



club of hohenheim e.v.

verein für internationale politik und wirtschaft
association for international policy and economics



MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE 2023

Project Report

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Prolog

For more than 20 years, the Club of Hohenheim has been offering students the unique opportunity to experience the practice of diplomacy first-hand. The participants are given the honorable task of representing Stuttgart's universities at an international level. In today's interconnected world, diplomacy has assumed paramount importance, serving as the delicate threads that weave together nations and foster global harmony. As the challenges we face grow increasingly complex, diplomacy stands as a beacon of hope, offering a peaceful path to resolve conflicts, build bridges, and promote understanding among diverse cultures. Through skilled diplomacy, we navigate the intricacies of international relations, safeguarding peace, and paving the way for collective progress on shared global issues.

This year, we were filled with joy and excitement to introduce a new group of talented and ambitious students eager to embark on a remarkable journey together. Their unwavering passion and enthusiasm are a testament to their relentless pursuit of knowledge and belief in the promise of diplomacy. Equipped with a global mindset, a commitment to social justice, and a deep understanding of the interconnectedness of our world, they will shape the future toward inclusion, sustainability, and social progress.

In October 2022 we started our project. Every Monday evening, we met alternately online and in-person. The hut-weekend furthermore offered the perfect opportunity to prepare intensively for the conference. The participants learned how to discuss constructively as Somali diplomats and practiced giving political speeches in English. Furthermore, the preparation included intensive research on the social, economic, and environmental positions of the Federal Republic of Somalia, whose results were put down in position papers. In addition to the professional training, a large component was the acquisition of donations, through which we financed our trip. After a long break, we managed to organize a party with about 400 guests, the proceeds of which went entirely to the students. Besides the acquisition of donations, the Tübingen Model United Nations and the Hohenheim Castle Model United Nations were one of the highlights of the preparation.

Our journey started on the 28th of March 2023, in a hostel in Korea town, New York City. We awaited a study week packed with many unique and exciting visits to several permanent missions to the UN. On the 2nd of April 2023, the time had finally come. Our 16 delegates could hardly wait to present what they had learned in the weekly preparation sessions. After the completion of the project, we can say: The effort has paid off. The study week and the participation in the NMUN Conference 2023 were unforgettable. We the project leaders as well as the participants surpassed ourselves in professional terms and managed to receive

outstanding results. We were recognized as Distinguished Delegation and got a Peer Award in the Commission on the Status of Women.

In the beginning, we were united mainly by our interest in international politics. Towards the end, we were united by our shared experiences, memories, and friendships that have been built during our journey. Concluding, we, the project leaders, are more than satisfied with the outcome of the simulation and are very proud to have supervised such a committed and hard-working group of students.

This trip would not have been possible without the financial support of our sponsors and supporters. Therefore, we would like to express our deep gratitude. These funds make an enormous contribution to educational equality. After all, it is very important to us that everyone can be part of the project, regardless of their financial means. In the future, we wish and hope that more students will have this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to participate in this unique project and gain the same experience as we did.



Your project leaders

Hai Ha Vu

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United Nations Study-Week

German American Chamber of Commerce

On March 29, we had our first official meeting during our stay in New York City, where we had the pleasure of visiting the German American Chambers of Commerce in the financial district. The team of the GACC gave us valuable insights into the activities and the purpose of the GACC, as well as German American business relations and American business culture.

The GACC represents the German economy outside of Germany. It consults and supports German businesses that want to or have already expanded their activities to the United States. It provides its members with economic and legal advice and networking opportunities. The members of the GACC make up many companies that can connect during various networking events. The GACC is a Non-Profit Organization that acts without any political interests. It is financed in part by the German Ministry of Economics, but mainly by membership fees. For example, the GACC offers legal advice to its members that they charge for.

During the meeting, we learned that the United States and Germany have close business ties. According to the GACC's yearly survey of German businesses in the U.S., German companies view the U.S. as an important business location. Reasons for that may be that it offers attractive investment opportunities with its big consumer market and low regulations on innovations. Therefore, many German companies are drawn to expanding their businesses to the American market.



Another important topic we discussed was inflation and the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic. After the Federal Reserve bank had invested 4 billion USD into the economy and economic relief programs were established, the U.S. inflation rate has fortunately been decreasing. This allows the hopeful prospect that the inflation peak is in the past.

We also learned about American business culture and the intercultural differences between Germans and Americans. The way Germans and Americans communicate in business settings can be very different: While Germans tend to be more direct, Americans might have a bigger focus on being polite and friendly, while being less direct about their intentions. Americans also

tend to be more open to risk-taking than Germans and may think more short term. Even communication from public institutions looks different in the U.S. when compared to Germany, as it was illustrated to us with an official letter from the city of New York: The tone and design were funny and colorful, while in Germany letters like these are typically much more formal and straightforward.

All in all, we did not only learn about the economic situation in the U.S. and its potential for German businesses, but we also learned about cultural differences. This knowledge came in particularly helpful when we worked with students from around the world during the NMUN conference. Understanding the differences between business cultures (in this case American and German) helped us communicate more effectively with other students, mainly those from the U.S. but also from other places around the world.

A service by the GACC that can be particularly interesting for students like us, is its J1-visa service for internships or trainee programs. To get the visa, the GACC can act as a visa sponsor and help guide the applicants through the process. Another program offered by the GACC is the Startup and Entrepreneur Program "STEP USA", which supports German startups in their market entry into the U.S. This can be of interest to students who plan on starting their own companies that might have potential in the American market.

We are very thankful for the insightful presentation by the GACC and that they took the time to discuss with us all our questions.



United Nations Development Programme

As “an instrument for Member States” the UNDP works in about 170 countries and territories, helping to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities and exclusion, and build resilience so countries can sustain progress. Partnering up with governments, United Nations systems, foundations, and many more, they work on supporting people to escape multidimensional poverty, to participate in elections and to gain access to clean energy, everything within the framework of realizing the 17 Sustainability Development Goals. The day of our visit, we were warmly received by Olivier Hidalgo Guillot, Country Programme Specialist for Latin America and the Caribbean. He explained a lot about his work, tasks and topics and gave us an insightful presentation about those of the UNDP in general. With environmental questions, natural catastrophes and poverty on the agenda, his work never gets boring or too easy.

Then joining us per videocall was the UNDPs Regional Advisor for Arabic States, Fadi Abilmona. As the person responsible for Somalia, it was a pleasure to get a detailed insight and talk with an expert about current struggles and challenges especially in regards of our NMUN conference. Drought, Islamic terror, clan-based violence, and malnourishment are just a few of the problems that Somalia is affected by and make it even harder for the UNDP to provide humanitarian aid. Finally, we discussed the different support projects that are interesting for Somalia such as establishing governance, security, and justice, all orientated towards the 16. SDG. Also, fighting marginalisation especially of women, children and minorities plays a great role on the way to a stabilized and equal society by giving them room and a voice.

As a delegation, we were able to gain valuable information about a United Nations agency and of course after such an enriching and insightful visit, even more motivated to represent Somalia at the upcoming NMUN conference.



European Union Delegation to the United Nations

During our study week in New York, we had the honor to visit the New York Delegation's office and to speak to its three members Alexandra, Aleksandar, and José.

Alexandra is an Irish delegate in the General Assembly's social, humanitarian, and cultural third committee. Her main domains are human rights and gender equality. She also has model UN experience and has previously worked for the Irish mission to the UN. She explained that there are 60 members of the New York Delegation that mainly deal with development, humanitarian, security, gender equality, human rights, and budget issues. The purpose of the EU Delegation is to meet with all 27 EU Member States – mainly in Brussels – to develop one unified position that will be presented at the UN in New York. As an example, she mentioned the task of bridging the language of conservative and progressive Member States regarding gender violence to find one common voice. As a hint to best prepare our delegates in the Commission on the Status of Women for the upcoming conference, she explained how the 54 African Member States negotiate as a block.

Aleksandar is Bosnian-Croatian and is an adviser on the humanitarian team in the General Assembly's third committee. He also has model UN experience in the Security Council and even as the Secretary-General.

José is a delegate in the General Assembly's fifth committee for administrative and budgetary issues. As an interesting fact, he told us that this committee has not passed a resolution since the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly in 2017. Between us, he explained that this is mainly the case due to the presence of China and Russia in this committee.

The three New York Delegation members also shared valuable advice with us on how to become a delegate. To start things off, one should study political science or international law and start early with internships to gain practical experience. Their biggest learning was that the social aspect is even more important than actual skills. Therefore, networking and the ability to adapt and become friends with



people you don't agree with are very important. As motivators, they named passion and ambition. Finally, they described the EU delegation as diverse and valuing gender parity.

As a final fun fact, they told us that – surprisingly like our everyday life as students – diplomacy is mainly conducted via WhatsApp groups. Our delegation expresses its sincere gratitude to the Delegation of the EU to the UN in New York for this awesome opportunity.



Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations

We had the privilege of meeting with the German Permanent Mission to the UN in New York. The meeting provided us with deep insights into the work of diplomats and the role of Germany in the UN. We gained first-hand experience of how politics and diplomacy function, what happens behind the scenes, the personal qualities needed, and the challenges of working in an international context. The meeting was enriching and expanded our horizons.

During the meeting, we asked the German Mission several questions. We enquired about their main tasks, how Germany is perceived in the UN, the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, and the challenges of diplomatic work.

The German Mission's main task is to represent Germany in the UN. However, a lot more happens around this. They do a lot of press work to make people aware of what is happening and the role that the UN plays for Germany. It is a huge challenge to get journalists interested in UN issues as political topics are often complex and can quickly become dry. Press work involves building bridges, establishing contacts, and cultivating personal relationships with the right people. Additionally, the Mission is responsible for organizing events and press conferences, especially when German politicians are in New York.

Germany's perception in the UN has changed over time. Initially, Germany was not very political and allowed other countries to take the lead. However, things have changed, and Germany is now taking on more responsibility and leadership roles in the UN. With the change in the Security Council's structure, Germany could gain more influence and power. However, stereotypes about Germany are still prevalent, and some view Germany as being too cautious. It is challenging for Germany to navigate these perceptions as its past continues to influence how others perceive it.



When asked about the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the Mission replied that it is not just a regional conflict but a fundamental decision about what is right. African states have even spoken up about the conflict as they are facing difficulties with their food supply. Additionally, the effects of COVID-19 on third-world countries are so severe that they cannot recover economically, and a reform of the financial system is necessary. The General Secretary believes that credit availability for these countries needs to be simplified as they do not meet current criteria to qualify for loans. These countries urgently need loans.

Finally, when asked about the challenges of diplomatic work, the Mission highlighted the importance of the personal level. Germans are very direct and goal-oriented, while others want to engage in small talk and conversation before getting to the point. The cultural differences between America and Germany can be enormous and challenging.

In conclusion, the meeting with the German Permanent Mission to the UN in New York provided valuable insights into the work of diplomats and the role of Germany in the UN. We gained an understanding of the challenges of working in an international context, the importance of personal relationships, and the stereotypes that influence perceptions of Germany.



ZDF New York City

Freedom of speech, Donald Trump, job as a journalist, AI, and the future of journalism were just some of the topics we were able to discuss with Johannes Hano, ZDF correspondent in New York. Along with these topics, Mr. Hano shared his experiences of reporting from conflict zones, such as the Kosovo war, the Ukraine crisis, and the tragic events of 9/11.

Mr. Hano also talked about his eight years as a correspondent in China, where he witnessed first-hand the lack of freedom of speech and how it differed from the complete freedom of speech in the US. He also shared the difference of the status of the journalists in both countries, whereas in China foreign journalists are treated like diplomats, he says, in the US no one cares.



One of his biggest challenges as a journalist is bringing together visuals, language, and text to create an engaging and informative news report. He has produced numerous documentaries during his career and shared some of his experiences, such as sleeping with a gun in the Arctic due to the presence of bears.

Reporting from conflict zones can be emotionally challenging, and he shared that some images and experiences can stay with you for a long time, including seeing many dead bodies. However, as a professional, he knows how to detach himself from the situation and focus on his work. Mr. Hano also discussed the evolution of journalism, including how traditional television sets are being phased out, and how the future of AI in journalism is going to shape the industry.



Our discussion with him was enlightening and gave us valuable insights into the challenges and responsibilities of journalism. We learned about the complexities of reporting from different parts of the world and the importance of adapting to new technologies and trends. The visit was a unique opportunity to gain an appreciation for the hard work and dedication required to be a journalist and the importance of delivering accurate and unbiased news to audiences.



Celonis

We met at historic "ground zero." Celonis is located on the 86th floor of One World Trade Center. After going through security and being sent up in the elevator, everyone gathered in front of the windows. On one side, the Statue of Liberty, and on the other, a view of all of Manhattan and Central Park. It was hard to get away from this view.



We were welcomed by the Celonis team and given a tour of their impressive workspace, which was buzzing with energy and creativity. A modern and impressive landscape according to the motto open exchange. The whole office is open, with no private offices. Only small cubicles or retreats for private meetings. However, according to the employees, the kitchen is the office's favorite place. I think we could all understand why: a huge open kitchen with 5 refrigerators and lots of shelves full of snacks, drinks and more. We were all allowed to help ourselves!

The core of the meeting with Celonis was a presentation and talks with specialists from different areas of the company. But it started with an introduction of Celonis itself. A German Startup founded in 2011. It's the leading company in the market of process mining. During the workshop, we were introduced to the concept of process mining and how it can be used to analyze and improve business processes. The Celonis team gave us a detailed overview of their software and how it has helped businesses around the world to optimize their operations.

The term process mining refers to a technique in which existing data can be used to reconstruct and evaluate business processes. Roughly speaking, process mining uses existing data from operational IT systems to reconstruct and analyze business processes. Celonis is the absolute market leader in process mining and represents many of the largest companies in the world.



The employees also gave us an inside look at the company culture at Celonis. They emphasized the importance of collaboration and teamwork, and how everyone is encouraged

to share their ideas and contribute to the company's success. It was clear from their passion and enthusiasm that they truly believe in what they are doing and their software's impact on businesses.

Many of our business-oriented students were enthusiastic. Especially from the employees and their career stories, we were able to learn a lot about the unlimited opportunities available to us today. International companies like Celonis offer the opportunity to work in different places around the world, discover different cultures and develop yourself. Employees talked about the differences between previous companies and the working climate in start-ups. All of them taught us one thing: It always depends on the people. All employees explained in different ways that the most important thing about a job is always the people. It's the people you work with. It's the managers and the subordinates. All the people who influence the daily work climate.

Overall, the visit to Celonis was an incredible learning experience for our group of students. We left feeling inspired and energized, with a newfound appreciation for the power of process mining and the importance of a strong company culture. For many of us, it was the first time to get such insights and learn about our professional future. The visit at Celonis enriched our trip and we are very happy that we had this opportunity. We are grateful to the Celonis team for sharing their knowledge and insights with us and for providing us with such an unforgettable experience.



National Organization on Disability

Preparation for the National Model United Nations (NMUN) 2023 was intense, and meeting with various organizations to help us get a multifaceted perspective was necessary. That is why connecting with Non-Profit Organizations was a keystone in the course of our Study Week prior to the conference.

Within this context, we were more than honored to have the opportunity to discuss with Charles-Édouard CATHERINE, Director of Corporate and Government Relations at the National Organization on Disability (NOD).

Charles-Édouard is a French Sciences Po Bordeaux Alumni with a unique story. Graduating in European Affairs, he will eventually make his way to New York City thanks to spontaneous opportunities. At 24, he was Director of Surgeons of Hope, a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) operating internationally, before joining the National Organization on Disability, himself being a person with a disability – blindness.

During the meeting, different topics were examined, combining personal and professional experiences, as well as societal analyses and tips for our future careers.

After interacting about the accessibility of NYC for persons with disabilities, our distinguished speaker elaborated about the role of the NOD and its achievements. Indeed, the Organization provides expertise for companies to be more inclusive regarding disability and reducing the pay gap for persons with disabilities.

The NOD, while remaining an American structure, operates worldwide and collaborates not only with entrepreneurs and economic actors, but also with international, non-profit entities, such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Moreover, the NOD has a peculiar sustainable business model enabling it to be both proactive and independent in their actions.

Charles-Édouard emphasized on the need to understand disability as a broader reality and deconstruct the stereotypical idea we all commonly have about it: a person with disabilities is not necessarily a person in a wheelchair, many disabilities are in fact invisible, such as blindness or mental diseases. Understanding that disability is a spectrum, leading to multiple and varied realities, is a crucial element to propose adapted solutions to make the world a more inclusive place, not only in the professional sphere, but also in daily life.

The conversation also led to the topic of management and organizational corporate life. As Charles-Édouard was promoted Director of an NGO so young, we, impressed, wanted to know

more about his experience. He relativized the idealized picture we often tend to have about high hierarchical positions, associated with prestige, when he balanced the glamorous events he was part of with the hardships he faced – for instance, under-remuneration and a huge workload, which is challenging to deal with at such a young age. He stressed the necessity to find a balance and advised not to “worry too much” in a motivating discourse. His achievements had taught him that no matter one’s age, experience, disability, gender, or else, if we have the desire to undertake something close to our heart, we shall go and apply, without underestimating oneself and remaining eager, determined, dedicated and professional – those are the values that helped him navigate his professional life.

We sincerely thank Charles-Édouard for this thrilling conversation as well as his kind and helpful remarks. We hope we will successfully put his tips into practice!



National Model United Nations Conference

General Assembly First Committee

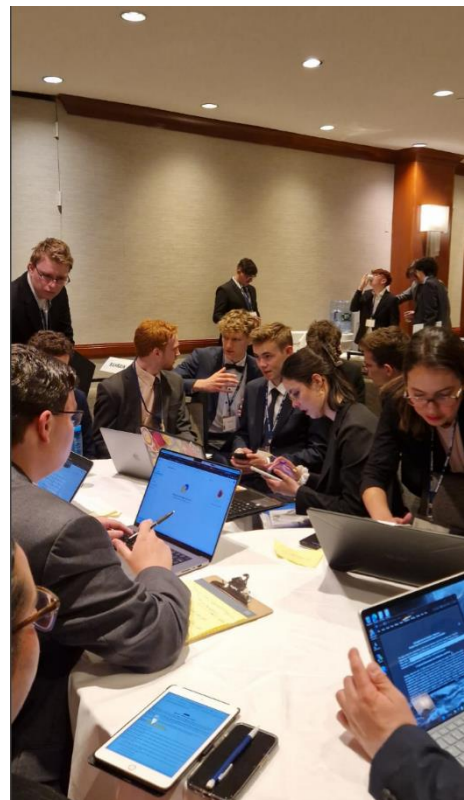
The General Assembly First Committee, also known as GA1, is responsible for disarmament and international security.

The first day of the project was exciting and overwhelming at the same time. We had the chance to meet and talk to many students from all over the world, trying to find potential countries to work with. It was fascinating to learn about different cultures and opinions, but sometimes it was challenging to find common ground. However, by the end of the session, groups formed quickly, and we started working on our first topic, Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors.

Our main goal was to bring the topics from our position paper as well as possible into the resolutions. We took the lead in our working group, which was the largest in the committee, and divided up the various topics, working on them in smaller groups. We also talked to other groups to insert our ideas into their papers, and it worked very well. By the end of the second day, we had already firmly anchored the main ideas of our positioning papers in two working papers.

On the third day, we looked for other groups to ally with and joined another very large working group. Negotiations on the individual paragraphs were challenging, and we had to discuss whether a word should remain or be replaced. Our group's focus was on the INTERPOL paragraphs, which were extensively discussed. It was difficult to find compromises in the large group and defend our ideas, but after a long and hard day of negotiations, we successfully brought our ideas into the first draft. We used the rest of the time to find as many supporters for our working paper as possible. At the end, there were only 5 countries that did not sign our working paper, making us the largest group.

During the project, we had the opportunity to give two speeches, which were challenging, but rewarding. It was



a great experience to present our ideas in front of the entire committee and receive feedback. Negotiating in such a large group was also a significant challenge that helped us grow both personally and professionally.



Adrian Mitlacher & Erik Maier

General Assembly Second Committee

The General Assembly Second Committee (GA2) discusses economic and financial topics and makes recommendations to States on international issues within its competence.

This year, the two topics before the GA2 are Rural Economic Development and Minimizing Economic Shock in a Globalized Economy. Upfront, we intensively prepared these topics and researched the positions of the Federal Republic of Somalia, as well as other member states positions, that might be interested in collaborating during the conference. Consequently, we reflected these findings in our position paper and proposed programmes to tackle these issues.

Firstly, the *Agriculture and Poverty Resource Exchange Network (APREN)* aims to build a strong bond between member states to exchange financial and educational resources to diminish living conditions below a standard adequate for the health and well-being of individuals. Secondly, the *Aiding through Trading (AtT)* network to enable a broader and greater trading network. Reducing barriers to trade will significantly improve the business environment and promote sectors with strong growth potential. At the Conference, the GA2 committee started by setting the agenda, including formal debate and informal discussions.



After many compelling speeches and arguments of different delegates, as well as our speech, declaring both topics as highly relevant for Somalia but favouring Rural Economic Development, all member states voted on the setting of the agenda. Minimizing Economic Shock in a Globalized Economy was set as the first topic to be discussed. As soon as the first informal discussions started, most African countries united, as their goals were similar and their influence increased as a union. Working groups started forming on the first day already, and working papers started to get drafted on the second day.

For the upcoming days of the conference, we decided to split to work in parallel on different working papers. Within the different working groups, we experienced totally different atmospheres. Whilst one of the groups was lead by shouting at and controlling other participants, the other group collaborated in a friendly and productive manner. Nevertheless we - as the Federal Republic of Somalia – managed to be sponsors on three working paper and signed a fourth one, which passed the voting procedures and got accepted as resolutions.

During the conference, we were able to hold two speeches, emphasizing the relevance of the topic at hand and promoting the ideas of the Federal Republic of Somalia. Furthermore, we gained interesting insights into the work of UN committees and made many valuable contacts with people from all over the world.



Leon Weniger & Tom Ege

United Nations Environment Assembly

The United Nations Environment Assembly brings together Member States to discuss the world's most pressing environmental challenges. This year, UNEA at NMUN focused on the following two topics: 1. Strengthening Action to Achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14, and 2. Addressing Climate-Fragility Risks.

On the first night of the UNEA conference, the agenda was set, and most Member States expressed a strong preference for topic 2. However, the Federal Republic of Somalia and other coastal countries argued in favour of topic 1, which specifically addressed strengthening action to achieve SDG 14 and was considered a vital project for coastal nations. After formal and informal debates, a voting procedure was conducted, resulting in a clear majority in favour of topic 2. With the set agenda, the Federal Republic of Somalia started talking and negotiating with all the Member States, to understand their positions and find common grounds, to find a group of Member States with whom to work on a resolution paper.



After connecting with various delegations, the Federal Republic of Somalia found itself in good company in a mixed working group together with the Philippines, Poland, San Marino, and many more. Even though the agenda wasn't set in the order we wished, it was our highest priority to implement the ideas of topic 1 in the working groups. After discussions back and forth the Federal Republic of Somalia was able to convince the Member States in the working group to implement a big part of SDG14 ideas in the working paper.

Now it was time to continue writing our working paper, refine it, and find signatories. As Somalia, we were the pushing factor to connect with Member States of other working groups, presenting our ideas and convincing them to be Signatories.

Following several feedback rounds with the Chair, our group received advice to collaborate with other groups. As a result, we decided to merge with a larger group that had a primary focus on addressing the women's issues associated with our topic. The merging of the groups allowed for a comprehensive working paper that covered significant subtopics, such as data collection, sustainable agriculture, and education, including infrastructure.

Concluding an exhausting yet productive conference, UNEA was able to pass six resolutions, with Somalia playing a key role as Sponsor for two and Signatory for four. We take great pride in the dedication and hard work of the committee and are extremely grateful for the invaluable opportunity presented to us. NMUN has expanded our understanding of diplomatic work and allowed us to connect with a diverse group of delegates from across the globe. We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all involved in making this experience a memorable one.



Thank you!

André Helwich & Furkan Yelek

United Nations Development Programme



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the United Nations' global development network. Its mission is to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities, and build resilience to crises and shocks across the world. This year, UNDP at NMUN 2023 focused on the following two topics: 1. Investing in Safe Migration Pathways and 2. Climate Change Adaptation.

Before the start of the conference, we intensely researched together about the strategic partners the Federal Republic of Somalia could cooperate with to approach them as soon as the conference began. This research has been done upon reading their position paper and finding out about their current diplomatic relations to the Federal Republic of Somalia. As a result, we were able to recognize which Member States aligned best with our position as Somalia.

As the conference started, all delegates of the committee of UNDP eagerly waved their country placard to hold their speeches about their preferred topic. Many Member States, as well as the Federal Republic of Somalia, declared their strong preference for topic 2 in their speeches and urged the other Member States during informal session to vote for topic 2 on the agenda.



On the second day of the conference, during informal sessions delegations from various Member States started to exchange positions and ideas to address climate change adaptation. During this process, the Federal Republic of Somalia was able to catch the attention of other members by introducing our project "Fairwell - Say Farewell to Water Scarcity". This project involves the use of established technologies to determine the presence and volume of concealed underground water sources.

The formation of working groups was facilitated by the identification of common ground among the Member States. These groups discussed diverse solutions with a special focus on water management, funding, agriculture, and social inclusion. As the groups worked together, the exchange of ideas intensified, and preambular and operative clauses were written down. Although the group was relatively large, the coordination and moderation in an inclusive

manner by all Member States ensured that the work on the working paper went smoothly. As a result, the first draft was handed in still on the same day.

The next days after the initial drafting process were filled with merging, receiving valuable feedback from the director and chair in several iterations, and improving the proposal's structure and details. Smaller teams and good communication facilitated this process, allowing us to work closely with our working group members.

At the end of the conference, four draft resolutions passed with Somalia being signatory of each of these resolutions. Our working paper gained a lot of support and attracted many signatories. This led it to be passed by acclamation and its official adoption as a resolution, one of the clauses with several subclauses being the Fairwell Project.

After five long days, we have gained a much better insight into how the UN works, especially the strenuous and detail-oriented work of the sub-organizations of the UN. Moreover, we are grateful for having been given the opportunity to meet people with diverse backgrounds and learn from them as we observed the different approaches used by various delegates when presenting, negotiating, or taking the initiative to moderate. The insight and best-practices gained from this conference will surely be valuable in the future.

We are proud of the work we have accomplished in the committee and recognize that none of this would have been possible without the extensive and strenuous work of our faculty advisors, chair, and director, as well as the support of our sponsors. Therefore, we express our sincere appreciation for their guidance and assistance throughout the entire process.



Economic Commission for Africa

The Economic Commission for Africa is a sub-organ of the ECOSOC and has a research, convening, and policy advice function. What is special about this committee is that it only consists out of African states. The first topic discussed was “Promoting Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems in Times of Crises in Africa” and secondly “Mainstreaming Human Rights throughout the African Continental Free Trade Area”.

As we prepared the position of Somalia for those two important topics and were writing our position paper, we quickly preferred discussing the first topic, as Somalia is missing its 5th successive rainy season and is facing a massive drought. That is why resilient food systems in times of crises such as climate change and the disrupted supply chains through the Ukrainian war are of utmost importance for Somalia. Our main proposal was to draw up a policy advisory framework to promote water management and the construction of water infrastructure. Fortunately, at the beginning of the conference, the topics were set in the order that we suggested with a vast majority and 41 attending African member states of the ECA were trying to find solutions for this topic during 8 sessions at NMUN 2023.



In the first session, we tried to get to know as many delegates as possible and focused on promoting our idea. Very quickly, we found countries with similar situations and difficulties such as Ethiopia, Egypt, Angola, and Uganda. We were able to put forward our concept for solving the water issue and started writing a common working paper. Meanwhile, other countries with different interests also formed blocks resulting in four working papers in the beginning. However, in the middle of our conference, our chair encouraged us to come all together and try to merge all working papers into one common which can then be accepted by all member states as it is common in the ECA. Under the slogan “One Africa, One working paper” we decided to combine our four working papers. Hence, all 41

attending member states cooperated and tried to find compromises to ensure that each member state will accept and sign the paper. Those negotiations have been intense and hard.

Nevertheless, we managed to implement our water initiative in the final resolution. In the end, one common resolution paper passed and all member states agreed.

After five long days of exchanging opinions, giving 7 speeches, and reaching diplomatic solutions, we left the conference with great gratitude for these unique days full of extraordinary experiences, fruitful discussions, interesting people, and – what also did certainly not come short – joy and fun.



Ann-Marie Fischer & Jakob Landbrecht

Commission on the Status of Women

CSW is a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and principal global intergovernmental body, solely dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. Its mission is the promotion of women's rights, displaying the reality of women's lives, as well as shaping global standards on gender equality. At NMUN 2023, CSW focused on the following two topics: 1. Closing the Gender Gap in Social Protection and 2. Strengthening Institutions to Promote Gender-Inclusive Access to Financial Services and Resources.

Before the conference, we each researched the two topics separately to later share and exchange our information. Simultaneously, as the conference approached, we collectively engaged with Somalia's diplomatic relations by doing research as well as reading the Position Papers of other Member States participating in CSW. It facilitated our work during the conference, as we were already aware of the countries our interests aligned with. As the conference began, the usual procedure was carried out. All attending Member States were able to put themselves on the speaker's list by raising their placards and afterwards, each Member State was given multiple opportunities to place themselves on the speaker's list through the "Hub". The Federal Republic of Somalia spoke in favor of Topic 1 during formal and informal sessions, we were pleased when most of the Member States represented in CSW voted on Topic 1 as well. On the second day of the conference, many speeches were held to illustrate each Member State's position, visions, and concepts on social protection and how to close the existing gender gap. During the informal sessions, rigorous and fruitful discussions were held. One of our priorities when engaging with other Member States was to spread our



position paper ideas to others and familiarize them with our concepts such as „Teaching Without Borders“. Further concepts were developed by our care, such as the “WiFi Trucks” initiative or the “I Stand For Her” program, successfully discussed among our working group and implemented in the paper. On the third day and fourth day, we were able to work out tangible concepts and projects for the working paper with several other Member States we shared common grounds and views with. While attempting to include our ideas and projects into their working papers, we convinced them to

be signatories or sponsors for our main working paper. Through the support of other Member States and our persuasive power, we were able to coordinate and moderate our working group adequately, placing us in a leadership position we managed with flexibility and motivation. Together we made it possible to manoeuvre as well as carve out beneficial and strategic draft resolutions. After all the effortful discussions and speeches, we were able to successfully pass

the draft resolution by acclamation. The key aspects of our paper covered education, maternal leave, and health care.

Ultimately, our hard work and ambitions were rewarded with a special prize. The representatives of the Federal Republic of Somalia –us –won the vote that conferred the title of „Outstanding Delegates „in the Commission on the Status of Women. It not only displays the effort we invested into the conference, preparing and performing speeches as well as developing a web of strong and cooperative relationships, but at the same time illustrates the amazingly helpful preparation we were given the past six months. Not did we concentrate merely on the academic aspect of this project, but we constantly experience that a huge part of international relations lies in mutual respect and the ability to make ends meet, in being thoughtful of others and showing radical empathy. We were particularly moved as this prize meant a lot to us, after so much preparation and drive to thrive—and as one of us eventually wants to become a (real) UN delegate in a few years.



To sum up, the NMUN conference was a great way to experience the highest level of diplomacy first-hand and receive a genuine insight of the United Nations. Getting to have a hands-in approach of the United Nations work and challenges was an absolute privilege. Above all, learning to navigate diverse topics and interacting with people in this cosmopolitan setting, while finding a suitable way to represent interests, was more than thrilling. It is that we are more than grateful for the guidance and support of our faculty advisors, fellow delegates, chair, directors as well as our sponsors, without whom none of this would have ever been possible. We are aware of all the hard work, sweat, and sometimes tears that went into this project, hence we are more than proud of the tremendous success within our committee.



Lara Hemberger & Inés León Giménez

Human Rights Council

“Radical Empathy - Experiencing the Human Rights Council was amazing.”

We were honored to represent Somalia in the Human Rights Council. We worked our way through the discussions, being part of 2 working groups and trying to talk to every member state to form alliances. At the end those alliances we always mentioned in our speeches, became friends from all over the world. We really enjoyed discussing all day, merging working groups and holding speeches in front of 70 people. Ever since the first evening, the conference has been so interesting, you wouldn't dare to think about how tired you were at the end of the day.



In our position paper, which we submitted before the conference, we discussed the right to adequate housing as well as discrimination based on religion or belief. Our idea to implement a forum for dialogue on Internally Displaced Persons called “Placing Future“ was warmly welcomed by our working group and even ended up being the name of our Resolution.

We loved that this conference brings people together, enlarges horizons and makes you step out of your comfort zone. Working together with the member states, hearing everyone's opinion on the important topic of the right to adequate housing and discussing best practices in terms of solutions was such a fruitful task. At the end of the day, you felt like you might have changed



the world a slight bit. Playing diplomat really taught us how important it is to listen to others and to work together as a team, where not the loudest voices but the team-players make it farthest. We were honored to hold a lot of speeches, in sum 6, and receive positive feedback about it in the informal sessions. We were really surprised when several delegates came up to us and said they voted for Somalia as best delegate.

The HRC successfully passed 2 resolutions in the end, in which we both have been the driving forces from the start. This experience has taught us what the UN really is about and made us want to learn more. And most importantly the conference taught me about myself that diplomacy is really my thing and that I would really enjoy working in the multilateral sector.



Nathalie Kissling und Julissa Goetz

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The UNHCR protects people forced to flee their homes as well as stateless persons. With political instability, natural catastrophes and insecurity on the rise, their job is more important than ever. Partnering up with governments, other UN agencies and NGOs, the goal of this United Nations agency is to support displaced people to access their rights and help find long-term solutions so they can return home safely or build a future in a new country.

At the conference, the first motion on Sunday evening was the setting of the agenda, where we had to choose one of the two topics. These were, firstly, “Protecting Refugees from Human Trafficking” and secondly “Preventing the Increase of Internally Displaced Persons”. After setting the agenda to topic one, all delegates immediately formed groups according to political interests or geographic location and began with negotiations.

The next day, we focused on forming strong alliances with Tanzania, Ethiopia, and Uganda, as well as other members states of the African Union, with whom we submitted our first resolution paper draft. Our second partnership and resolution draft were with members of the European Union. Fruitful discussions and compromises were made, and we were rewarded with great results.

In the following meetings, our first Working Group decided to merge our Resolution Paper Draft with another Working Group with similar operative clauses. Both of our Resolution Papers passed during the voting procedure.

In the end, UNHCR was able to pass nine resolutions, with Somalia playing a key role as Sponsor for two and Signatory for five. We made many valuable contacts and friendships with people from all over the world and are grateful for the opportunity to be part of NMUN 2023.

We felt especially honoured, when we received the message after the Conference, that Copies of our resolutions passed in the Simulation were sent to the actual UN body within the framework of the 2023 UNHCR Refugee Challenge.



Marlene Ziegler & Hendrik Vorster

Awards




The 2023 National Model United Nations New York Conference

presents this


Distinguished Delegation Award

to

Somalia
University of Hohenheim


Ismail Dogar
Secretary-General, Conf. A




Tobias Dietrich
Deputy SG, Conf. A



The 2023 National Model United Nations New York Conference


recognizes

Somalia
University of Hohenheim

for its

Outstanding Delegate(s)

CSW

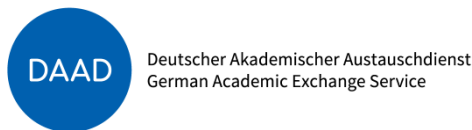

Ismail Dogar
Secretary-General, Conf. A



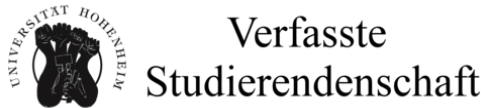

Tobias Dietrich
Deputy SG, Conf. A

Sponsors

This successful participation in New York would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors. The long-standing and new trust in our commitment causes a continuous development of the project and offers the participants the opportunity to gain very special and impressive experiences in the international structure of the United Nations. We would therefore like to express our sincere thanks to the following sponsors:



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