



# SINGAPORE MODEL UNITED NATIONS 2017

DELEGATE PROSPECTUS



[WWW.SINGAPOREMUN.ORG](http://WWW.SINGAPOREMUN.ORG)

# CONTENTS

**01** WELCOME MESSAGE

**03** ABOUT SMUN

WHAT IS MUN

HISTORY OF SMUN

ORGANISER: NUS POLITICAL SCIENCE SOCIETY

HOST UNIVERSITY: NUS

**05** ACCOMMODATIONS

**07** CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

**09** HOW TO REGISTER

**12** ACADEMICS COMMITTEES AND TOPICS OF  
DEBATE

**24** SOCIAL EVENT

**25** FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**27** SPONSORS

# WELCOME MESSAGE

Dear Prospective Delegates and Participants,

As the Secretary-General of Singapore Model United Nations 2017, it is my pleasure to invite you to attend one of Asia-Pacific's most prestigious conferences, and the flagship conference of the National University of Singapore's Political Science Society.

Going into its 14th iteration in June 2017, SMUN has continued to uphold its reputation both in Singapore and the region of academic rigour, and organisational excellence. In the 2016 conference, over 500 individuals participated in the event, with over 200 coming from outside Singapore. Our Guests of Honour, Dr Alan Bollard (Executive Director of the APEC Secretariat) and Kishore Mahbubani (Dean and Professor in the Practice of Public Policy of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore) graced the event to address participants, opening and closing a thrilling four days of debate respectively. In a first-time ever for SMUN, over 400 delegates from 10 countries attended the four-day conference - marking another of the multiple steps SMUN has already taken to become a premier conference both in Singapore and the world.

For the 14th edition of SMUN, we aim to discuss an even more engaging set of topics - ranging from security concerns such as the Question of Contemporary Espionage and the Security Risks of Open Borders, to pressing humanitarian issues such as the Elimination of Mosquito-Borne Diseases and Ending Violence Against Women. SMUN has always strived to go beyond being an academic exercise, in order to imbue its participants and delegates with a broader perspective of contemporary issues. Regardless of where you come from, SMUN believes in giving each and every one of our delegates opportunities to critically engage with real-world problems in order to formulate possible solutions. We hope that our efforts will bear fruit in the long run, by inspiring you to engage with the problems your communities face, so as to change the world for the better.

This mission was not borne out of thin air - as participants, you are the linchpin in SMUN's inner workings. Over the years, we have responded to delegate input by fine-tuning the conference to be more responsive and intuitive to current affairs. And as a result, the debate has only gotten more incisive and more intriguing; our delegates have only become more compassionate and confident in their ability to bring forth change into the tumultuous world we live in. And we only have your enthusiastic participation to thank for it.

Delegates arrive at SMUN curious and eager to learn, and leave the conference with a renewed sense of purpose, brand-new confidence, and a re-ignited passion to affect change where they can. Beyond the academia, delegates also leave with life-long friendships and an enriched sense of self; apart from just an opportunity to debate, SMUN provides its delegates with space to explore their own values and curiosity, and with time to ponder on what it means for them to be a citizen of the world.

We hope that you will join us for the latest year of Singapore Model United Nations, and invite you to join us in June 2017. Any required information can be found in this booklet; however if you have further queries please do not hesitate to get in contact with the conference staff. Our contact details can be found at the end of the booklet, as well as our social media avenues. On behalf of the SMUN 2017 secretariat, I hope to see you at the conference in June.

Warmest Regards,

**Shasha Dania Samsol Arifin (Ms.)**

Secretary-General

Singapore Model United Nations 2017

# ABOUT SMUN

## WHAT IS MUN?

A “Model United Nations” (MUN) conference convenes pre-university and college students to negotiate and formulate solutions to global problems. These issues pertain to current affairs and international relations, and necessitate resolution on a multilateral platform. While students simulate various member states or non-state actors (such as Non-Governmental Organisations) in bringing their individual agendas to the table, they ultimately have to integrate these individual interests in a resolution agreeable to the majority.

## HISTORY OF SMUN

Over the past twelve years, Singapore Model United Nations, or SMUN, has distinguished itself from other MUN conferences in Singapore and the Asia-Pacific region with its organisational and academic excellence. In March 2011, members of the Secretariats for SMUN 2009 and 2010 successfully co-hosted alongside Harvard University the 20th session of World Model United Nations (World MUN). WorldMUN is frequently touted as the “Olympics” of the MUN circuit, and in 2011, convened over 2400 delegates from 60 countries in Singapore. As a further testament to SMUN’s academic stature, a delegation from NUS won the “Outstanding Delegation Award” in Citi-Pan Asia Model United Nations 2015 in Taipei, while Harvard World MUN for 2017 has selected six SMUN Committee Chairpersons and Secretariat members to chair at their conference in Montreal, Canada.

## ORGANISER: NUS PSSOC

SMUN is the National University of Singapore Political Science Society's (NUS PSSOC) flagship event. NUS PSSOC, founded in 1967, aims to help local and international students remain abreast of current affairs. Apart from Singapore Model United Nations, NUS PSSOC also organises Singapore Model Parliament each year to steep local students in Singaporean politics. NUS PSSOC played a crucial role in establishing Singapore Globalist, an online international affairs publication that is part of the Global21 network of student-run international affairs magazines.

## HOST UNIVERSITY: NUS

The National University of Singapore, Singapore's flagship university, consistently ranks first in Asia and among the top universities in the world. Hosting the 2017 installation of SMUN in NUS enables SMUN's participants to experience not only world-class infrastructure, but also to engage with NUS's vibrant campus community and some of Asia's brightest minds.

| GLOBAL RANKINGS   | NUS RANK |
|---|----------|
| <b>Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings</b>    |          |
| QS World University Rankings 2016/2017                        | 12       |
| QS University Rankings: Asia 2016                             | 1        |
| <b>Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings</b> |          |
| THE World University Rankings 2016-2017                       | 24       |
| THE Asia University Rankings 2016                             | 1        |
| THE World Reputation Rankings 2016                            | 26       |

*(Source: NUS Office of the Vice President)*

# ACCOMMODATIONS

## ON-CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION

International delegates may choose to stay on campus for the duration of the conference. All delegates opting for on-campus accommodations will have to check in on Monday, June 12, 2017, and check out on Saturday, June 17, 2016. These are the only check-in and check-out days available. Our conference staff will notify delegates of the specific check-in and check-out timings at a later date.

Each room will be equipped with air-conditioning and en-suite bathrooms. Each room accommodates only one delegate, but delegates can also gain access to and gather in the air-conditioned lounges. The residences are within walking distance of other recreational facilities, food establishments and study spaces. Shuttle buses will also be available throughout the day to bring delegates around the NUS campus for various activities.

Interested delegates or delegations can contact Ms Joanelle Toh, USG (Liaisons) at [usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org](mailto:usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org), to inquire for more information, or to make reservations for this option.

## MANDARIN ORCHARD SINGAPORE

International delegates may also choose to stay with our official hotel partner, Mandarin Orchard, for the duration of the conference. As our official hotel partner, SMUN and Mandarin Orchard Hotel is proud to offer interested delegates heavily discounted booking prices, for bookings made with Mandarin Orchard Hotel. All delegates opting to stay at this hotel can check-in on Saturday, 10th June 2017 and check out on Saturday, 17th June 2017, to enjoy the discounted rate.

In the duration of the conference, if 10 rooms with Mandarin Orchard Hotel are booked through SMUN, a free shuttle-bus service will be provided for delegates each morning, from the hotel to our conference venue.

Each room can house up to a maximum of 3 occupants. For rooms with only one or two registered occupants, the discounted nightly rates are charged at SGD\$210 per room (before Goods and Services Tax, as well as Service Charges). Rooms with three registered occupants, the discounted nightly rates are charged at SGD\$295 per room (before Goods and Services Tax, as well as Service Charges).

Located on the shopping belt of Orchard Road, the hotel is close to Takashimaya and Paragon and is a 5-minute walk from Ion. Gastronomic dining options as well as the famous vibrant nightlife of Singapore is easily accessible via two Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) train stations: Orchard and Somerset. Mandarin Orchard Singapore offers a luxurious oasis with award-winning dining, city views and an outdoor pool with deck. Hotel guests are able to access free Wi-Fi in the hotel. A tea/coffee maker and minibar is provided in each room. The hotel is directly linked to Mandarin Gallery - a four-story shopping mall. 24-hour room service is available.

Interested delegates or delegations can contact Ms Joanelle Toh, USG (Liaisons) at [usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org](mailto:usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org), to receive instructions on making hotel reservations at the discounted rate.



# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## DAY 1

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 1000 - 1230 | DELEGATE REGISTRATION*  |
|             | <i>*Delegates are to be seated for the Opening Ceremony by 1245hr</i> |
| 1300 - 1500 | OPENING CEREMONY  |
| 1500 - 1600 | TRANSPORTATION TO COUNCIL VENUES                                      |
| 1600 - 1830 | COMMITTEE SESSION 1   |
| 1830 - 1900 | HEAD DELEGATE DEBRIEF   |

Note:

Delegates can visit booths set up for registration at their own convenience, anytime from 10:00hr to 12:30hr, to pick up their registration packs and individual delegate tags.

There will be no catered meals on Day 1. Various affordable food options (both halal and non-halal) are available near the registration area for lunch, before the Opening Ceremony begins.



## DAY 2

|             |                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| 0900 - 1200 | COMMITTEE SESSION 2   |
| 1200 - 1330 | LUNCH                 |
| 1330 - 1600 | COMMITTEE SESSION 3   |
| 1600 - 1630 | BREAK                 |
| 1630 - 1830 | COMMITTEE SESSION 4   |
| 1830 - 1900 | HEAD DELEGATE DEBRIEF |

## DAY 3

|             |                                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| 0900 - 1200 | COMMITTEE SESSION 5               |
| 1200 - 1330 | LUNCH                             |
| 1330 - 1800 | COMMITTEE SESSION 6               |
| 1800 - 1900 | TRANSPORTATION TO SOCIAL EVENT    |
| 1900 - 2200 | SOCIAL EVENT: NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM |

Note:

*Dinner will be provided for all participants at the social event.*

## DAY 4

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 0900 - 1200 | COMMITTEE SESSION 7                    |
| 1200 - 1400 | LUNCH                                  |
| 1400 - 1700 | CLOSING CEREMONY & AWARDS PRESENTATION |
| 1900 - LATE | POST CONFERENCE PARTY                  |



# HOW TO REGISTER

SMUN 2017 is powered by the **MyMUN Conference Management System**.

## INDIVIDUAL DELEGATES

Interested individual delegates, observers, or head delegates can apply for SMUN 2017 via MyMUN. Upon the submission of their application, delegates can make payment via MyMUN. Delegates can also make payments via wire transfer. For other payment method inquiries, please contact the USG (Finance) Ms. Hui Xin Ngiam. Committee and country allocations will only be released upon confirmation of payment, which may take up to 14 working days to be processed.

## LOCAL SCHOOL DELEGATIONS

Delegates can also make payment via Government E-Invoicing. Person in-charge should note that Government E-Invoicing is only available for Singaporean Government schools. Upon completion of registration on MyMUN, an invoice will be issued to your school through the E-Invoicing portal, Vendors@Gov, and payment for all delegates within your school's delegation can be made together through the portal. Committee and country allocations will only be released upon confirmation of payment, which may take up to 10 working days to be processed.

Please feel free to write in to our Under Secretary-General for Delegate Liaisons, Miss Joanelle Toh, at [usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org](mailto:usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org), if you encounter any problems with registration.

## REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Step 1:** Please access the Singapore Model United Nations 2017 page at <https://mymun.net/muns/smun-2017>.

**Step 2:** Click on "Apply Now".

**Step 3:** Follow instructions on application portal.

# REGISTRATION DETAILS

## INDIVIDUAL DELEGATES

Individual delegates refer to who are not part of school delegations, but are still interested in participating in SMUN 2017 as a delegate.

Individuals wishing to register as a delegate for SMUN 2017 may sign up and make payment through MyMUN at the above given link (see “**Registration Instructions**”). Committee and country allocations will be announced through MyMUN as well.

## GROUP DELEGATIONS

Group delegations refer generally to delegates who wish to register as a team. There is a maximum of 12 individuals within a delegation, but multiple delegations can be registered by the same institution or organisation (e.g. Singapore Junior College Delegation 1, Singapore Junior College Delegation 2). Benefits of registering as a delegation include the eligibility to qualify for the “Best Delegation Award”, awarded to the delegation with the most outstanding performance, presented at the Closing Ceremony.

Individual registration procedures apply to all members of the group delegation, but a Head Delegate must be identified during the registration process, and a one-time Delegation Registration Fee of SGD\$50 must be paid through the Head Delegate’s registration.

## STUDENT OBSERVERS

Student Observers will receive an allocation assignment, and will be rotated between councils so as to maximise exposure to the different councils and topics. Student observers will be required to meet attendance requirements in order to receive their participation certificate, and will need to inform the conference staff if they wish to move around the different councils. Independent Delegates may not sign up as Student Observers.

## FACULTY ADVISORS

Faculty Advisors refer to all accompanying teachers and/or mentors of participating delegates. Registered Faculty Advisors will be issued with tags granting admission to all committee venues at all times of the conference.

Faculty Advisors will also have to apply through MyMUN, before they can accompany their students to the conference. A simple fee of SGD\$60 is necessary for registration and registration packs can be collected during registration before the Opening Ceremony.

## OVERVIEW

| REGISTRATION TYPE  | REGISTRATION PERIOD              | CONFERENCE FEE (\$SGD) |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Priority Delegate Registration</b>  | 01 MAR - 31 MAR 2017             | 130                    |
| <b>Regular Delegate Registration</b>   | 01 APR - 30 APR 2017             | 160                    |
| <b>Student Observers</b>   | Through all registration periods | 80                     |
| <b>Faculty Advisors</b>  | Through all registration periods | 60                     |
| <b>Delegation Registration</b><br>(if you are a head delegate registering on behalf of a group of delegates, this fee is imposed <u>once</u> on top of the sum or charges for all delegates) | Through all registration periods | 50                     |



# ACADEMIC COMMITTEES

## DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE (DISEC)

### **THE QUESTION OF CONTEMPORARY ESPIONAGE**

Espionage has been conducted for centuries by countries on other countries, whether friends or foes. However, it has taken on new forms and new relevance in the 21st century. Increased technological capabilities across a greater number of nations has facilitated several types of espionage including but not limited to cyber espionage. Espionage is further gaining greater geopolitical relevance in the world, due to the high number of globally relevant events involving espionage today. These include events such as the 2009 Stuxnet attack in Iran, the 2013 NSA spying revelations, and the potential influence of Russian hackers and state agencies on the 2016 U.S. presidential election. In light of these emerging developments, the UN has yet to properly address the principles and practices of espionage. Delegates will consider the recent developments to espionage as well as questions on the legality and appropriate nature of espionage.

### **SECURITY RISKS OF OPEN BORDERS**

Globalisation once brought countries closer together. Exchanges of migrants increased as borders became looser and more open. However, in light of the continuing threat of terrorism, and destabilising flows of migrants and war refugees, particularly from African states and Syria into the West, countries have grown more fearful of potential threats who may cross their borders. Closing off borders to migrants has become one of the most contentious topics in several countries that have drawn substantial political support to demagogues and right-wing leaders, be it in the United States or European states like Hungary, or indeed the United Kingdom, where an infamous United Kingdom Independence Party poster featuring a stream of migrants on the march was captioned 'Breaking Point', and partly blamed for the Brexit referendum result.

The November 2015 attacks on Paris were also traced to radicalised individuals who had crossed France's open borders, which has highlighted the risks inherent to countries with lax border controls. Elsewhere, lax borders have permitted terrorist groups to strike across borders, in the cases of Boko Haram, Somali militants in Kenya, the Taliban in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and so on. Countries should explore ways to keep their borders closed to security threats while permitting goods, services and labour to flow.

## **SURROGATE BIRTHS**

There is growing global demand for commercial surrogacies whereby a woman is financially compensated for carrying a pregnancy to term and delivering a child for another couple. The surrogate mother also usually surrenders their rights over the child they give birth to. Surrogacy today proliferates in the more destitute regions of the world as a means for women to earn much needed income from more affluent parents purchasing the service. Yet surrogacy, let alone commercial surrogacy, is fraught with many legal and ethical challenges. Other than being expected to give up their rights of parenthood over the child to the paying customers, surrogate mothers expose themselves to various risks of medical complications associated with childbearing in countries with underdeveloped healthcare systems. The WHO needs to consider whether and how surrogacy, especially involving financial transactions, should be permitted, and how best to protect the rights of women who would be surrogate mothers.

## **ELIMINATION OF MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASES**

Among the many members of the animal kingdom, the tiny mosquito has proven the most deadly animal known to mankind. Responsible for spreading a slew of maladies including malaria, dengue, yellow fever, and Zika virus, mosquito-borne diseases account for over a million deaths yearly according to the World Health Organisation.

The malaria endemic undermines the health and work performance of millions, creating huge economic loss and stunting social development. Meanwhile, Zika's emergence in 2015 caught the world off guard, and has spread rapidly throughout the Americas and to the rest of the world, causing birth defects in children of infected mothers. The elimination of mosquito-borne diseases, and even mosquito eradication itself, has been the focus of numerous groups, including national governments, philanthropic organisations and others. The World Health Organisation must consider what end-goals its member states should strive for, how best to implement initiatives targetting mosquito-born diseases, and the possible ecological implications of scorched-earth tactics which seek to drive certain mosquito species to extinction.

# SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN & CULTURAL COMMITTEE (SOCHUM)

## **REPATRIATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE**

Since the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage was adopted in 1972, there has been a broader understanding of heritage and its importance towards maintaining cultural identity, protecting cultural diversity and the rights of indigenous people.

Calls for the repatriation of cultural heritage in our post-convention world, from the return of looted bronze animal head statues to China, the Elgin Marbles to Greece, and even parts of the British Crown Jewels from Britain to India, have surfaced in national political discourse and present difficult problems. Should cultural property taken by a nation in times of conflict, or looted from former colonies remain with that country for purposes of preservation or should the cultural property be returned to its country of origin as its rightful possessor?

## **A MAGNA CARTA FOR THE INTERNET**

We now live in the Information Age with man almost entirely connected to information, and with great ease because of the Internet. This ease of access to information gels well with the principle of Freedom of Information (FOI), an integral tenet of the fundamental right of freedom of expression. However, the Internet has arguably come under the domination of various powerful groups, including national governments performing censorship and surveillance - sensationally brought to the forefront of public consciousness by the revelations of Edward Snowden - Internet providers which sell and control access to the Internet, and corporate titans like Facebook, which collect sensitive users' data for commercial exploitation.

Sir Tim Berners-Lee, founder of the modern World Wide Web, called for a 'bill of rights' of the Internet to be drawn up in order to protect its original intended open and neutral nature. A plethora of problems and issues needs to be addressed in any such 'bill of rights', including intellectual property rights, the rights to privacy and unfettered access to the Internet, and safeguards against all-powerful governments seeking to 'balkanise' the Internet into separate fiefdoms which they can more easily control or corporations wanting to monopolise the Internet. It is high time that the United Nations convene to discuss how a force so potent should be used and protected for the benefit of mankind.

# SPECIAL POLITICAL & DECOLONISATION COMMITTEE (SPECPOL)

## **PREVENTING WATER CONFLICTS**

Fresh water supplies continue to grow scarcer with each passing year. With burgeoning economic, agricultural and population demands for water in rapidly developing regions such as the Middle East, sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia, water-related tensions and disputes at the subnational and international levels have arisen.

As river basins and hydrological systems often span different states, major water storage projects that proceed without regional collaboration can become major point of conflicts between neighbouring states, heightening regional instability. As the global demand for water will only increase, there is thus a need to establish international guidelines on transboundary water sharing through institutions and agreements to prevent future water conflicts.

## **PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT**

The Israeli–Palestinian conflict has been referred to as the world's 'most intractable conflict' with numerous contentions such as mutual political recognition, borders, control and Palestinian right of return. It was one of the United Nations' first tasks on its agenda, and has stuck fast to its to-do list ever since. Most recently, the conflict flared up into a full-blown but brief war between Israel and the Hamas faction occupying Gaza.

A widely propounded solution to the conflict is the "two-state solution" mentioned in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1937 which calls for the establishment of Palestine as an independent state in Gaza and most of the West Bank, leaving the rest of the land to Israel. This is in contrast to the alternative "one-state solution," in which all of the contested land becomes either Israeli or Palestinian. The two-state plan presents a peaceful resolution in theory, but Israel and Palestine remain deeply divided how to put the solution to practice. Delegates should re-examine the longstanding conflict and prescribe innovative and viable means to make such a peaceful solution reality.

# UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL (UNHRC)

## **ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

Ending all forms of discrimination against women and girls does not only serve to ensure that the fairer sex receives a basic human right. It is also crucial for societies to reach their full potential with more women being able to live and work without fear. Violence against women creates numerous problems entailing physical, sexual and mental consequences for women and girls, including death. Violence against women is detrimental to women's general well-being and prevents women from fully participating in society. There are also other societal costs, such as additional health care and legal expenses and losses in economic productivity, affecting a society's development.

Today, sexual violence and exploitation remain pervasive in most societies. The HRC should look into this ending violence against women to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal of Gender Equality that aims to ensure the end of discrimination against women and girls globally.

## **EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS**

Extrajudicial killings are executions that occur without judicial sanctions, sometimes even without any trial in court, and are universally deemed as an unethical violation of human rights. Extrajudicial killings often target leading political, religious, and social dissident figures for politically motivated reasons.

Extrajudicial killings still occur in numerous countries today, and the recent Philippine Drug War extrajudicial killings are most pertinent. Governments' desire to fight the illicit drug trade or to eliminate political threats do not discharge governments from international legal obligations to uphold the basic principles of human rights. It is thus imperative that the Human Rights Council convene to stop this gross violation of human rights.

# INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO)

## UNION & LABOUR RIGHTS

Economies around the world face the challenge of generating economic growth and raising the well-being of their people. However, economic growth does not always translate into higher incomes and more jobs for all, as shares of income accrue unequally to both capital and labour in the form of profit and wages. The rights of labour thus play an important role in underpinning this relationship between capital and labour and ensuring that workers receive equitable outcomes from economic growth, and for growth to benefit the common person, they have to be empowered to directly participate in economic activity. Organized labour as an institution has traditionally paid close attention to basic needs such as suitable working conditions, wage levels and terms of employment, as part of a collective bargaining arrangement that reduces the disparity in power between capital and labour. Such institutions have more recently been eroded by both the state and corporations, especially with the ascendancy of neoliberal "trickle-down" economic doctrines that shift the focus of production and value creation to capital rather than labour. In turn, the decline in labour productivity rates in recent years caused by the shifts in industrial patterns means that labour bargaining alone is often insufficient today in raising the standards of living for workers.

More recently, the rise of nationalist sentiments amongst the economically disenfranchised in many countries, especially in Europe and the Americas, has paradoxically posed significant challenges to the protection of labour rights. With technological disruption (the second topic) on the emergence, economies are witnessing the decline of some sectors and the rise of other sectors, and workers are becoming increasingly ill-prepared to tackle the reality that their employment may no longer be secure - a phenomenon termed as the rise of the "precarariat" class (a portmanteau between "precarious" and "proletariat"). This sense of frustration has led to sizeable segments of the working poor in various countries turning their vitriol towards immigrant workers and the workers in other countries for "stealing their jobs", and could lead to a rise in support for policy agendas that seek to erode the equal rights of all workers as part of the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. Governments around the world therefore have to re-assess if current arrangements of work and industry are sustainable and consider more seriously the need to empower and strengthen labour institutions in their countries and in other countries as well so as to adequately raise the well-being of their people amidst the challenges of the 21st century economy.

## **ANTICIPATING TECHNOLOGICAL DISRUPTION**

The introduction of disruptive technologies such as additive manufacturing and automation that offer more efficient processes has led to technological unemployment, particularly amongst lower skilled job workers. While the introduction of automation improves productivity, quality, consistency, and workplace safety, labour-intensive economies may find themselves in for a rude shock if they fail to prepare their workforce for such disruptions. In addition, the rise of the 'sharing economy' and companies with unconventional business models like Uber may mean that 'employment' in the future - if the concept does not become obsolete - may look very different from that of the past, where regular hours, wages and predictability were part of the equation.

The ILO and its member states should thus consider how countries should prepare to ride out the incoming storms of technological disruption - and potentially how to adapt to a 'post-work' future where employment for (almost) all is no longer necessary.

# EAST ASIA SUMMIT (EAS)

## **CHALLENGES FROM THE 2002 DECLARATION ON THE CONDUCT OF PARTIES IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA**

The South China Sea dispute has been a longstanding territorial dispute within the ASEAN community over a strategic shipping route numerous islands. The countries involved -- Brunei, China, Malaysia, Philippines, Taiwan, and Vietnam -- exercise their territorial claims by occupying islands and forcing out other countries' fishing activities in the waters near these islands.

While it seems that the actions of these competing states are not regulated by any body or code, China and the 10 ASEAN countries had reached a consensus in 2002 known as the Declaration of Conduct of Parties (DOC). The declaration encourages states involved to 'resolve their territorial and jurisdictional disputes by peaceful means, without resorting to the threat or use of force'. However, there has been little progress made towards resolving the dispute since 2002, and tensions continue to rise with the China's conduct of military exercises in the South China Sea. Will ASEAN be able to move the resolution of this intractable dispute forward as a community?

## **DRUG POLICIES IN ASEAN**

A Drug-Free ASEAN by 2015 was envisioned by the leaders of ASEAN, and attempts to eradicate the drug trade through a series of crackdowns on drug trafficking, and ruthless law enforcement were employed by a number of member states.

But this 2015 deadline for the elimination of drugs in ASEAN was not met, the region failed to reduce neither drug supply nor drug demand. Indonesia conducted a series of executions despite international humanitarian concerns, and yet the flow of methamphetamines trafficked in the region has almost quadrupled since 2008. There is a serious need for ASEAN states to ensure that their post-2015 drug policies are capable of addressing the ever-changing and expanding drug markets, along with the associated challenges to health, security and development.

# UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

## **BUILDING CITIES FOR THE FUTURE**

Half of the world's population today live in cities, and we can only expect more people to live in cities in the future due to the process of urbanisation. However, rapid urban expansion puts a strain on resources and pose a series of other urban challenges such as congestion, the lack of basic services, and a shortage of adequate housing. Poorly designed cities or those not prepared to handle much larger populations may find it substantially harder to revamp their cities while having to manage so many residents at the same time. Furthermore, basic city infrastructure such as roads, sanitation systems, electricity and water remain scarce in many developing countries while slums and squatter settlements proliferate. Therefore, many challenges exist to building cities in a sustainable way that allows for continued development at a pace that does not pose a strain on limited resources. Countries need to discuss how cities, both new and old, should be re-conceived in order to meet future demands.

## **THE PARIS AGREEMENT**

Climate change is a pressing issue that requires international cooperation to help cut global carbon emissions. However, while some world leaders have come to a basic agreement on the need to do something about the problem, substantial measures have yet to be put forward.

Countries adopted the Paris Agreement in 2015 in a bid to address climate change. In the agreement, all countries agreed to limit global temperature rise to below 2 degrees Celsius, and in fact, to strive for no more than an increases of 1.5 degrees Celsius. However, the most crucial portion of the agreement is in its implementation after it has been ratified. It is thus imperative that delegates discuss viable means to achieve this goal of cutting global carbon emission, and whether and how the agreement should enforce consequences if countries fail to meet their commitments.

# UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL (UNSC)

## **THE SITUATION IN LIBYA**

Five years after a civil war toppled Libya's dictator Muammar Gadhafi, the country remains trapped in a political deadlock accompanied by security and economic crises. Though there appears to be a functional Government of National Accord that comprises representatives from the democratically elected Council of Deputies, and the Islamist General National Congress (GNC), both factions have been unable to agree on a governmental structure that effectively manages economic assets and controls territories.

An unstable Libya faces the additional external security threat of ISIS amongst other extremist groups seeking to expand operations in Libya amidst this political uncertainty. The Security Council should recommend measures to prevent this civil conflict from dragging on, and ensure that a legitimate government capable of rebuilding Libya can be supported.

## **COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS**

Peacekeeping has been one means available to the UN to help countries in conflict create lasting peace. Peacekeeping is internationally recognised as legitimate, and are deployed to provide security and the political and peace building support to help countries make the difficult, early transition from conflict to peace.

However, numerous criticisms and even scandals have emerged over the years when it comes to peacekeeping operations (PKO). Often, PKOs' mission mandates are renewed year after year without an end in sight. Also, modern PKO scandals such as how Nepali troops spread cholera to Haiti while serving on a mission there, alleged sex abuse by French peacekeepers in the Central African Republic, and the reported failure of UN peacekeepers in South Sudan to prevent numerous rapes committed during the ongoing civil strife there, have all marred the reputation of UN PKOs. The Security Council should closely review the workings of PKOs to address alleged abuses and failures by peacekeeping missions, as well as the sustainability and effectiveness of such missions, so as to restore public confidence in them.

# JOINT CRISIS COUNCIL

## **KOREAN PENINSULA CRISIS**

The date is 12 September 2018. Months of growing tension on the Korean peninsula seems to have spilled over. Intelligence sources within Pyongyang have gone silent. For months on end reports had trickled out: increase in executions, senior leaders disappearing, mutinies, and demonstrations. The Kim regime seems to be on its last few strides. Rumours are abound that the Great Leader has been missing for days, ostensibly for rest and recreation. As the violence worsens within the DPRK the top echelons meet at a secured location, ahead of them lies the ghastly task of maintaining order and stability.

As the curtains falls upon the DPRK, the Republic of Korea and regional actors have convened to assess the situation. It seems that after 70 years the regime is near collapse. With that the possibility of an unprecedented refugee crisis, a second civil war, and the lost of nuclear weapons have put the world on edge.

In the halls of power in the Republic of Korea, worries and concerns over the radio silence from the north provoke fear and panic. Will the government be able to tread the fine line between caution and paranoia?

A conference of Ambassadors from the United States, China, Russia, and Japan have convened to contain the possible regional fallout from such a calamity. Will the balance of power in East Asia be maintained or will it see Korea become a battleground for regional powers?

## PRESS CORPS

The Press Corps, SMUN's very own in-house team of journalists, is the voice of the conference. The Press Corps will also publish details of each committee's debates in the conference's daily publication. Press Delegates will have to balance the objectivity of news reportage against the inherent subjectivity of presenting stories through their agency's lenses. As committees pass resolutions and crises unravel, Press Delegates will be challenged to report the breadth, reveal the depth and respond to the latest in international developments.



# SOCIAL EVENT

## NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

SMUN 2017 is all about the experience! This year, we will be going beyond the familiar shores of NUS for our social night, and will bring delegates an exciting evening of fun, food, dance and music at the National Gallery Singapore. We encourage all delegates to let down their hair, change into their best party clothes, and use the chance to mingle with fellow delegates and make new friends!

National Gallery Singapore is a new visual arts institution which oversees the largest public collection of modern art in Singapore and Southeast Asia. The Gallery is housed in two national monuments—former Supreme Court and City Hall—that have been beautifully restored and transformed into this exciting venue in the heart of the Civic District.

All registered delegates and Faculty Advisors are eligible to participate in the social event at no extra cost, and can participate in not only a fun-filled evening of food and dance, but also bring home some memorable keep-sakes from our themed photo-booths! All participants will also have a chance to sign up for guided evening tours around the Gallery – but be quick, because there are limited slots available!



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

## ACCOMMODATION

**QUESTION: I am a foreign delegate. What are my accommodation options?**

**ANSWER:**

We currently have two options for accommodation. The first would be in NUS, where you may opt to stay in a hostel. The rooms are all single rooms.

The second option would be at the Mandarin Orchard Hotel in Orchard Road, a prime location for you, should you wish to explore our beautiful city at night or on your days away from the conference.

**QUESTION: I am a local delegate. What about me?**

**ANSWER:**

Unfortunately, due to limited resources (especially for accommodation in NUS), we are unable to provide such options for you. Apologies!

## FOOD

**QUESTION: What meals will be provided?**

**ANSWER:**

Generally, the conference provides lunch. Breakfasts and Dinners are not provided. We apologise for the inconvenience.

**QUESTION: Are there other dining options around the conference venue?**

**ANSWER:**

There are several dining and fast food options around NUS. These are located around campus.

## REGISTRATION

**QUESTION: How do I register for the conference?**

**ANSWER:**

Proceed to our domain at mymun.com and register either as an individual or group delegation. If you are unfamiliar with myMUN, don't fret! We will be releasing a guide complete with screenshots on how to register shortly.

**QUESTION: If I arrive several days or the day before the conference, what should I do to register?**

**ANSWER:**

You should check into your hotel first and enjoy yourself. Our liaison staff will contact you to assist with your needs, but other than that, you will only need to officially register on the first day of the conference, during the stipulated period.

## TRANSPORT

**QUESTION: I will be staying on campus over the duration of the conference. How do I get to the Conference venue?**

**ANSWER:**

There will be internal shuttle buses running through the entire NUS campus. We will release a list of these shortly.

**QUESTION: I will be staying at the Mandarin Orchard Hotel. How do I get to the Conference venue?**

**ANSWER:**

There will be a free shuttle bus service that will run from the Hotel to the conference venue. However, do note that this will be subject to availability, based on how many individuals apply for accommodations here (a minimum of 10 room bookings are required for the duration of the conference, for delegates to be entitled to the free shuttle bus service). Alternatively, you may wish to take public transport to the venue. We will be releasing a step by step guide to such transport soon.

## OTHERS

**QUESTION:** I am a foreign delegate who would like to explore Singapore. Where should I go in my spare time?

**ANSWER:**

Our liaisons team will be preparing a guide on the various attractions – this will be sent to all delegates prior to the conference via email.

**QUESTION:** Is there a location for me to pray at?

**ANSWER:**

There are designated locations for prayers around NUS – we will direct delegates to these designated locations. We are also currently exploring the possibility of booking an air-conditioned room to provide delegates with greater comfort during prayers.

---

## SPONSORS & PARTNERS



**NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE**

PLATINUM SPONSOR



Middle East Institute

GOLD SPONSOR



MANDARIN  
ORCHARD

HOTEL PARTNER

Thank you for reviewing our Delegate Prospectus. If you have any further questions, please get in touch with the SMUN 2017 Secretariat at the following email addresses:

**Shasha Dania (Ms.)**

Secretary-General

[secretarygeneral@singaporemun.org](mailto:secretarygeneral@singaporemun.org)

**Wanrui Bai (Ms.)**

Deputy Secretary-General

[deputysecretarygeneral@singaporemun.org](mailto:deputysecretarygeneral@singaporemun.org)

**Joanelle Toh (Ms.)**

Under Secretary-General (Liaisons)

[usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org](mailto:usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org)