

THE PLISMUN'20 NEWSPAPER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23rd



PLISMUN'20

THROWBACK TO PLISMUN'19

PLISMUN'19 was a very exciting event for everyone who attended. It lasted three days over Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The conference was held at the Valdštejnská campus of Park Lane International School.

Over 50 delegates attended the first time conference. We had 5 delegations from as far as Georgia! As well as many others who attended as individual delegates. The opening and closing ceremony were both hosted at the beautiful municipal library of Prague. In the opening ceremony our keynote speaker, Mr Balcar, from Amnesty International gave a fascinating speech talking about a lot of very real topics. We had speeches from our principal Mr Ingarfield as well as from Jasmin Zakie, our amazing secretary-general who took control of the entire student-led conference. She organized teams of people who each took care of a very specific and crucial part of the conference, ranging from admin advisors to the social team. At the closing ceremony, we had individual speeches from all the chairs explaining everything that had happened in their conference over the three days.

There were four committees each discussing and coming to agreed solutions on extremely complicated and controversial topics ranging from torture as an interrogation method to ending the Syrian civil war. The delegates, a lot of which had never attended a conference before including the entire GA3 committee, managed to all complete resolutions reaching for a perfect middle ground comprising of each delegate's wants and needs for the country they were representing.

CZECH-ENGLISH PHRASES

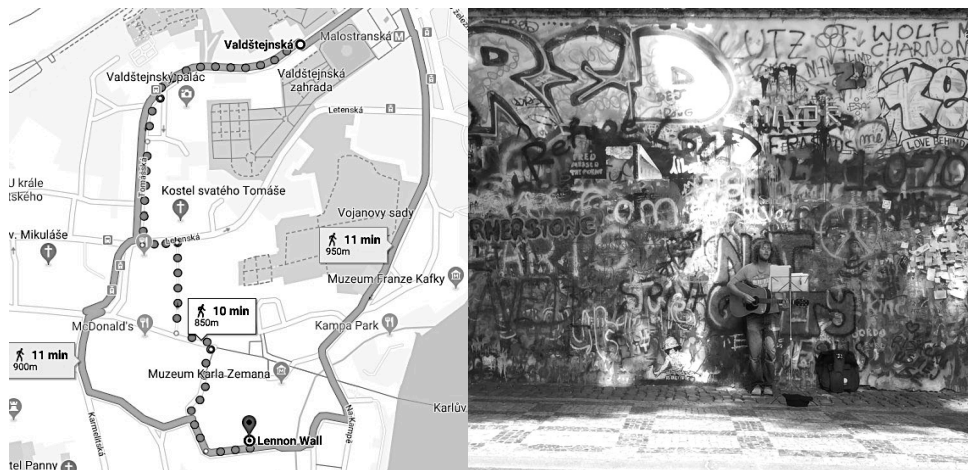
Czech is a Slavic language and as such, it can be difficult for non-Slavic language speakers to understand. However, the good thing about Czech is that it is phonetic!

In Czech, words are pronounced the way they are written.

(The only tricky letter to say is "ř". You won't have to use it much!)

CZECH	PRONUNCIATION	ENGLISH
Dobrý den	[DOH-bree dehn]	Hello (in a formal way)
Ahoj	[Ahoy]	Hello (in an informal way)
Ano	[ano]	Yes
Ne	[ne]	No
Prosím	[proseem]	Please
Nemluvím česky	[nemlooveem chehskee]	I don't speak Czech
Mluvíte anglicky?	[mlooveeteh anglitzkee?]	Do you speak English?

MUST-SEES IN PRAGUE



The Lennon Wall – Velkopřevorské náměstí, 100 00 Malá Strana – Prague 1

The John Lennon Wall is located 10 minutes by foot from our Valdštejnská campus. It is a must-see for anyone in the area of Malá Strana. Originally starting in the 1980s, the wall grew to be a symbol of the fall of Communism and liberty. It is called the John Lennon Wall because it was inspired by the signer and the themes of freedom and love.

The Golden Lane – 119 00 Praha 1-Hradčany.

The Golden Lane is a tiny little street in the centre of Prague. It was built in the 16th century during the reign of Rudolf II. Same as the Lennon Wall, it's very good for anyone's Instagram feeds. And from a historical perspective, it is very interesting to visit.

It is within walking distance of the tram stop Pražský hrad (lines: 22, 23, 41)

UKRAINIAN TRADITIONS

What do you imagine when you hear the word “Donbass”? For many, war and conflict are the first thing that comes into mind. I am sure most of you know how the situation there looks like at the moment. Chaos and fear. Nonetheless, how did the country look like before the war? Let's look at the other side of Donbass. Or rather, let's look at the side of Donbass that we don't get to see that often.

- One of the traditions that people in Ukraine preserve is Kupala Night on the night of July 7th associated with the period of the summer solstice. According to the ancient legends, many magical plants are growing during this time and therefore Ukrainians believe that whoever finds a blooming fern in the forest will be rich and happy for the rest of their life. In addition to that, girls throw wreaths in the water and believe that whoever's wreath travels the fastest will get married soon.
- Ukraine is mostly a Christian country and many traditions thus rotate around this religion. Every year on the 19th of January on the day of the Christianisation of Kievan Rus, Ukrainian Christians jump into an ice hole. Then, during the night time, people break the ice into the shape of a cross and dive into the freezing water three times. By doing this, they believe that the icy river will strip them of all their sins and illnesses.
- Next tradition which is significant for the people of Ukraine and other post-Soviet countries is celebrating the Old New Year. The difference between the Julian and the Gregorian calendar is 13 days and therefore people decided to celebrate New Years twice - once in a new style and another in the old way.
- And last but not least, the Commemorative days. After Easter, local people bring food to the cemetery and eat near the gravesite. They believe that during these days the souls of the deceased descend to the Earth. The food is made sacred and then it is shared at the graveyard with the poor. People usually bring Easter cakes, pysanka (eggs), salo (pork fat) and pies.

FUN FACTS

- "E" is the most common letter and appears in 11 % of all English words!
- In Switzerland, it is illegal to own just one guinea pig - this is because guinea pigs are social animals, and they are considered victims of abuse if they are alone!
- A flock of crows is known as a murder
- 7% of American adults (16.4 million people) believe that chocolate milk comes from brown cows
- A small child could swim through the veins of a blue whale.
- Sierra Leone is the world's roundest country.
- Polar bear fur is transparent, not white.
- When a person cries and the first drop of tears come from the right eye, it's happiness. if it from the left eye, it's pain.

RIDDLE ME THIS

1. I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. I have no body, but I come alive with wind. What am I?
2. You measure my life in hours and I serve you by expiring. I'm quick when I'm thin and slow when I'm fat. The wind is my enemy.
3. What is seen in the middle of March and April that can't be seen at the beginning or end of either month?

Answers released tomorrow.

THANK YOU

Big thank you to everyone who was involved in making PLISMUN'20 possible. People who worked so hard to make this conference the best it could be are:

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PLYNÁRENSKÁ**

PLISMUN 2020.

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”

—Gandhi