



# PRESS REPORT

5<sup>th</sup> Annual Bangalore JMUN, 2020

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By: Ram Velamuri and Namrata Venkatesh

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## AGENDAS

ECOSOC: The economic impact of COVID on income disparity.

UNHRC: Reimagining migration in the times of COVID.

UNSC: Re-evaluating the laws of biological warfare.

WHO: Sanitization and equitable vaccine distribution for COVID.

# CONTENTS

The image is a creative collage centered around social and human rights themes. On the left, a large, detailed illustration of a woman's face with long dark hair dominates the upper half. Her mouth is replaced by a dense cluster of words related to justice and ethics, such as "legal", "violence", "discrimination", "bullying", "slavery", "moral", "worldwide", "punishment", "liberty", "right", "enlightenment", "independence", "natural", "beliefs", "rights", "freedom", "behaviour", "UNIVERSAL", "fair", "justice", "world", "protection", "international", "hope", "torture", "punishment", "diversity", and "bullying". To the right of the face is a stylized pink map of India. Overlaid on the map are several elements: silhouettes of four people in business attire engaged in work (one on a laptop, one reading a document labeled "JMN", one sitting on a chair looking up, and one sitting cross-legged); iconic landmarks including the Colosseum, the Taj Mahal, and the Statue of Liberty; green trees; and the word "Bangalore" written in a white, cursive font. At the bottom center of the map, there is a small yellow and black auto-rickshaw. The entire composition is set against a light gray background.

# THEME: ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS DURING A PANDEMIC

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# WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Press Members: Vivek Kethineni and Deeksha Chintamaneni

The World Health Organization was filled with insightful debate on sanitization and equitable vaccine distribution for COVID. The debate started with opening speeches, where all the delegates gave their country's perspective on the vaccine and its effective distribution, all while ensuring proper sanitization. Countries also provided suggestions on other ways to combat the rising impacts of the coronavirus pandemic, with points such as strengthening water supply, and providing proper healthcare and education being highlighted. Countries such as Sweden are doing away with the idea of lockdown, as well as wearing masks, as citizens are trusted to keep themselves safe. When asked to comment on the price of the vaccine, all the countries seemed to be in agreement that it should be sold at a low price; the main concern of most of the countries was not making a profit off of the vaccine, but instead keeping their people safe at any cost. The delegates further discussed the distribution of the vaccine and agreed that vulnerable populations should be the first priority, which include senior citizens and children. In addition, people living in densely populated areas which lack sanitization should also be prioritized. Overall, the delegates of the World Health Organization were able to identify numerous problems pertaining to the agenda on Day 1 of the conference and held discussions on specific solutions that will be further explored on Day 2.

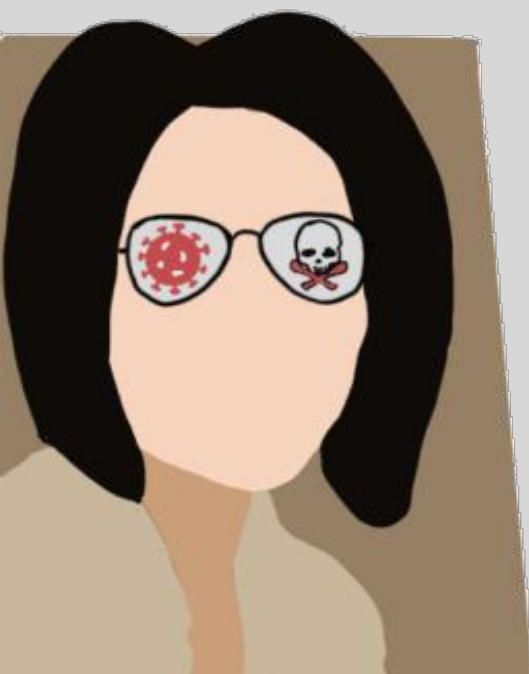




# UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

Press Members: Avanthika Gunda and Abhinav Gopi

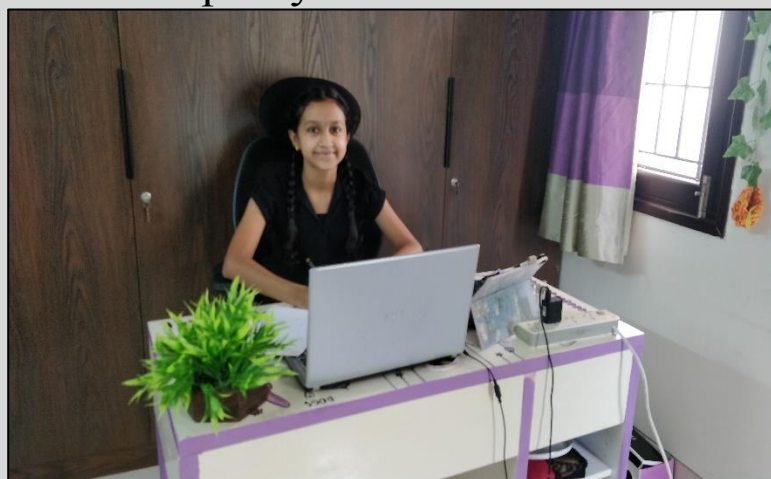
Day 1 of the Bangalore JMUN in the Security Council committee was filled with fruitful debate and valid points put forward by the delegates. In order to re-evaluate the laws of biological warfare, a wide array of topics were covered, including the success and limitations of treaties and conventions of the past, various nations' own shortcomings in implementing them, as well as their efforts to combat the growing issue of bioterrorism. A challenging and successful press conference was held targeting the USA, China, Russia, Belgium and Germany where the delegates were able to put forth their views on various incidents and claims. Countries, like the United States, admitted to developing biological weapons in secret and adding them to their arsenal. In addition, a crisis was introduced in which a biological agent was exposed in Munich by Al-Qaeda, stolen from Southern France. Both the press conference and crisis challenged delegates' adaptability, with their research being called into question on different occasions. At the end of the day, updates on the crisis were provided, which stimulated debate further.



# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Press members: Sarah Bhagat and Sashwath Swaminathan

In the Economic and Social Council, Delegates explored the agenda through intense debates and informative discussions. Throughout the course of Day 1, a vast variety of engaging topics were discussed, ranging from the causes of income inequality to how lockdown has impacted inclusive growth. Salient points arose as the committee progressed, with delegates discussing pertinent issues such as unequal distribution of resources, the impact of grants on income disparity, and the gender bias present in employment records. To combat the growing monster of income inequality, some delegates suggested using stimulus packages, monetary funds, and increasing welfare benefits. Many also highlighted the urgency of government action in their countries, focusing on how governments could reduce rising unemployment rates and biases in terms of employment. To conclude a long and productive day, delegates put forward their perspective on providing minimum wage for essential workers during the pandemic, with many highlighting its importance in combating income disparity.





# UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Press Members: Tanmaya Allamsetti and Annya Mohanty

The first day of the United Nations Human Rights Council saw earnest debate and a plethora of discussions on the agenda. At the beginning of the day, delegates focused on how migrant rights are being violated during the pandemic, from their health to their economic well-being. They also explored relevant issues revolving around human rights, such as xenophobia and its impact on humanity. With migration during the pandemic as the key point of discussion, they also delved deeper into the economic impact of the migration slump and the shift in political systems because of this. Many delegates highlighted that governments should pay remittances to migrant workers affected by the pandemic, while others urged countries to work towards the zero-hunger goal and prioritize migrants. Overall, the committee sessions on Day 1 were extremely rewarding, with many impactful and pertinent points having been made.



# INTERNATIONAL PRESS

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Ram Velamuri

## **Head of International Press**

Ram has been an international press member before in the 4<sup>th</sup> annual JMUN. He enjoys reading, playing basketball, swimming, video games, and is interested in everything technology related.

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Namrata Venkatesh

## **Head of International Press**

Namrata is a passionate cricketer and enjoys reading and writing in her free time. Playing the piano and watching tv shows are other hobbies that she has. She was also a member of the International Press at the previous JMUN.

# CORE SECRETARIAT

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Aarush Mehrotra  
**Secretary General**

Aarush Mehrotra is an avid MUNner, having attended more than a dozen conferences over 6 years and won multiple awards, including Best Delegate at ILMUNC India. In addition to having extensive EB experience, he has also founded his own conference. Aarush has also worked with UNICEF and the non-profit Speech for Speech. He has 6 years of leadership experience in a variety of roles such as school president, secretary-general, and deputy head boy. He is also a member of the Junior Academy, a published author, and an avid follower of international politics.



Sadhika Alampally  
**Director General**

Sadhika has been an avid MUNner for around 4 years, starting from our very own Oakridge Bangalore JMUN. Other than MUN and public speaking, she is passionate about creative writing, singing, sustainable living, and of course, Netflix. She is currently working on a project to impart education to government school students during the lockdown.