Delegate Name: Vihaan Girish Kumar

Country: Austria

Institution: Indian School Al Ghubra

Topic: Violence Against Women

"We cannot all succeed when half of us are held back." —Malala Yousafzai

The issue of women’s rights and gender equality is of paramount significance globally, with both the United Nations (UN) and Austria actively involved in addressing it through various initiatives and commitments. UN-Women and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) play vital roles in establishing legal norms and standards to promote women’s rights and gender equality worldwide. International agreements, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, serve as the iron pillars of this effort. Moreover, the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development includes a specific goal (SDG 5) aimed at achieving higher gender equality and empowering all women and girls

Austria, as a proactive member of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, demonstrates a strong commitment to promoting women’s rights and gender equality. Notably, Austria ranks 13th in the EU on the Gender Equality Index. The country actively addresses critical issues, including violence against women, especially during and after armed conflicts. Austria supports UN Security Council Resolutions like 1325 and its subsequent resolutions. To further these efforts, Austria has implemented a National Action Plan based on UN Security Council Resolution 1325. Additionally, Austria promotes women’s participation in peace processes, strengthens preventive measures against gender-based violence, and strives to enhance women’s roles in peace missions and leadership positions  
  
The delegate of Austria is confident that a change can be brought about by reducing gender pay gap and promote equality. By addressing the high pay gap, the delegate aims to ensure fair pay and job selection for women in the job market. The country is also working to increase women's representation in company leadership. Training programs are being offered to encourage more women to run for political office at all levels. Increasing women in leadership positions will create a more inclusive and fair society. From a young age, both boys and girls should be taught to appreciate and respect women's rights, to prevent violence against women in future generations.

‘No country is perfect’, in order to reach near perfection, nations have to work together to eradicate gender discrimination. Austria is ever-ready to lend a helping hand in whatever form possible to other nations who are committed to ending gender discrimination of all forms.

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