

issue one

“LOOKING
FORWARD
THROUGH
THE PAST.”



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DIMUNITE.





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FOREWORD

Dear readers,

The eighth annual Dulwich International Model United Nations Conference is upon us! To returning delegates and veteran debaters, by now you should be very well accustomed to the nature of this event. And for those who have yet to participate in this enlightening experience we ensure that every discussion will keep you on the edge of your seat! No matter which of the above you see yourself as, we are positive that each and all of you are riveting with excitement at the mere opportunity to challenge and argue with your fellow delegates (while also collecting a vital piece of your college application puzzle - scandalous!).

We hope you enjoy this meticulously planned and stressfully published DIMUNITE issue (as well as those to come in the following days). As leaders of the press team, we have gone through great lengths to ensure that this magazine is the best we have to offer. We hope that you appreciate our efforts as well as find the games, articles and interviews a tad more entertaining than last year.

Although we, Editors-in-Chief, may not be able to see each and every one of you during the conference, if by chance we meet do not hesitate to introduce yourself. In fact, spring forth with your passion in this welcome debate on wordly issues, for our journalists will be ready - pen in hand - to capture your words of wisdom on paper. We promise we do not bite.

Dear reader, be sure to be the early bird amongst your peers. Carpe diem; cherish every second of the conference. Listen carefully and expand your horizons.

But most of all, speak out! Do not be afraid.

Vivian Tan and Matthew Cui
Editors-in-Chief of DIMUNITE VIII



Welcome Letter from SGs

Dear most esteemed Directors, Student Officers and Delegates,

On behalf of Dulwich College Beijing we wholeheartedly welcome you to the Eighth Annual Dulwich International Model United Nations. We hope your journey here was pleasant and the welcome reception was refreshing.

DIMUN was founded by DCB graduate Miranda Melcher in 2010 and has been a student-led conference ever since. Her vision was to create a Key Stage 3 MUN conference for less seasoned debaters and provide an opportunity for middle school students to experience MUN and debate global issues in an accessible environment and for the past eight years, we have striven to achieve that vision.

This year, our Secretariat, Press, Admin, and Tech team have been working tirelessly in preparation for DIMUN VIII. To keep up with our 21st Century technology advancements, we are proud to present the new online amendment and resolution system which can be accessed on our recently redesigned website [www.dimun.info]. We sincerely wish our new additions this year will create an exceptional conference for you.

We, as Secretaries-General and members of staff, are here to serve you and assist you in getting the best out of this conference. If you have any questions or problems, don't be afraid to talk to us or your chairs; that's why we're here! If this is your first conference, which will be for many of you, don't let the outspoken and experienced delegates frighten you. Even the most seasoned MUN-ers started off just as inexperienced and clueless as you may be today. If you have an unorthodox solution, don't keep it to yourself! We promise there will be no restraints at DIMUN: no judgement, no censorship, just opportunity.

For the next three days, we hope you engage in fruitful and perceptive debates, broaden your horizon, forge interesting new friendships, unwind at the Spotlight show and last but not least enjoy the daily refreshments.

We sincerely wish that this will be a wonderful and unforgettable experience for you at DIMUN VIII.

Best Regards,

Jackel Cheung and Sunho Kwon
Secretaries-General DIMUN VIII

interviews with the core team

Tell us about your first DIMUN experience.

In retrospect it was actually quite ridiculous. My first MUN experience was in a committee with over 60 delegates. Many of them were experienced, eloquent MUN-ers and I remember I could not answer a single of their POIs so I sat back and pretended I had a sore throat for three days. I learnt a lot about MUN in a passive capacity but definitely was a stepping stone for where I am today.

What was the biggest driving factor that led you to take on a top leadership position in MUN?

It's honestly quite serendipitous how an originally small extra-curricular aspect of life has grown in me over the years. You really learn so much about, well, everything doing MUN. Those who have been doing MUN and continue to do so will learn that it is a journey. From delegate, admin, student officer to secretariat and whatever the future holds; it's a learning process. It is also up to us in leadership positions in MUN to ensure we can provide access to this wondrous journey to aspiring delegates.

Favourite part about an MUN conference?

The people you meet.

If you could summarize yourself in one sentence...

Unconventional.

Biggest regret about a MUN conference?

Not attending THIMUN in Singapore two years ago.

If you could have a superpower, what would it be?

Mind-reading.

Your favourite song?

Waves by Dean Lewis.

interviews with the core team

Tell us about your first DIMUN experience.

One word: Nervous. I was always a shy person, so MUN was naturally something that I would try my best to avoid. However, a couple of my friends forced me to attend my first conference. I was not ready, but there I was, making my opening speech in front of about 20 delegates who were about the same age as I. A very terrifying yet invaluable experience for sure.

What was the biggest driving factor that led you to take on a top leadership position in MUN?

My biggest weakness was shyness. In order to fight my fear, I began my first MUN conference. After participating as multiple conferences, I could see the changes in my personality and ability. It was the next step for me to strive for a top leadership position to show all the improvements I have made and further challenge myself to develop as a better person.

Favourite part about an MUN conference?

When I got a chance to become the main submitter for a conference, I realized something: that resolution is like my baby. When your baby succeeds, you are happy. The same is true for me: It is the best moment when my baby... I mean my resolution passes.

If you could summarize yourself in one sentence...

Although I usually look tired and boring, I am actually very happy and try quite hard to make others as happy as I am.

Biggest regret about a MUN conference?

In all truthfulness, I cannot think of a single moment that made me regret. Even when I was the only one who voted for my amendment, I still treated it as a chance to learn and improve. MUN has been truly helpful for me to develop myself. I regret not starting it earlier.

If you could have a superpower, what would it be?

I want to be able to visually structure my memory to form a library filled with 'memory books'. This way I can look back to my favorite moments of life without forgetting them. I could also remove any terrible moments that have no value whatsoever. With a superpower to organize my memory like a computer storage, I would be very efficient in not only remembering but also thinking.

Your favourite song?

Rylynn by Andy McKee.

article written by Juliette Aikman

Looking Forward Through the Years: What are the fundamentals of democracy and why is it relevant today?

First of all what is democracy? A democracy is “a government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them (directly or indirectly) through a system of representation (usually involving periodically held free elections) and as such is vital to the survival of any nation”. Secondly, why is it important? Since the first and second world war, the security of one’s country has become the single most important thing; whether it be through international organizations such as the United Nations or through official documents such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights or even the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. With this year’s theme being “Looking Forward Through the Years”, it seems only fitting to take a closer look at what constitutes democracy and to delve deeper into the reasons for its relevance in today’s world.

Democracy would not exist on the global scale that it does today if not for the United Nations Organization, which has done more to support and strengthen democracy around the world than any other international organization in the world. This may seem surprising due to the fact that 70 years ago, when the UN Charter was first drafted, there wasn’t even a mention of democracy.

Today however, through fostering good governance and monitoring elections, supporting civil society and strengthening democratic institutions and accountability, the UN continues in its mission for democracy, one of its universal and indivisible core values and principles.



The first most important fundamental of democracy is its responsibility to “The People”. The power of a nation is vested in its people who decide collectively what is best for the country, as previously mentioned, through general elections. There have however been many criticisms of democracy in recent years with many questioning why it is still relevant in a world that is becoming increasingly fractured. This sense of division reached an all time high during the 2016 Presidential Election in the United States when citizens had to choose between two extremely different candidates and two very different opinions of what was best for the US. Since then, the world has begun to appear more conflicted and torn about its vision for the future leading many to question the efficacy of democracy. People do forget however that democracy is essential to global governance as it allows for people to have a say in the decisions that affect their lives and can hold decision-makers to account, based on inclusive and fair rules. While the people of a country may have divergent opinions or views, democracy, in a way, ensures their freedom of speech, choice and thought.

article written by Juliette Aikman

Democracy also allows women to be seen as equal to men in both private and public spheres of life and decision-making; people are free from discrimination based on race, ethnicity, class, gender and any other attribute. These values were not always considered as important in the past but looking forward they are essential to the prosperity of all nations. It is important to remember that there are some countries in which the very idea of democracy is disregarded, most notably Iran, a country in which the people running for president are hand picked by Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei and any liberal or leftist candidates are rejected categorically. This is a further emphasis on the need for democracy around the world.

The second most important fundamental of democracy is the role it plays in human rights. This very link is captured in article 21(3) of the Universal Declaration of Rights, which states: "The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures." The rights enshrined in the International Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and subsequent human rights instruments covering the rights of certain groups (i.e. indigenous peoples, women, minorities, etc.) are equally essential for democracy as they ensure inclusivity for all groups, including equality and equity in respect of access to civil and political rights. The United Nations Human Rights Council, also known as the UNHRC, is a "United Nations System inter-governmental body responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of Human Rights around the world".



While the council does sound like a dream come true, it has encountered many issues such as the candidacy of Syria to take a seat on the council. This was seriously questioned and criticized due to evidence (provided by numerous human rights organizations including the UN itself) that President Bashar Al-Assad of Syria had authorized and funded the slaughtering of thousands of civilians (with estimates of 14,000 civilians being killed as of July 2012 during the uprising against his dictatorship). In the end, Syria was not on the ballot for the 12 November 2012 election to the Council showing the importance of responsible member states that promote human rights to the United Nations.

It is important to mention at this point that many who have stated "due to its increasingly bureaucratic nature the UN has become lazy and useless in the modern world" have put legitimacy of the UN itself into question. However without it, people of the world would still be faced with two major issues: peace and development. Only through international cooperation can mankind meet the challenges of

article written by Juliette Aikman

the global and regional issues; the United Nations play a pivotal and positive role in this regard. Because of the core values and principles, including democracy, that the United Nations along with all its member states embody, peace can be ensured throughout all nations; thus proving its existence to be crucial to securing a safe future for the world.

The last important fundamental of democracy is its relationship with international law. As previously mentioned, democracy is embodied through essential legal documents such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which has inspired constitution making around the world and has contributed greatly to the global acceptance of democracy as a universal value and principle. The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966) lays the legal basis for the principles of democracy under international law, more specifically:

- Freedom of expression (Article 19); the right of peaceful assembly (Article 21);
- The right to freedom of association with others (Article 22);
- The right and opportunity to take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives (Article 25);
- The right to vote and to be elected at genuine periodic elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret ballot, guaranteeing the free expression of the will of the electors (Article 25).

The covenant is binding on the States that have ratified it; as of July 2015, the number of parties to the Covenant was 168, which constitutes of approximately 85% of the United Nations membership.

In closing, democracy is important in our world today due to its representation by the UN, its relationship to human rights and its role in international law. By taking a look into the past, we have learned that when the will and voices of the people are ignored, it leads to chaos and war and while our world today is far from perfect, democracy is one of the sure ways of ensuring peace and prosperity in the world, not only today but for future generations to come.

some wise words

advice panel

1. Be prepared

Don't embarrass yourself. Come to the conference with a strong opening statement and a thorough understanding of your issue. Otherwise you will be caught off guard by other delegates' POIs and criticisms, and you will have to reply in note form.

2. Be professional

Act diplomatically and respect your fellow delegates, whether you are lobbying, in debate, in caucus, or even outside the conference room. No throwing Oreos at each other. Be nice.

3. Be confident

Speak up, even if you're nervous or shy! The conference won't be worthwhile unless you're contributing to debates. And remember, the chair will call on you anyway if you're too quiet, so it's better to be proactive.

4. Focus on one idea at a time

Trying to cram too many ideas into your speech will make it long, incoherent, and boring. During DIMUN, your committee will discuss many different problems and topics, but don't let that confuse you! Do one thing at a time and do it well.

5. Submit amendments

Debating someone else's resolution can be a tedious and repetitive experience - so make sure to contribute your own input and help change the resolution. Remember, the chair probably won't approve all of the "strikes" you submitted, so be constructive!

6. Have fun!

As cliché as it sounds, you're going to have a great time in the conference only if you enjoy the experience. Make the most out of the debates and opportunities given to you, and try to join as many MUNs as you can. If you really enjoy MUN, your enthusiasm and passion will help you to pursue leadership positions in any MUN conferences in the future. So, enjoy yourself, good luck and we hope you have a great time in DIMUN!

Your Deputy Secretaries-General
Jennifer Zhou and Samuel Chan

committees and topics

theme: looking forward through the past

General Assembly First Committee

1. Question of cyber security and measures to prevent cyber warfare
2. Measure to combat rise in terrorism in relation to religious extremists
3. Question of children in armed conflicts
4. Question of the disposal of nuclear waste

General Assembly Second Committee

1. Combating international financial crimes
2. Economic Development in Central Asia
3. Maintaining Sustainable Tourism Industries in LEDCs
4. Measures to regulate and stabilize cryptocurrencies

Economic and Social Council

1. Measures to prevent exploitation of developing markets by MNCs in West Africa
2. Measures to overcome growing poverty and social inequality in Turkey
3. Combatting global food insecurity
4. Measures to reduce youth unemployment in the Eurozone

Environmental Commission

1. Measures to prevent the resurgence of dormant pathogens as a result of climate change
2. Measures to reduce industrial impact on marine biodiversity
3. Measures to mitigate the damage of climate change disasters
4. The Role of Multinational Corporations on Sustainable Development

Human Rights Council

1. Measures to protect the rights of persecuted peoples within Myanmar
2. Protecting the rights of people affected by terrorism in the Horn of Africa
3. Measures to address the humanitarian issue in the Philippines as a result of the Drug War
4. Combatting child trafficking in Southeast Asia

Special Conference

1. The Situation in Kurdistan
2. Measures to address the Kashmir Conflict
3. Questions on Israel-Palestine Border
4. Measures to resolve territorial disputes in the East China Sea

Disarmament Committee

1. Question of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons
2. Combatting the illicit trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons
3. Preventing the militarization of the Arctic Circle
4. Combatting proliferation of chemical and biological weapons with emphasis on the risk of acquisition by non-state actors

Security Council

1. The Situation in the Korean peninsula
2. Question of Non-State Actors as a Danger to International Peace and Security
3. The Situation in Catalonia

Advisory Panel

1. Measures to resolve territorial disputes in the South China Sea
2. Addressing the humanitarian issue in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
3. Combatting International Terrorism

chairs

General Assembly First Committee [GA 1]

Ji (Hannah) Nan
Evan Lu

General Assembly Second Committee [GA 2]

Daniel Cai
Ivy Kang

Economic and Social Council [ECOSOC]

Yi Xin Lee
Jung Woo Hong

Environmental Commission [ENV]

May Lee
Ah Song Cho

Human Rights Council [HRC]

Kelsey Fu
Karl Stuecker

Special Conference on Southeast and Central Asia [SPC]

Yichu Huang
Chaewon Park

Disarmament Committee [DIS]

Aalia Labrador
Shawn Teh

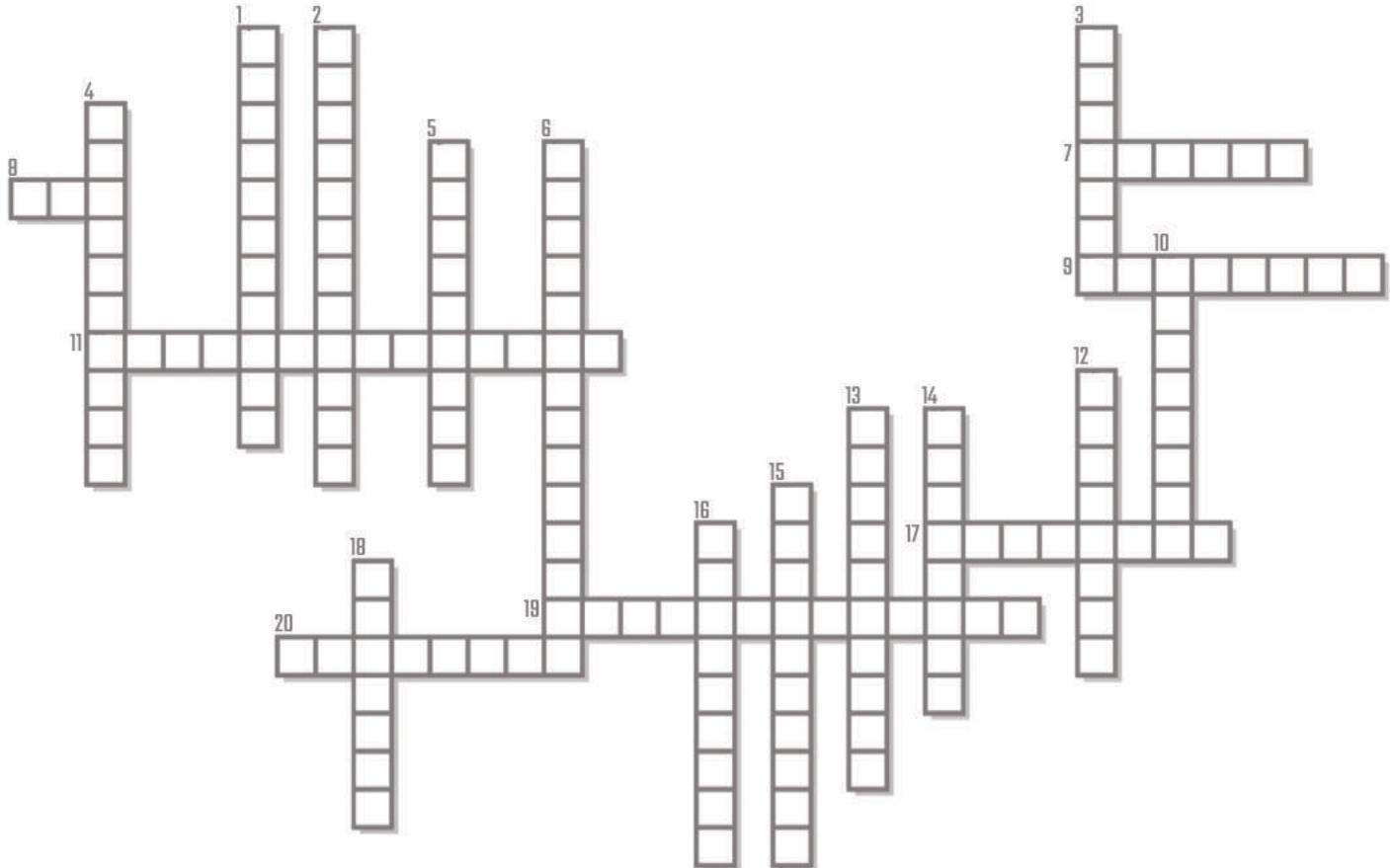
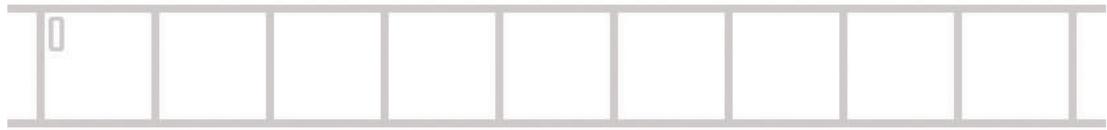
Security Council [SC]

Haerin Kim
Eric Choi
Jonathan Ng

Advisory Panel [AP]

Julie Zhang
Michelle Zhang





Across

- 0 The very game you are trying to complete. Have you won yet?
- 7 United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- 8 Corporate social responsibility
- 9 EU countries that have adopted the euro as their common currency
- 11 Nucleus of an atom splits into daughter nuclei
- 17 A group of trade routes that went across Asia to the Mediterranean Sea
- 19 Protection of computer systems and information from harm
- 20 The right or condition of self-government

Answers will be provided in the next issue, stay tuned!

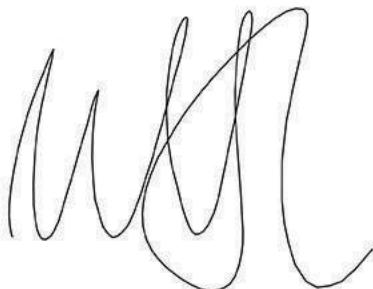
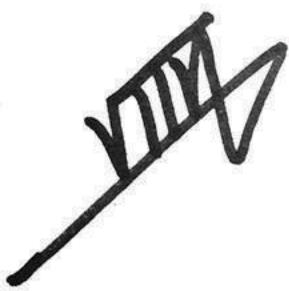
Have a joke for now:

The midget fortune teller who kills his customers is a small medium at large.

Down

- 1 The action of making someone a slave
- 2 Five major circles of latitude
- 3 A displaced person who has been forced to cross national boundaries
- 4 2nd goal in SDG
- 5 'homeland of the Kurds.'
- 6 Digital or virtual currency that uses cryptography for security
- 10 Ethnic group, Indo-Aryan people in Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia & Myanmar
- 12 Humanitarian organization that provides emergency assistance, disaster relief and education
- 13 As opposed to commercial mass tourism, a form of tourism that visits natural areas and improves the well-being of local people
- 14 Attempting to acquire sensitive information e.g. credit card details
- 15 The process of decision making
- 16 The use of violence and intimidation in pursuit of political aims
- 18 To convert something into glass/a glass-like substance

press team

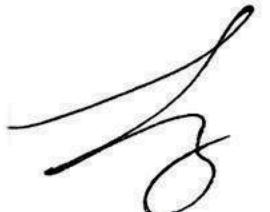


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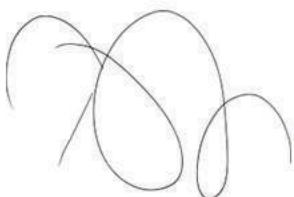


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**"We must speak our minds
openly, debate our
disagreements honestly, but
always pursue solidarity."**

- Donald J. Trump

