders are elected officials on the numerous settlements of humans across the Solar System. Each distinct satellite has its own elected leader, yet the most significant of the leaders are those from Ganymede, Mars, and Venus. These three celestial bodies have the highest population density of humans outside of Earth. The leaders were supposed to emulate the political systems present on Earth till the 21st century, but the corporations were too powerful to allow the leaders any major power, rendering the leaders simple figureheads. Though for many leaders this is not an issue, there have been rising tensions between a few leaders and the corporations. With the crises on Earth seeming to destabilize the balance between the Big 5, a few leaders see this as the perfect opportunity to renegotiate their terms.

■ Amiri Baraka

President of Mars

Amiri Baraka comes from a long line of presidents. This is his 3rd consecutive term in power, which he ran unopposed. A majority of Mars' resources have been under the control of Edison Industries for over two centuries. They (Edison Industries) have supported the Baraka family, helping establish them as a political force. Funding their campaigns and in return, the company is allowed to operate as they wish. They also contribute a certain amount of their profit from the planet to the Baraka family fortune. In recent years, however, Amiri has wanted more, more say in the politics, more wealth from the company and he sees the meeting of the League of Planets as an opportunity to renegotiate with Edison Industries or even with newer parties.

■ Hilda Hughes

President of Ganymede

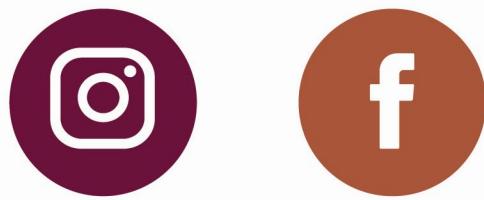
Hilda Hughes is a seasoned politician. She has remained in positions of authority for over 20 years. Ganymede is home to multiple influential families, many of whom are key shareholders and board members in the major corporations. Hilda has used her proximity with these figures to establish herself as a political candidate and in return, she has done various corporations favors. Caring less about the political power the office of President of Ganymede possesses, Hilda has higher aspirations, she wants a seat in a boardroom at one of the Big 5, a place where she has real power, can this be her opportunity to progress towards her dreams.



Gwendolyn Frost

President of Venus

Gwendolyn Frost started a career as a political outsider. She is currently serving her first term as President. She has been backed by Oxygentia and the CEC who are looking to expand their businesses on the planet. As someone not belonging to any political or corporate dynasty, Gwendolyn wants to be sure that she is backing the right horse. She has concerns about the strength of the two corporations supporting her considering their reliance on Earth and the growing uncertainty there. She must decide what is best for her future, is it best to stick with those that brought her to power or perhaps find new sponsors.



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