

GIMUN ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
JOURNAL 2024

«UNITED IN
DIVERSITY:
FOSTERING
INCLUSION,
EQUITY, AND
CULTURAL
UNDERSTANDING»



EDITORIAL TEAM

PRESS

Zeynep Elbek
USG of Press

Leen Alnajem
Journalist

Abir El Omari
Journalist

Matteo Galasso
Journalist

Arianna Moro
Journalist

Naomi Sarah Mutschler
Journalist

Michelle Valeria Sienkiewicz
Journalist - Photographer

Leonard Mueller
Photographer

Qiandai Xiao
Photographer

TRANSLATION

María Canales Corbí
USG of Translation and Interpretation

Amanda García-Donas Pacheco
USG of Translation and Interpretation

Alicia Burke
Interpreter - Translator

Batoul El Zein
Interpreter - Translator

Marcelo Escolano
Interpreter - Translator

Maroua Berraadi L'haouat
Interpreter - Translator

Reda Fanani
Interpreter - Translator

Evy Nadarajah
Translator

Clarisse Assézat
Translator

Amaranthe Buclet
Translator

Leonor Emery
Translator

Amar Lamine Zerara
Translator

INDEX

3. The International Labour Organization
6. A Glimpse into the Future: From the Shadow of MUN to the Halls of the UN
7. Strengthening Arab Cooperation to Address Terrorist Extremism Issues
10. Ensuring the protection of civilians in the context of the Ethiopian conflict
13. Combating Discrimination Along Global Supply Chains
15. Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
18. From Japan to The Hague : ICC's Verdict on Yoshitaka and Atarashī
20. Artificial intelligence and job protection
23. Revealing pathways to livelihoods and financial empowerment for refugees, shrouded in uncertainty
26. Nagorno-Karabakh conflict
29. Unity Against External Interference: Arab League's Response to Iran's intervention in the region
31. Unraveling the Legacy of the Xinhai Revolution: A Journey through History and Diplomacy at the GIMUN Annual Conference

The International Labour Organization

Michelle Sienkiewicz - Arianna Moro

The International Labour Organization (ILO) emerged against the backdrop of the profound societal transformations brought about by the Industrial Revolution in the 19th century. As Europe and America grappled with the moral and economic implications of industrialization, the plight of workers became a focal point. During the early days of industrialization, the demand for labour skyrocketed, giving rise to an increasing number of factories. Simultaneously, the workforce expanded, but the conditions in which workers found themselves were often exploitative, with little regard for their health, family well-being, or personal development. The absence of improvements in living and working conditions raised the spectre of widespread social unrest, which could have had dire consequences for the economies of industrialized nations. The need for an organization that could address the pressing issues of democratic rights, living conditions, and fair treatment of workers led to the establishment of the ILO in 1919, following the conclusion of the First World War with the Treaty of Versailles.

As the United Nations agency dedicated to the world of work, the ILO plays a crucial role in establishing international labour standards, advocating for workers' rights, promoting decent working opportunities, enhancing social protection, and fostering social dialogue on labour-related issues. The International Labour Conference takes place annually in June in Geneva, providing a platform for representatives to express their views independently and engage in open dialogue.

To achieve its goals, the International Labour Organization (ILO) has implemented several international programs under the umbrella of "InFocus". These programs, such as the Elimination of Child Labour and Safety Health at Work Environment, integrate diverse ILO activities to enhance their effectiveness and impact.

This initiative aims to promote workplace standards, fundamental principles, and rights for all workers. The objective is to create equal job opportunities and fair wages for both genders. They aim to expand social protection benefits to everyone and enhance the effectiveness of social protections. Additionally, they strengthen communication and cooperation among employers, employees, and government officials through tripartism and social dialogue.



Building on the success of the previous year, the Geneva International Model United Nations (GIMUN) has chosen the ILO as the venue for its 2023 conference. This decision reflects a meaningful convergence of diplomatic simulations and the pressing global issues related to labour rights. It provides participants with a unique opportunity to engage with the institution at the forefront of shaping international labour standards and policies.

The GIMUN Conferences' themes aim to tackle global challenges in an interconnected world. Focusing on issues such as "Global Labour Rights in the 21st Century," "Sustainable Economic Development," and "Promoting Decent Work," the conference aims to stimulate thoughtful discussions and innovative solutions. These themes align with the core objectives of the ILO, emphasising the importance of international cooperation in addressing labour-related challenges.

In 2024, the Geneva International Model United Nations (GIMUN) will make history by conducting its conference in English, French, and Arabic. This ground-breaking decision reflects GIMUN's commitment to inclusivity and global representation, enhancing the conference's reach and impact.

The decision to hold the Conference in 2023 and 2024 in three languages is a historic milestone for GIMUN. Recognising the diverse linguistic landscape of the global community, GIMUN aims to create a more inclusive platform for participants from various linguistic backgrounds. This trilingual approach facilitates international cooperation and a richer exchange of ideas among delegates by overcoming language barriers.

As the GIMUN 2023 and 2024 Conferences unfold at the ILO, it symbolizes a powerful synergy between diplomatic simulations and the imperative to address global labour challenges. The discussions and solutions generated during this event have the potential to contribute significantly to the ongoing dialogue on labour rights and social justice. In a world where collaboration is crucial, young leaders commit to sharing and creating a fairer and a more sustainable future.



During the visit of ILO organised by the GIMUN on February 14, 2024, the guide provided the delegates with an overview of the ILO organization, its foundation, its history, and its headquarters of Geneva. Many components of the building were gifted by governments; for instance, the marble of the columns around the ILO flag alley was offered by Italy. In addition, part of the pavement on the ground floor was gifted by Switzerland, representing hell, while the ceiling represents paradise.

Moving to the top floor, artwork donations and gifts from various countries are displayed, and the paintings on the wall portray the ten previous directors of the ILO, the majority of whom worked as internal deputies before reaching the highest position. However, an exception was Michel Hansenne, an external candidate who became director in 1989, after the tumultuous times of the Cold War.

During the last part of the visit, the delegates asked some questions, such as the role of ILO and its archives, access to which is allowed for research.



A Glimpse into the Future: From the Shadow of MUN to the Halls of the UN

Leen Alnajem

The participants visited during GIMUN this year multiple prestigious international organizations. The most important out of them all was the United Nations. The visit concerned the library of the United Nations and more specifically the archives, or at least a part of them, and on top of that, there was a tour of the museum.

At the beginning of the visit, individuals were eager to learn about the United Nations and were especially taken with the entrance adorned with flags. Later, the students were welcomed with a speech delivered by the person in charge of the visit, Francesco, and the most important aspect of his speech was the link made between the United Nations and the Model United Nations organization in Geneva. Francesco spoke about the historical events that led to the establishment of the organization. He started discussing the San Francisco Conference (1945), suggesting that, according to him, this topic would be interesting to propose at GIMUN because it would allow students to refer to the evolution of the multi-party issue, as it was and still is considered to be the basis of the United Nations. In the same vein, he proposed discussing rewriting the United Nations Charter, considering that it was written in 1945 while many of our countries today were not independent or established yet. When asked about these ideas and suggestions, students were excited because they were motivated to think about the future that would be in their hands. For the same reason, a suggestion was raised to think about the reasons behind the treaties establishing the most important organizations existing today. Multilateralism is the clear choice for its effectiveness and strength, as it shows that we cannot find an alternative to something similar.



Therefore, students responded by asking themselves as delegates what reason could bring a committee together. Humans are united by happiness, but countries do not give any importance to the happiness of their citizens. Therefore, the greatest importance remains in obtaining and then keeping the power of the country. For this reason, the first goal of a government is always to fight to survive.

What was said earlier is what we call multilateralism in our world today. This evolution makes us think about the question of the "why?" and not just about part of the questions such as "how" and "what?" This speech did indeed have an impact on the present students, making them reflect on the United Nations from its inception to its development, and therefore also think first about the reason for their participation in the Annual Conference for this year and also about the place of the United Nations in fifty years, i.e., in 2075, but many were convinced about replacing it with another organization. At the end of the speech, the students headed to one of the sections of the museum that indicated four important events that contributed to the establishment of the United Nations today, starting in 1815 and leading up to 1945.

This visit was indeed useful and full of rich information about the history of what our students are doing today at GIMUN. They were encouraged to continue what they were doing and to connect the past with the present in order to act for the United Nations.



Strengthening Arab Cooperation to Address Terrorist Extremism Issues

Abir El Omari

In light of the worsening crises and problems resulting from the launching of terrorist operations, as well as the escalation of extremist events, especially in the North Africa and the Middle East region during the past years, it has become necessary to intensify efforts and strengthen international coordination and cooperation. This, especially at the level of regional organizations, in order to address all forms of violence and terrorism, as well as to reduce criminal operations launched by terrorist organizations in the countries of the Arab world.

In this regard, representatives of Arab countries' leaders met at the conference held for the Arab League Summit, where ways and means of preventing and limiting the spread of extremist organizations were discussed by presenting a set of issues related to the prospects of enhancing joint cooperation to combat crime and terrorism.

The Arab leaders affirmed the inalienable right of Member States to tighten the necessary security measures to confront the various forms of attacks and phenomena of terrorist and extremist violence that contribute to promoting discord and provoking internal and regional conflicts.

During the conference, the need to develop a common plan outlining a specific framework for action was emphasized by highlighting the tolerant human values that would preserve human dignity and reject all forms of violence and discrimination.

Among the most important proposals relating to this discussion is the project to establish a financial fund that would support and strengthen cooperation, as well as finance the measures taken in which the Arab countries participate in combating terrorism. The Arab leaders expressed their full support for this project, stressing the importance of this fund in financially supporting the technological resources associated with armies' training curricula on counterterrorism operations and prevention methods by focusing on organized crimes. This is to face the security challenges that threaten the safety and national sovereignty of each Arab country and pose a direct threat to Arab national security in a broader way.

Within the framework of strengthening efforts to combat terrorism, representatives of Arab countries proposed a project to establish a digital platform aimed at sharing experiences and information related to crimes and organized acts, in addition to sharing publications related to terrorism and political crimes.

These proposals also pointed to the importance of unifying the educational curriculum to combat extremism by promoting the values of tolerance and synergy. Also, through taking all measures to immunize societies from the dangers of terrorism, which will help ensure the security and stability of the Arab world.



The discussion sought to strengthen the links between Arab countries, especially the most vulnerable to armed conflicts, such as Tunisia, Iraq and Palestine, by promoting political consultation and practical cooperation, especially in the field of cybersecurity, money laundering operations, and limiting the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The efforts of the Arab countries to combat terrorism and address forms of violence culminated in the approval of a security extractive project that stipulated the need to strengthen cooperation to combat organized crime and protect the Arab world from all directed attempts of terrorism and sabotage, whether at an internal or external level.

Perhaps the most prominent challenges faced by representatives of Arab countries during discussions lie in the difficulty of agreeing on a unified definition of the phenomenon of terrorism, which poses some problems in classifying groups and organizations among the various Arab countries. Some may consider them terrorist organizations, while others classify them as political parties. On the other hand, the subject of the joint financial fund is a source of differences between the Arab countries, as all countries do not have the same economic and developmental level to contribute equally. In addition, the subject may pose a threat to the self-sovereignty of the participating countries.

In conclusion, it should be emphasized that the most prominent proposals that have been widely supported include taking preventive measures by monitoring banks and money transfers, as well as preventing intolerance and encouraging intellectual openness. Last but not least, all Member States referred to the issue of the involvement of children in terrorism, notably emphasizing the importance of education and standardization of curricula as the best solution to curb the spread of acts of terrorism.



Ensuring the protection of civilians in the context of the Ethiopian conflict

Arianna Moro

Over the last years, since 2020, the northern Ethiopian region of Tigray has been the protagonist of a civil war, led by the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), against the Ethiopian federal government of Addis Ababa, which is chaired by the current Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and supported by Eritrean troops. The reasons behind this conflict are numerous: ethnic divisions, loss of political control by the TPLF after 30 years, government centralization by the Prime Minister through the institution of a national party, as well as no forthcoming negotiations. Although the TPLF represented 5% of the entire country's population at the time of the elections, it was able to make its way through the political crowd and remain there for two decades because of a coalition between political parties. Nevertheless, it was entitled as an autocrat and corrupted. When Abiy Ahmed came to power, the political state seemed to be more stable, following his contribution to the appeasement of the relations with Eritrea, after a tumultuous decade of conflicts. His actions and his attempts to centralize the government, as well as the delay because of Covid of the federal election of November 2020, were not tolerated by the TPLF, which proceeded with a non-federal election process, leading to the accusation of the government of committing a crime, followed by the same accusation backward: that is how the war escalated.

Consequently, the civilians have been suffering the outcomes ever since, facing torture, security forces abuses, attacks by armed groups, starvation, sexual and gender-based violence, privation of humanitarian aid, lack of international efforts, arbitrary detentions and arrests, murder and block of freedom of expression, media and association.



These populations are victims of crimes against humanity, genocide, and war crimes. What is stated in the Geneva Conventions has been violated, and through these actions, international humanitarian law has been broken. In addition, as this also involves customary international law, both those who did and those who did not sign the Convention are obligated to prevent and forbid these crimes. In December 2021, following the escalation of the situation in Ethiopia, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) set up the Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia, whose aim was to investigate "allegations of violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law and international refugee law in Ethiopia committed since 3 November 2020 by all parties to the conflict". The EU was also engaged at the Human Rights Council. But despite the signature of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement in November 2022, the situation in Ethiopia has not evolved. Moreover, the mandate of the Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia has not been reconfirmed in October 2023. "The decision to discontinue the work of the Commission takes place against a backdrop of serious violations against civilians in the country, as our recent reports have shown," said Commissioner Steven Ratner.

"Our reports not only detail serious crimes committed in Ethiopia, but they also highlight ongoing, serious human rights concerns and warn of the very real risk of future atrocities." As a matter of fact, Ethiopian civilians felt discarded from the international community, as they lost their only tool to speak up and receive assistance. "We urge the international community, in particular all UN bodies dealing with human rights and conflict prevention, as well as the member states, not to allow the situation in Ethiopia to fall off the international agenda. Instead, they should ensure continued robust monitoring, reporting, evaluation, and advocacy on human rights in the country," said Mohamed Chande Othman, Chairperson of the Commission. When the war began many of Ethiopia's partners interrupted their non-humanitarian aid, but in April 2022 the World Bank agreed on a \$300 million grant for the recovery of the attacked areas, Tigray included. As for humanitarian aid, food is the main one sent from the international community, mostly through the UN World Food Program. However, the UN is now dealing with a sharp decrease in financial assistance from its member states. In addition, the media also play a relevant role, as the global news is now covering the emergencies of the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza, while the Ethiopian civil war has not been discussed on such a wide scale. As a result, attention and financial aid also mainly leaned on these conflicts.

Considering all of these factors, throughout the sessions of the 2024 GIMUN of the Conseil des Droits de l'Homme Committee, chaired by Egan Paquay and Tom Liebelt, the delegates debated the situation in Ethiopia and how to protect civilians. Following a heated debate hosted by the delegations of South Africa, Ivory Coast, and Ethiopia, the delegates of Argentina, Belarus, Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Eritrea, Pakistan, and Senegal approved a resolution including 23 points. To name a few, this resolution reaffirms the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter, as well as the sovereignty of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on its territory. It also underlines the importance of the signature of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement in November 2022 and suggests the establishment of security and stabilization measures to ensure the humanitarian and economic assistance, such as the acceleration and funding of the African Union - Peace and Security Department (FAA) and a summit moderated by the African Union in an African country except Ethiopia or Eritrea. It also suggests the creation of a humanitarian fund financed by the volunteers' nations and supervised by the OHCHR and the Ethiopian government to invest in the medical, agricultural, educational and infrastructure sector.

Through the accomplishment of such actions along with the help of the international community the Ethiopian population that has been affected by the conflict can achieve healthier, more stable and safer life conditions.



Sources:

Al Jazeera (2021). The conflict in Ethiopia—who's fighting who, and why? | Start Here. Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQ3aUGceKA8>.

Amnesty International. (2023). La situation des droits de l'homme en Ethiopie <https://www.amnesty.org/en/location/africa/east-africa-the-horn-and-great-lakes/ethiopia/repo-rt-ethiopia/>.

CDH, (26 octobre 2023), UN Experts call for ongoing international scrutiny and support for victims in Ethiopia, Nations Unies <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2023/10/un-experts-call-ongoing-international-scruti-ny-and-support-victims-ethiopia>

Study Guide: Conseil des droits de l'homme des Nations Unies, chaired by Egan Paquay And Tom Liebelt.

Human Rights Watch (2023). Ethiopia: Events of 2022. Human Rights Watch. <https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2023/country-chapters/ethiopia>.

Resolution debate GIMUN

Combating Discrimination Along Global Supply Chains

Matteo Galasso

Global supply chains, one of the greatest expressions of contemporary globalisation and a crucial aspect of modern economics, consists in an elaborated interconnected structure carrying products, generic goods and specific kinds of services from suppliers to customers. This system includes different interphases that transform and process the original raw material, then distribute it firstly on a large scale and then to local sellers. All this process moves through chains: organisations, resources and activities involved in production and distribution of goods. This kind of economic measure operates in a semi homogeneous way without too much taking into account differences linked to socioeconomic conditions, nor gender, race, ethnicity and legal frameworks.

However, working with such heterogeneous contexts can generate discrimination. In fact, while these systems are intended to represent efficiency in goods distribution, there is a growing recognition of discrimination issues on an international scale along that structure. A critical aspect of that system consists in the lack of fairness along the earlier stages of the chain, where more resource-rich countries enjoy an initial but low added value advantage: this can lead to significant divergences in economic benefits, contributing to global inequalities compared to the most technical contributors of the chain.

Individuals and workers within the supply chain system also risks potential inequality, impacting their well-being based on their status and position in the production stages. We can identify more factors of discrimination, usually corresponding to societal cleavages.

A main example concerns gender discrimination, that remains deeply rooted, leading to unequal opportunities and pay disparities. Racial discrimination perpetuates biases against specific ethnic backgrounds, resulting in systemic inequalities: nowadays it extends beyond race and encompasses cultural backgrounds. Discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, religious beliefs, and disability further adds to the complexity of the issue.



At the same time in employment practices, individuals may face bias in recruitment, promotion, or job assignments based on personal characteristics. Moreover, environmental challenges are often concentrated in major raw material-exporting countries, leading to significant climatic crises. Despite significant strides, challenges persist, emphasising the need for continued efforts to address discrimination within global supply chains.

Even if it remains difficult to preview how these challenges will evolve in today's interconnected global landscape, addressing discrimination and promoting equity in supply chains is not merely an ethical imperative but represents a strategic necessity: this requires a re-evaluation of fairness in the early stages and increased international cooperation to confront emerging challenges.

It goes without saying that equity along the chain would be an advantage not only for individuals, workers and consumers, but also for businesses, contributing to growth, job creation, and international trade: inclusion can bring a stable workforce, enhancing productivity. On the other hand, a critical reflection on how to improve fairness in the early stages of the chain is essential to make chains more sustainable and socially responsible: this can be realised also making use of nowadays technological advancements and innovations.

Moreover, the current global trade structure faces increasing challenges following the rise of right-wing populism in many Western countries. This trend has led to a reorientation of national priorities, questioning international cooperation and alliances.

The potential destruction of the international system based on cooperation could have significant impacts on chains, as trust and stability are fundamental elements for their optimal functioning. A key moment that highlighted the need for greater security in supply chains was the Supply Chain Ministerial Forum in July 2022 in Sydney, Australia. Western countries collaborated to address emerging challenges and ensure greater resilience in global supply chains.

This initiative is a significant step toward creating a more robust system that can withstand the turbulence that may occur at the international level and at the same time can put the basis for a more ethical, inclusive, equitable, and resilient supply chain.



Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Naomi Mutschler

Allegations of systematic oppression, ethnic cleansing, and war crimes reverberate through the halls of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) as Armenia presents its case against Azerbaijan. In a conflict rooted in centuries-old tensions between Christian Armenian and Muslim Turkic influences, the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh stands at the heart of a legal battle that has captured international attention.

The historical backdrop of the conflict traces back well over a century, with Nagorno-Karabakh's complex demographics shaped by competing religious and ethnic interests. Initially part of the Russian Empire, the region saw a blend of Christian Armenian and Turkic Azeri populations. In the aftermath of World War I and the Russian Revolution, Nagorno-Karabakh was declared an autonomous region within the Soviet Socialist Republic of Azerbaijan, with ethnic Armenians forming the majority. However, with the collapse of the Soviet Union in the late 20th century, both Armenia and Azerbaijan asserted sovereignty over Nagorno-Karabakh, sparking a devastating war in the early 1990s. Armenia gained control of the territory until renewed conflict erupted in 2016, leading to its reintegration into Azerbaijani control. In the 2020s, despite ceasefires and mediation efforts, tensions persisted, culminating in talks of reintegrating Nagorno-Karabakh into Azerbaijan. The Republic of Artsakh's agreement to dissolve by 2024 triggered a wave of displacement, with over 100,000 Armenians fleeing the region amid reported ceasefire violations.



As the plight of Armenians in the South Caucasus region draws global concern, Armenia has taken its grievances to the ICJ, alleging violations of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) by Azerbaijan. More precisely, Armenia has lodged seven complaints before the ICJ against Azerbaijan, alleging violations of Articles 2 through 7 of the ICERD. It asserts the ICJ's jurisdiction based on the fact that both disputing parties have been parties to the ICERD for a considerable duration.

Additionally, under Article 22 of the ICERD, any dispute that remains unresolved "despite significant efforts" is to be referred to the ICJ.

This landmark case underscores the critical role of international law in addressing complex conflicts.

The ICJ, renowned as the World Court, serves as the primary forum for adjudicating disputes between nations and providing advisory opinions on international legal matters. Comprising a panel of 15 judges elected by the UN General Assembly and Security Council, the ICJ embodies the principles of impartiality and justice.

What is the ICERD exactly? The ICERD is grounded in several key principles aimed at combating racial discrimination and promoting equality among all individuals. These principles include non-discrimination, equality before the law, prohibition of racial discrimination in all forms, provision of effective remedies for victims, promotion of education and awareness to combat racial prejudice, and fostering international cooperation in addressing racial discrimination. The ICERD underscores a commitment to upholding human rights, promoting equality, and combating racial discrimination globally. Both Armenia and Azerbaijan are signatories to the ICERD. As signatories, they have committed to upholding the principles outlined in the convention and taking measures to eliminate racial discrimination in all its forms within their respective territories.



At this year's GIMUN conference, the ICJ debuts as a platform for legal discourse. With five judges presiding alongside two advocates for each, the prosecution and defense, the stakes are high for both Armenia and Azerbaijan. Witnesses, typically introduced into their roles before hearings were also included in the case. The burden falls on Armenia to substantiate its claims of egregious violations of international law, while Azerbaijan must mount a robust defense against the allegations. Will either side manage to convince the impartial judges presiding over the case?

During the initial stages of the process, the court faced difficulties due to participants' unfamiliarity with the new rules of procedure. Additionally, the absence of a translator for Armenian texts hindered the authentication of evidence, particularly concerning discrimination and hate speech allegations. To address these issues, the court should have engaged experts and UN Commissions, such as the reports from the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), to provide sustained evidence. Despite initial setbacks, progress was made as the legal participants and chairs expedited proceedings from Wednesday onwards.

The verdict rendered by the ICJ reflected a nuanced decision-making process. The court unanimously accepted Armenia's requests for humanitarian assistance, accountability and justice, and respect for treaties and the rule of law. Furthermore, by a vote of 4 to 2, the court accepted Armenia's request for restitution and reparation. The six other requests made by Armenia, Non-Discrimination Measures, Appeasing Measures, International Oversight and Peacekeeping, Protection of Civilian Population, Demilitarization of the Nagorno- Karabakh region and Cease and Desist Order, were rejected.

While the decisions issued by the ICJ in the real case in the Hague established the following key obligations for the Republic of Azerbaijan under the ICERD. Including the ensuring of peaceful movement for individuals leaving or returning to Nagorno-Karabakh and protecting residents from force or intimidation. Additionally, Azerbaijan must preserve registration, identity, and property documents and submit a report detailing steps taken to implement the ICJ's orders within eight weeks.



In conclusion, the participants demonstrated competence and talent throughout the proceedings which highlighted the complexities and implications of the verdict for both parties involved. Their contributions reflect their potential in the international community, and we extend our best wishes for their future endeavors.

Sources:

1. <https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news/2023/10/05/armenian-exodus-nagorno-karabakh>
2. <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-18270325>
3. <https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/asien/bergkarabach-armenien-aserbajdschan-116.html>
4. <https://edition.cnn.com/2023/09/28/europe/nagorno-karabakh-officially-dissolve-intl/index.html>
5. <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/180/180-20231117-pre-01-00-en.pdf>
6. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-convention-elimination-all-forms-racial>

From Japan to The Hague : ICC's Verdict on Yoshitaka and Atarashī

Leen Alnajem

In the past few weeks, the international theater has shed light on the International Court of Justice as it received the Palestine-Israel case from South Africa, and the arguments between the involved parties continue to this day. However, we cannot mention the former court without mentioning the other international court: the International Criminal Court. While the former was established in 1946 and has ruled on 166 cases over the years, the latter has prosecuted twenty-nine cases since its establishment in 2002. However, we do not often talk about it because it only deals with cases against individuals accused of committing crimes against humanity, war crimes, genocide, and in some cases, aggression. Based on the crimes mentioned earlier, we can understand the difficulty of the court and its followers in punishing and, especially, in confirming the truth of the information and proving the charges against the individuals involved.

These courts were reproduced within the United Nations Model Organization with their judges, prosecutors, and lawyers who diligently and perseveringly sought to do their expected judicial work. They followed judicial committee schedules that differed from other committees as many discussions took place between the judges on one side and the prosecutors and lawyers from the third party on the other side. Indeed, two committees formed ideal judicial frameworks with all the necessary members to issue judgments which were expected for some and shocking for others.



However, this article explains what happened within the committee specialized in the International Criminal Court and the Japanese case which the participants discussed during the week. The three presidents designed a hypothetical case with sufficient and numerous evidence. Discussions circulated about Baba Yoshitaka, Kia Yoshita, and their son Shinsei, in addition to Hiroshima Yoshi. The full descriptions of their personalities, illnesses, and everything related to them and valuable for the case were explained in decisions issued by the civil hospitals in The Hague, the Netherlands, the headquarters of the International Criminal Court. In addition, there were physical medical reports from the forensic medicine service about Kia and others related to psychological capacity analyses of Professor Yoshitaka, who was accused of crimes against humanity and war crimes as well.

These analyses proved that the accused was aware of the allegations against him and that he was at the head of a sectarian deviation claimed by Atarashi, registered as a company in his name before the supreme authorities. Atarashi claims that humanity is nearing its end, and only Shinsei, his only son, can save the world. The content of the psychological reports confirms the financial aid received by Atarashi, but Yoshitaka insists that they are only friendly donations. Yoshitaka is confident in what he is accused of but denies any charges against him and insists on emphasizing the faith and spirituality that keep him away from any violence or attacks.

In addition to all that has been mentioned, several pieces of evidence increased the complexity of the case on one hand but also increased interest and anticipation for further follow-up on the other hand. The case was completed with investigation reports about Nakiri, the victim governor who was poisoned, and legal newspapers detailing five previous crimes of Hiroma Yoshi, including possession of toad venom, the same poison that caused the death of the aforementioned victim. Finally, we can mention the past dispute between Yoshitaka and Nakiri, and it can be added that there were no suspects, so the new governor requested the case be closed. Some newspapers suggest a relationship between the new governor and Yoshitaka, claiming that he is a follower of the Atarashi organization. Still, there is no evidence to confirm these claims.

Four years later, in 2017, a new case emerged indicating the disappearance of Fukuma under mysterious circumstances on an island where several victims were later found. What is strange and leads to suspicions is the closing of the case within hours and classifying the crimes as natural deaths. However, a decision was issued in 2014 claiming that the island's residents should evacuate to protect them from expected earthquakes. If we delve further into the case, we find an interview with Fukuma's mother after his disappearance, mentioning that her son was working on scientific research related to the people residing on the island that later became the crime scene. Still, he destroyed his computer shortly before and strangely started praying despite not being religious in his life. Suppose we connect the events and link the initial evidence with the latter; in that case, the strangest thing remains the answers provided by Shinsei when asked simple questions by investigators at a Spanish police station. The child was terrified of a certain woman and kept talking about people in black robes whom he must greet without words, otherwise something would happen to him. There is no precise analysis that can be said after his interview except that he was threatened by an unknown entity but related to a woman.

In 2021, a journalistic article was published clarifying that Atarashi could be one of the motivating and intervening organizations in infertility stories, as the organization's president believes that having children is burdensome.

It also mentions that despite the lack of strict evidence, Atarashi is considered responsible for the unexplained disappearance of a total number of fifteen thousand people in previous years. But what is strange here is how Atarashi is linked to infertility and encouraging non-procreation if President Yoshitaka at the same time links Atarashi's goals to changing humanity through his child. One thing can explain what is happening: Atarashi is indeed a criminal, and accusations were directed against it first, and Shinsei is just a means to show the opposite, as he is not Yoshitaka's son at all and was used as a trick from the beginning with his intimidation and fear of telling the truth. Within the forty pages of evidence, there is an article published on an unreliable website confirming what we are saying: doubts about Shinsei's natural parents and the forced sterilization operations carried out by Yoshitaka, in addition to the wealth gained from the sect operations he heads. These pieces of evidence, along with three witnesses who testified before the judges, ultimately sentenced Yoshitaka and his wife to thirty years in prison after crushing Atarashi and its followers.

For the members, the biggest challenge was understanding the file and connecting the evidence before starting. One student said that participating in the International Criminal Court committee does not require particular expertise in law because reading the articles is enough, so despite the majority being students in non-law fields, everyone succeeded in preparing in the best way, overcoming the challenges they faced along the way, and issuing final judgments. During the sessions, the constant challenge was not knowing what the other party would say and what the judges would decide.

Regarding the case, it was prepared by the presidents of the specialized committees in multiple legal fields, and the committee members had already expressed their admiration for what had been presented to them despite the much work previously required of them. They were awarded during the closing ceremony for their impressive performance. The complexity and difficulty of the case were enough to occupy all the committee members for five days before issuing their final judgment. A long amount of time, lasting thirteen sessions, and effort was required to discuss all the details of the evidence.



ILO: Artificial intelligence and job protection

Arianna Moro

In 2023 everyone was talking about AI, not because it first became accessible to the public, as we have been using it for over two decades through multiple devices, but because a new wave of AI occurred, implementing multiple data and new technologies, which took over social media and began to concern the governments. Ever since, this topic turned into a heated political discussion, whose main arguments are the job future and the lack of workers' protection, opposed to the incremental innovation speed as well as the current and relevant presence of AI on a large scale, which has an impact on various fields, but also its contribution to economic growth. Nevertheless, many people expressed their concerns about AI possibly taking over jobs and replacing humans.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) works on a tripartition system with governments, employers and workers representatives of its member States for their cooperation, to establish work standards and policies and draw up programs which promote decent labour for all women and men. Therefore, in a time where such relevant questions are asked and concrete answers from governments are demanded, ILO is now taking account of the role of artificial intelligence in the future of work and taking further steps to foster workers in this new environment.

AI is a broad concept which involves multiple ramifications and consequences that need to be broken down one by one and as a matter of fact, ILO is one of the 40 partners in the Global Summit 2024 organised by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), entitled AI for good and has provided different projects, to name a few: "Research on worker privacy and personal data project", "Online digital labour platforms in China: Working conditions, policy issues and prospects", "Digital work in Eastern Europe: Overview of Trends, Outcomes and Policy Responses", and also commits to deal with the constraints for people with disabilities.



During the debates of the ILO Committee held by the chairs Natacha Pambou-Orski and Baptiste Dervaux in occasion of the GIMUN Annual Conference 2024, the delegates voiced their opinions on AI and job protection in the guise of governments, employers and workers. Throughout the sessions the delegates touched on several important points, among which education for workers and students, regulations, standardisation and data protection.



The All-China Federation of Trade Unions aims to embrace the new AI technologies and encourages their development for the benefit of workers. Moreover, according to several governments and employers, workers should not be driven by this “irrational fear” of AI because, although it does bear the danger, it can increase productivity in a safe environment, for instance many jobs emerged thanks to the internet, e.g. computer science. Those who promote the use of AI also underline that it is not about competing against it, but rather viewing it as a tool to advance. They claim that because AI has become part of the present, it is now too late to go back to a world without AI or ChatGPT, and instead of refusing to accept this reality, the purpose would be to help the workers transitioning through frameworks, and most importantly education, by teaching them how to benefit from it. For instance, Microsoft partnered with the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations to provide an educational program on AI for its employees.

Another point that the delegates discussed is the possibility of introducing AI courses in schools to teach students how to use it daily, even at a basic level, recognizing education as key to mastery.

Moreover, they advocated for a shift in the negative attitude towards AI. However, delegates agreed that AI must be kept safe, secure, and transparent through policies and regulations. Standardization guidelines were a topic of debate too with some arguing that they would benefit only big companies, while others believed they could achieve equity and facilitate partnerships. They emphasized that the countries' policies should be respected, and that if standard guidelines were too strict, they could also prevent new jobs and employment opportunities, e.g. the delegation of the USA perceives some European guidelines as too restrictive. According to those in favour, if the standardisation occurred, equity would be accomplished, for instance Rwanda, one of the biggest AI hubs in the South, demands restrictive guidelines. UAE, however, believes each country should choose to follow them or not. Additionally, the introduction of an ethical standards commission was discussed to foster solidarity between employers and employees and to address data protection concerns.

This debate underscored the multifaceted considerations surrounding AI and job protection, particularly within a framework prioritizing workers' rights while striving to increase productivity.



Sources:

<https://aiforgood.itu.int/about-ai-for-good/un-ai-actions/ilo/>

<https://news.microsoft.com/2023/12/11/afl-cio-and-microsoft-announce-new-tech-labor-partnership-on-ai-and-the-future-of-the-workforce/>

GIMUN 2024 sessions of the ILO Committee

Revealing pathways to livelihoods and financial empowerment for refugees, shrouded in uncertainty

Michelle Sienkiewicz

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) holds a critical position in the global landscape, serving as a beacon of hope and assistance for displaced individuals across the world. Since its inception in 1950, the UNHCR has remained steadfast in its commitment to upholding the rights and ensuring the well-being of refugees, a mission that has become increasingly vital in the face of the recent surge in global displacement.

The unprecedented scale of the contemporary refugee crisis has compelled millions of individuals to flee their homes in search of safety and the opportunity to rebuild shattered lives. In response to this monumental humanitarian challenge, the UNHCR has emerged as a frontline responder, offering immediate relief to those in need while concurrently embarking on initiatives aimed at fostering long-term solutions and empowerment for refugees.

Beyond merely addressing the immediate needs of displaced populations, the UNHCR is dedicated to facilitating their integration and self-sufficiency in their host communities. This multifaceted approach involves not only providing essential humanitarian aid and protection but also actively working to expand opportunities for refugees to access gainful employment and financial services. By empowering refugees with the tools and resources necessary to rebuild their lives and contribute positively to their communities, the UNHCR embodies the spirit of compassion and solidarity upon which the United Nations was founded.

As the global refugee crisis continues to evolve and escalate, the UNHCR remains unwavering in its commitment to advocating for the rights and dignity of displaced individuals worldwide. Through collaborative partnerships with governments, non-governmental organizations, and civil society actors, the UNHCR continues to strive towards a world where all individuals forced to flee their homes can find safety, security, and the opportunity for a brighter future.



UNHCR, in collaboration with various partners, is actively engaged in bolstering financial inclusion for refugees, as evidenced by a groundbreaking program in Uganda, generously funded by organizations such as the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. This pioneering initiative extends debt-financing opportunities and delivers comprehensive training to financial service providers, thereby benefiting over 100,000 refugees and host communities alike.

In line with its commitment to empowering refugees, UNHCR has significantly expanded its cash-based interventions (CBI) program. By affording refugees the autonomy to determine how they utilize financial assistance, this program not only stimulates local economies but also empowers refugees to address pressing needs such as rent payments, debt settlements, and entrepreneurial ventures. Moreover, UNHCR's proactive policies have facilitated enhanced access to banking services and digital payment platforms for refugees, with 47 countries successfully negotiating improved access by the year 2020.

Recognizing the paramount importance of education, employment, and essential services for refugees residing in host countries, UNHCR actively collaborates with esteemed partners such as the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Through joint efforts, UNHCR endeavors to foster self-reliance among refugees through targeted micro-financing initiatives.

Governments play a pivotal role in safeguarding the rights of refugees and facilitating their seamless integration into local job markets. Noteworthy initiatives, such as Jordan's innovative 2016 Compact and Germany's robust vocational training programs, underscore concerted efforts to equip refugees with essential work permits, education, and vocational skills training.

Furthermore, proactive measures from governments, exemplified by Canada's steadfast commitment to augment refugee resettlement levels, hold tremendous potential to alleviate the economic burden on host countries and propel the economic assimilation of refugees, particularly in regions grappling with stagnant growth and elevated unemployment rates.

Such collaborative endeavors stand as beacons of hope, promising a brighter future for refugees and host communities alike.



The GIMUN provides a unique setting for delegates to immerse themselves in the complex challenges faced by refugees and engage in discussions that mirror real-life deliberations at the United Nations. The UNHCR, as a key player in these simulations, brings attention to the multifaceted issues surrounding displacement, emphasizing the importance of collaborative and comprehensive approaches to address the needs of refugees.

One of the primary objectives of the UNHCR at GIMUN is to foster a deeper understanding of the refugee experience. Delegates, embodying the spirit of the UNHCR, work to raise awareness about the humanitarian aspects of displacement, shedding light on the hardships faced by refugees and the urgency of finding sustainable solutions.

Moreover, the UNHCR's presence at the annual conference underscores the importance of international cooperation in addressing refugee crises. Delegates collaborate with counterparts from various countries, navigating the intricate web of global politics to develop solutions that transcend borders and promote the shared responsibility of the international community in safeguarding refugee rights.



Nagorno-Karabakh conflict

Naomi Mutschler

The Nagorno-Karabakh conflict stands as a persistent challenge to international peace and security, with its roots deeply entrenched in historical, territorial, and ethnic complexities. As in this year's GIMUN Annual Conference the committee of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) deliberates on this issue, it becomes evident that finding a sustainable solution is superior to facilitate the longstanding tensions in the South Caucasus region.

The conflict traces its origins to the dissolution of the Soviet Union in the late 1980s and early 1990s, when both Armenia and Azerbaijan laid claim to the Nagorno-Karabakh region. While today internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan, Nagorno-Karabakh boasts a predominantly Armenian population, fuelling ethnic and territorial disputes between the two nations. The situation escalated into a full-scale war in the early 1990s, the first Nagorno-Karabakh war, resulting in significant casualties and mass displacement.

In 1994, Armenia emerged victorious from the conflict, securing de facto control over Nagorno-Karabakh. However, Azerbaijan's superior military force and steadfast refusal to recognize the region's independence have kept the dispute alive. The conflict witnessed a reescalation in 2016, leading to a second Nagorno-Karabakh war, which was ultimately halted by Russian intervention.

One central outcome of the conflict was the establishment of the Lachin corridor after the 2016 conflict, a vital land route connecting Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh. This corridor serves as a lifeline, facilitating the movement of goods, services, and people between the two regions. Its creation underscores the strategic importance of ensuring connectivity and access amidst the ongoing tensions. The corridor holds significant strategic importance for Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh, as it ensures their connectivity and access to vital resources. However, its creation has also been a source of contention between Armenia and Azerbaijan, as Azerbaijan considers Nagorno-Karabakh and the surrounding territories as part of its sovereign territory. The status and security of the Lachin corridor have been subject to negotiations and occasional tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

As it can already be seen ethnic nationalism, territorial integrity, and self-determination lie at the heart of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, embodying broader geopolitical and socio-cultural issues. Efforts to find a lasting solution have involved international actors such as the OSCE Minsk Group, which has endeavored to facilitate negotiations between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

However, achieving a peace settlement that addresses the aspirations and concerns of both sides remains elusive, presenting a persistent challenge in the South Caucasus region.

The recent developments underscored the volatility of the situation, as the Nagorno-Karabakh in 2020, characterized by frequent ceasefires and brief conflicts broke out. Yet another conflict in September 2023 was escalating, with ethnically Armenian populations becoming targets of attacks. Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan appealed for Russian peacekeeping assistance and urged the UNSC to intervene, highlighting the urgency of the situation.

In response, Azerbaijan's President emphasized the region's sovereignty and vowed to protect all citizens, regardless of ethnicity. The conflict not only poses a threat to regional stability but also challenges the fundamental principles of diplomacy and international law.

The involvement of global powers further complicates the situation. Russia, a key player in the region, by advocating for ceasefire agreements and having a neutral status in the region despite the fact that they are supplying weapons to Armenia. Iran, China, and India express solidarity with Armenia, while Türkiye provides military support to Azerbaijan. Israel, Canada, Ukraine, and Belarus also have interests in the conflict, reflecting the geopolitical complexities at play.

In the middle of escalating tensions, diplomatic efforts intensify to find a viable solution that ensures the safety and rights of all inhabitants in the region. The developments in Nagorno-Karabakh necessitate a renewed commitment to dialogue and reconciliation, allowing people to live in peace and security.

However, the path to peace remains fraught with challenges. Decades of conflict have claimed the lives of over 12,000 individuals, leaving scars on communities and deepening mistrust between nations.



Amidst the complexities and challenges, the central question arises: Is peace achievable in this unstable region? As the UNSC deliberates on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, it must prioritize dialogue, diplomacy, and conflict resolution mechanisms to address underlying grievances and foster reconciliation. Only through concerted international efforts and genuine commitment can the region move towards a future of stability, prosperity, and lasting peace. And the time to act is now.



During the debates at the UNSC regarding the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, significant challenges were encountered before a resolution could be reached. Despite tensions between key delegations, notably the delegations of the United States and Russia, a consensus was eventually achieved.

The absence of delegations from both Azerbaijan and Armenia further complicated the Council's task. However, these complications could be solved temporarily as third parties were invited on Tuesday afternoon. More particularly the delegations of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Iran, and Türkiye.

Finally, a resolution was proposed, with discussions focusing on finding appropriate sponsors for its endorsement. France's delegation proposed a solution emphasizing the importance of selecting neutral countries as sponsors to ensure the resolution's credibility in the region. Consequently, the United States delegation decided to step back from sponsoring the resolution to avoid potential diplomatic complications. Switzerland and Malta were identified as suitable sponsors due to their neutral status and diplomatic credibility. This decision was made in the interest of advancing the resolution.

Despite initial challenges, the UNSC successfully passed the resolution by the end of the third day

The resolution outlines strategies to enhance humanitarian assistance, extensive provisions such as food, medication, clothing, and emergency shelter, delivered by UN agencies, relevant humanitarian organizations, and NGOs. It underscores the critical importance of upholding International Humanitarian Law to guarantee the safe delivery of aid.

Furthermore, the resolution highlights the imperative of extending support to neighbouring countries that host refugees on a daily basis. And it emphasizes the preservation of cultural and religious sites, recognizing.

Moreover, the resolution calls for an immediate ceasefire and outlines necessary measures to be implemented in this regard, aiming to mitigate further conflict and promote peaceful resolution of disputes.

This year's UNSC has shown in exemplary manner what is possible when diplomatic exchange is maintained. The means mentioned in the resolution can hopefully contribute to save the lives of innocent people and give them and the international community hope for a peaceful future in Nagorno-Karabakh.



Unity Against External Interference: Arab League's Response to Iran's intervention in the region

Leen Alnajem

The student organization for the Model United Nations held its twenty-fifth annual conference with a total of eight committees, ranging from a legal nature, such as the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice, to others with a humanitarian nature, for instance, the Human Rights Council, and some more politically inclined such as the United Nations Security Council or Arab League. Indeed, the League of Arab States was the most crucial committee this year, unprecedented in its Arabic language session for the first time in twenty-five years. The United Nations witnessed an unprecedented event, prompting delegates to discuss two issues that concerned almost all Arab Member States: the maintenance of Arab national security and the development of the Arab system to combat terrorism and Iranian interventions in the internal affairs of Arab countries.

Not all members were present. The League of Arab States was supposed to have twenty-two members. But in the end, only five delegates participated in this conference, with the majority from the neighboring country of France. Therefore, the delegates from the following countries were present: the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Iraq, the Republic of Tunisia, and the State of Kuwait, in addition to the participation of the Palestinian Authority. Despite the many difficulties faced, the committee members covered the first and second topics through deep and extensive discussions from Monday to Friday. Ultimately, everyone agreed on the first draft resolution consisting of nine clauses on Wednesday and then the second draft, which included five resolutions, each signed by the attending delegate. However, to reach these projects, conflicts persisted in the International Labour Organization over the year and for a short time in one of the esteemed halls of the United Nations headquarters. There were thirteen consecutive sessions which served as an opportunity for each country to express its opinion and proposals on the selected topics.



Discussing Iran and its interventions in the affairs of present countries proved to be extremely difficult, especially with the absence of the most closely related countries on this issue, namely the Syrian Arab Republic, the Lebanese Republic, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which undoubtedly changed the context of the conversation due to their somewhat extreme and somewhat conflicting positions. This becomes clear when considering the Syrian Arab Republic's cooperation with Iran in previous years on one hand and its complete rejection by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the other. However, this was only the first challenge faced by the delegates, as Arabic and its linguistic and verbal rules posed a significant difficulty, especially since none of them had spent previous years in an Arab country. Therefore, linguistic proficiency was one of the main concerns of the committee chair, Ahmed Taha. For him, this committee constituted his first experience in chairing. After many concerns and commitments, the sessions carried out one after the other showed the professional capabilities of the delegates, who always managed to express their ideas in various possible ways. Ahmed Taha expressed his pride in his committee, which managed to improve an experience that began with many challenges and difficulties, including the small number of delegates. On the other hand, some viewed the same issue as a challenge to motivate them to speak and improve their linguistic proficiency. Contrary to what happened in the sessions, this opinion was shared by everyone.

It is no secret that the presence of the Palestinian Authority made the situation somewhat special due not only to its lack of resources and capabilities but primarily due to its lack of voting rights in the United Nations as it is only an observer state. The delegate of the Palestinian Authority was unable to vote on the final work projects, which forced three delegates to agree with the proposed project so as not to reject it. Moreover, relations with neighboring countries and agreements vary due to the current situation highlighted in the international arena. However, despite all that has been said, the Palestinian delegate put forward many proposals agreed upon in the work projects. The small number of committee members enabled everyone to put forward ideas and suggestions for resolutions that they agreed upon. Kuwait was one of the most supportive of cooperation with Iran to the extent that the country became an observer in the League of Arab States.

In contrast, others were strongly opposed, especially the Republic of Tunisia, which attached great importance to its authority and democratic standards and values. This became apparent after the 2011 revolution at the beginning of the Arab Spring. Iraq's position was complex due to its war history with the concerned state. Still, in this context, the delegate decided to put an end to the past to move forward to develop diplomatic relations in the future.

This was also the opinion of Egypt, which does not have a clear political relationship with Iran. However, their future delegate's view in the session tended towards optimism to improve what had previously happened. Palestine's situation is more complex because Iran differs in its support, relations, opinions, and agreements with the West Bank and Gaza in actions and behavior that differ and change over the years, but as long as it stands with the Palestinian cause. After many disputes, the delegates shared their views on the importance of their country's authority, and therefore, relations with Iran are not rejected as long as they respect the laws, territories, peoples, authority, and sovereignty of each country involved. The first thing to do is to strengthen internal security through intensive security to protect all borders between countries. The other issue that was accepted was related to the formation of a monitoring committee consisting of national experts to monitor Iran's relations in the Arab region and limit what affects internal affairs or the sovereignty of the state. Diplomatic and economic relations are acceptable and encourage intensification, but political matters are sensitive subjects that are not open to discussion.

On the other hand, a roundtable discussion was held in case of any conflict or disagreement between Arab countries and neighboring countries of the Arab region, where a delegate from each country is sent to avoid magnifying problems and to preserve diplomatic relations, with the presence of an international mediator who does not have any nationality from the concerned countries. This became the fourth decision in the working paper, showing the gratitude of Member States for cooperation, openness, discussion, and the peaceful resolution of any future problems. Therefore, a final resolution was agreed upon to encourage relations, interconnection, and cooperation between Arab countries first and then with other countries, as it was previously and still is the primary goal of Arab cooperation for the Arab League.

With these multiple decisions being made, followed by the signing and voting on the draft resolution, the Arab League Committee for this year in the Model United Nations at the University of Geneva was concluded. The delegates were all pleased with the experience that motivated them to speak their native language and connect more with their roots, allowing them to meet many different people with various stories. They overcame all the obstacles this year to conclude the first Arab committee at the United Nations in Geneva in twenty-five years, but not the last.



Unraveling the Legacy of the Xinhai Revolution: A Journey through History and Diplomacy at the GIMUN Annual Conference

Michelle Sienkiewicz

In 2024, the prestigious GIMUN Annual Conference had the privilege of hosting the Bicameral Crisis committees, where esteemed delegates engaged in intensive deliberations spanning from the historic Xinhai Revolution to contemporary China. Delving into the complexities and ramifications of this pivotal period in Chinese history, delegates navigated through the intricate web of political, social, and economic dynamics, shedding light on the enduring legacy and implications for the modern era.

The Xinhai Revolution of 1911 stands as a watershed moment in China's rich tapestry of history, serving as a pivotal juncture that led to the downfall of the Qing Dynasty and the subsequent establishment of the Republic of China. Named after the Chinese calendar year of Xinhai, this momentous revolution unfolded against a backdrop of pervasive discontent with the Qing government, internal strife, and external pressures.

The Qing Dynasty, which had wielded power over China for more than two centuries, faced a myriad of challenges, including rampant corruption, economic stagnation, and a growing sense of disillusionment among the Chinese populace. The revolutionary fervor gathered steam with the involvement of a diverse array of stakeholders, ranging from progressive intellectuals to regional military leaders, all united in their aspirations to usher in an era of modernization and rejuvenation for the nation.

Central to the Xinhai Revolution was the towering figure of Sun Yat-sen, whose tireless advocacy for revolutionary change left an indelible mark on the course of Chinese history. As the founding father of the Tongmenghui (United League), Sun Yat-sen articulated a bold vision for a republic that would supplant the entrenched imperial system. His Three Principles of the People –



encompassing nationalism, democracy, and the improvement of people's livelihoods – served as the guiding ethos for the revolutionary movement, inspiring countless individuals to join the cause and propel China towards a new era of governance and societal transformation.

On October 10, 1911, the spark of rebellion ignited in Wuchang, unleashing a wave of uprisings that reverberated across multiple provinces. This uprising, spearheaded by a coalition of military personnel and civilians, swiftly engulfed key cities, culminating in the historic abdication of the last Qing Emperor, Puyi, in 1912.

With his departure from the imperial throne, millennia-old dynastic rule in China came to a definitive end, heralding the dawn of the Republic of China.

The triumph of the Xinhai Revolution heralded a new era of transformation for China. Under the stewardship of Sun Yat-sen, who assumed the mantle of provisional president, the nascent republic embarked on an ambitious mission to modernize the nation and instill democratic ideals. However, the fledgling years of the republic were beset by a tumultuous landscape characterized by political turmoil, regional fragmentation, and intense power struggles.



Beyond its immediate political ramifications, the Xinhai Revolution wrought profound societal and cultural shifts. The dismantling of the imperial system precipitated a seismic upheaval, as efforts to discard entrenched traditions and embrace modernization gained momentum. This period of transition laid the foundation for sweeping changes that would permeate every facet of Chinese society.

Indeed, the legacy of the Xinhai Revolution transcended its immediate aftermath, shaping the trajectory of Chinese history in profound ways. It paved the way for the emergence of pivotal political forces such as the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and the Nationalist Party (Kuomintang), both of which would vie for supremacy and leave an indelible imprint on the nation's destiny.

Yet, despite the revolutionary fervor and the monumental achievements of the Xinhai Revolution, the road to a stable and unified China was fraught with formidable challenges. The arduous task of nation-building and reconciling disparate factions loomed large, underscoring the complex realities of ushering in a new era of governance and societal order.

The MUN participants explored the consequences of the revolution, delving into multifaceted aspects such as the establishment of the Republic of China, the ensuing power struggles, and the enduring impact on contemporary Chinese politics. Recognizing the pivotal role of historical understanding in navigating present-day complexities, delegates endeavored to unravel the intricate layers of this transformative period in Chinese history.

In the true spirit of the MUN, participants assumed the roles of key stakeholders divided into two factions the Qing Cabinet representing the Imperialistic Faction, and the Revolutionaries Cabinet embodying the Popular Faction. Through spirited diplomatic negotiations and strategic maneuvering, delegates endeavored to draft resolutions that reflected the diverse perspectives and vested interests of the factions they represented. Striking a delicate balance between historical fidelity and the need for innovative solutions inherent in the Model United Nations setting, participants adeptly forged compromises to address the challenges posed by the bicameral crisis and the tumultuous upheaval of the Xinhai Revolution.

The convergence of the Bicameral Chinese Crisis and the Xinhai Revolution provided a captivating focal point for exploration within the dynamic milieu of the Model United Nations. By assuming the roles of historical figures and engaging in robust diplomatic discourse, participants not only gained a deeper understanding of the intricacies of the past but also honed their negotiation and diplomacy skills essential for navigating the complexities of the future. Within the realm of MUN, the reverberations of history echo as delegates collaboratively peel back the layers of the Xinhai Revolution, shedding light on its profound and enduring legacy.

