

Singapore Model United Nations 2018



DELEGATE PROSPECTUS



Contents

3 **Secretary General Welcome Letter**

8 **How to Register** *Registration Instructions* *Registration Details*

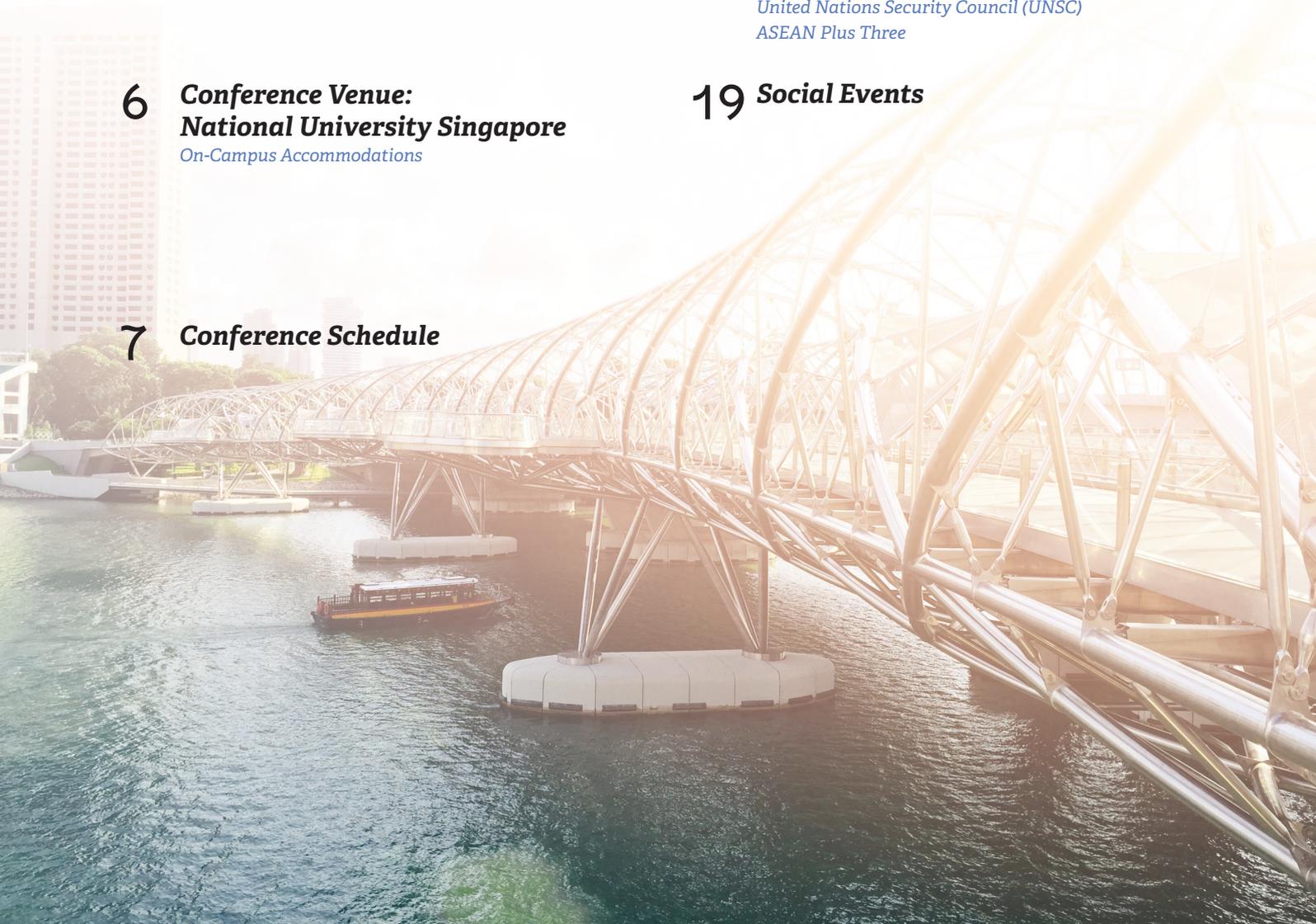
4 **About Singapore Model United Nations** *What is Model United Nations?* *History of Singapore Model United Nations* *The Organizer: NUS Political Science Society* *Host University: National University Singapore*

11 **Academic Committees and Topics of Debate** *Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)* *Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)* *Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM)* *Legal Committee* *World Health Organisation (WHO)* *Special Session of the Arab League* *United Nations Security Council (UNSC)* *ASEAN Plus Three*

6 **Conference Venue: National University Singapore** *On-Campus Accommodations*

19 **Social Events**

7 **Conference Schedule**



Secretary General: Welcome Letter

Dear Distinguished Delegates and Faculty Advisors,

As the Secretary-General of Singapore Model United Nations 2018, it is my pleasure to invite you to attend one of Asia-Pacific's most prestigious conferences, the 15th Singapore Model United Nations (SMUN) Conference from 4th - 8th June 2018!

The National University of Singapore (NUS) Political Science Society (PSSOC) works very hard each year to organize and host a successful, memorable, and enjoyable conference for our delegates. Held in NUS University Town (UTown), SMUN 2018 will welcome an internationally diverse pool of pre-tertiary and university students from the Asia-Pacific region.

Since its conception, SMUN has prided itself in the academic rigour of providing a dynamic, immersive experience to its delegates – a tradition which SMUN 2018 will carry forward with its unique mix of committees and topics. Delegates will address many of today's most controversial and important international topics in eight committees: Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC), Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM), Legal Committee, World Health Organisation (WHO), Special Session of the Arab League, United Nations Security Council (UNSC), and ASEAN Plus Three. Delegates will also be treated to an immersive dialogue session with our Guests of Honor; previous guests SMUN has hosted include Foreign Service Officers, Diplomats, Professors, Ministers, and Members of Parliament who shared their firsthand experience and insights with delegates.

We cordially invite the curious and eager amongst you to discuss, to negotiate, and to collaborate with others, and leave the conference with a passion to affect change in the world where you can. Beyond the academia, delegates leave with life-long friendships formed with the like-minded peers they will meet in SMUN. Details about SMUN 2018 can be found in this prospectus. Should you have further queries please do not hesitate to get in contact with our conference staff, details are provided at the end of this booklet. On behalf of the SMUN 2018 secretariat, I look forward to seeing you at the conference this June!



Sincerely,
Weina Lai

Secretary General
Singapore Model United Nations 2018

ABOUT SINGAPORE MODEL UNITED NATIONS

What is Model United Nations?

A Model United Nations (MUN) conference involves pre-university and college students negotiating and formulating solutions to global problems. Topics discussed are the issues pertinent in current affairs and international relations, and necessitate a resolution through multilateral diplomacy. Student participants research on, and simulate various states or non-state actors (such as Non-Governmental Organisations) in bringing their individual agendas to the discussion, they ultimately have to integrate these individual interests in a negotiated resolution document that is agreeable to the majority.



History of Singapore Model United Nations

Singapore Model United Nations, or SMUN, is the most established MUN in the Singapore MUN circuit, and will be going into our 15th iteration in 2018. The past 14 runs have been huge successes, with approximately 500 participants in attendance each year. We have continually received rave reviews from our participants, with special mention of our efficiency and hospitality. SMUN has indeed distinguished itself from other MUN conferences in the region with its organisational and academic excellence. As a testament to the academic capabilities of the SMUN staff, the delegation led by SMUN Secretariat members achieved the 'Best Group Delegation Award' at the Citi-Pan Asia Model United Nations 2017, hosted in Taipei City. Our staff members were also awarded in the Asia Pacific Model United Nations Conference 2017. 6 SMUN Secretariat members were selected to chair at World Model United Nations 2017 in Montreal, Canada, which is hosted by Harvard University and frequently touted as the Olympics of MUN.

The Organizer:

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.



The Host University:

The National University of Singapore consistently ranks top in Asia and among the top universities in the world. Hosting the 2018 iteration of SMUN in NUS University Town (UTown) enables SMUN's participants to experience not only world-class education infrastructure, but also to engage with NUS's vibrant campus community and some of Asia's brightest minds.

Conference Venue: NUS University Town

Designed for the entire NUS community, University Town®, or UTown® for short, is strategically integrated with the Kent Ridge Campus via a vehicle and pedestrian bridge. An educational hub complete with residential spaces, teaching facilities and study clusters, UTown has created a lively intellectual, social and cultural environment that distinguishes the University through excellence in learning and student engagement.

Leading the charge towards environmental sustainability, UTown is one of the latest green building projects undertaken by NUS. Specially built around existing trees, the state-of-the-art Education Resource Centre was awarded the Building and Construction Authority of Singapore's Green Mark Platinum.



On-Campus Accommodations

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, 4th June 2018, and check out on Saturday, 9th June, 2018. 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 shared bathrooms, and accommodates only one delegate. 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.

Interested delegates or delegations can contact Ms. Deng Yushan, USG (Outreach and Liaisons) at usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org, to inquire for more information, or to make reservations for this option.



Conference Schedule

5th June 2018

1000 - 1230	Delegate Registration
1300 - 1500	Opening Ceremony
1500 - 1600	Lobbying Session
1600 - 1830	Committee Session 1
1830 - 1900	Head Delegate De-Brief

7th June 2018

0900 - 1200	Committee Session 5
1200 - 1330	Lunch
1330 - 1800	Committee Session 6
1800 - 1900	Transport to Social Event
1900 - 2200	Social Event

6th June 2018

0900 - 1200	Committee Session 2
1200 - 1330	Lunch
1330 - 1600	Committee Session 3
1600 - 1630	Break
1630 - 1830	Committee Session 4
1830 - 1930	Head Delegate De-Brief

8th June 2018

0900 - 1200	Committee Session 7
1200 - 1400	Lunch
1400 - 1700	Closing Ceremony & Awards Presentation



How to Register

All delegates, Observers and Faculty Advisors can apply for SMUN 2018 via the online sign-up form on the official website of SMUN and on our Facebook page. Further details regarding payment can be found on Page 10 under Payment Overview.

These are further instructions or information for the following categories of conference attendees:

Group Delegations

Group delegations refer generally to delegates who wish to register as a team. There is a maximum of 10 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.

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

Fee Overview

Delegates:

Registration Type	Registration Period	Cost
Early Bird	8th Jan 2018 - 28th Feb 2018	SGD \$120
Regular	1st Mar 2018 - 14th Apr 2018	SGD \$140
Late	15th May 2018 - 1st May 2018	SGD \$160

Faculty Advisors and Observers:

Registration Type	Registration Period	Cost
Early Bird	8th Jan 2018 - 28th Feb 2018	SGD \$60
Regular	1st Mar 2018 - 14th Apr 2018	SGD \$60
Late	15th May 2018 - 1st May 2018	SGD \$80



Payment Overview

Payment of conference fees may be made via either bank transfer or IFAAS (for local schools only). Delegates will receive confirmation of their application acceptance and allocation within 14 working days after full payment has been received. Payment of conference fees in person will not be accepted.

Upon completing online registration, delegates will be directed to download an Excel sheet template for payment confirmation – this must be duly completed and submitted via email to usg.finance@singaporemun.org, along with proof of payment, such as a screenshot or photograph of the transaction receipt, after payment has been made. Delegates must ensure that all applicable bank charges will be borne by the applicant, not the beneficiary/recipient.

IFAAS

During online registration, faculty advisors from local schools may opt to make payment for students via IFAAS. An E-Invoice will be issued to the school after completion of online registration. Faculty advisors should send an email to usg.finance@singaporemun.org after full payment has been duly made.

Queries on payment matters may be directed to the Under-Secretary-General for Finance, Russell Marino Soh (Mr.) at usg.finance@singaporemun.org.

Bank Transfer Details:

Bank Name	DBS Bank
Bank Address	12 Marina Boulevard, DBS Asia Central, Marina Bay Financial Centre Tower 3, Singapore 018982
Swift Code	DBSSSGSG
Branch Name	Buona Vista Corp Branch
Branch Address	Blk 43 Holland Drive, #01-55, Singapore 270043
Account Number	107-900630-2
Payee Name	Political Science Society of National University of Singapore (If the form only allows for a maximum of 12 characters, input 'NUS PSSOC' instead.)
Payee Address	11 Arts Link, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Singapore 117573
Reference	SMUN 18 <Delegation Name> (e.g. "SMUN 18 NUS Team 1")

Academic Committees and Topics of Debate

Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC)

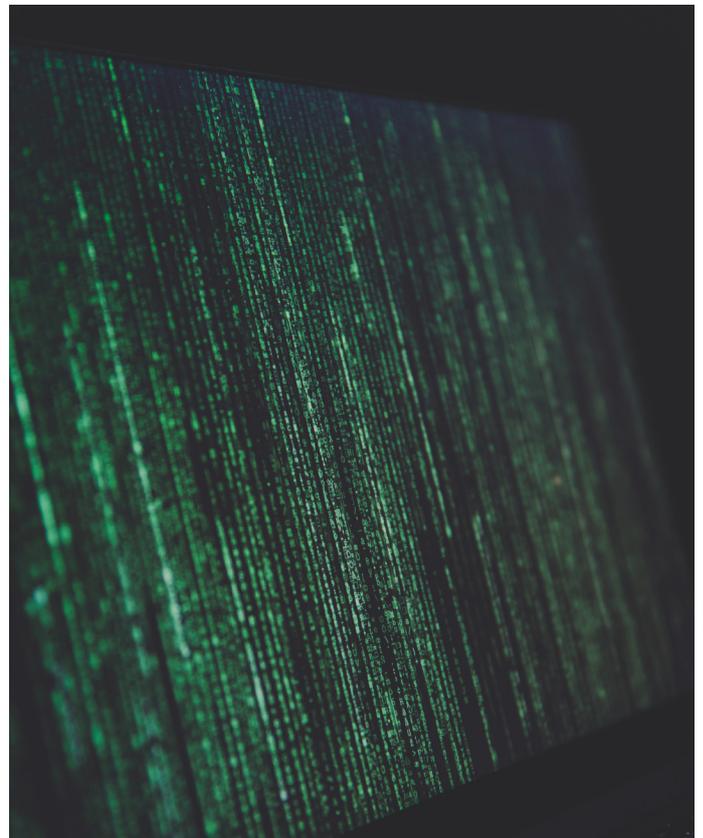


Addressing Security Threats in the Fifth Domain

With the rise of technology, there is growing concern around the use of cyber warfare tactics. While cyber espionage and cybercrime draw the attention of the international community, national security is also threatened by the growth of state-sponsored cyber attacks. It is essential for leaders to develop comprehensive cyber defence strategies. Delegates in DISEC must look at both state-sponsored and independent cyber warfare threats and develop a plan of action for times of peace and war.

The Regulation of Private Military Corporations

Being non-state organisations, the acts of private military corporations (also known as mercenaries) may be beyond national and international laws. Immoral or excessively forceful acts therefore go unpunished. In addition, it is alleged that governments themselves may from time to time engage the services of such groups. This, if true, further complicates the issue of regulation of private military groups. The lack of control over private military security may lead to diplomatic controversies or indiscriminate attacks on innocents. Delegates must balance the privatisation of security forces with the state's monopoly on legitimate violence, as well as develop regulations to ensure that such corporations are legally accountable.



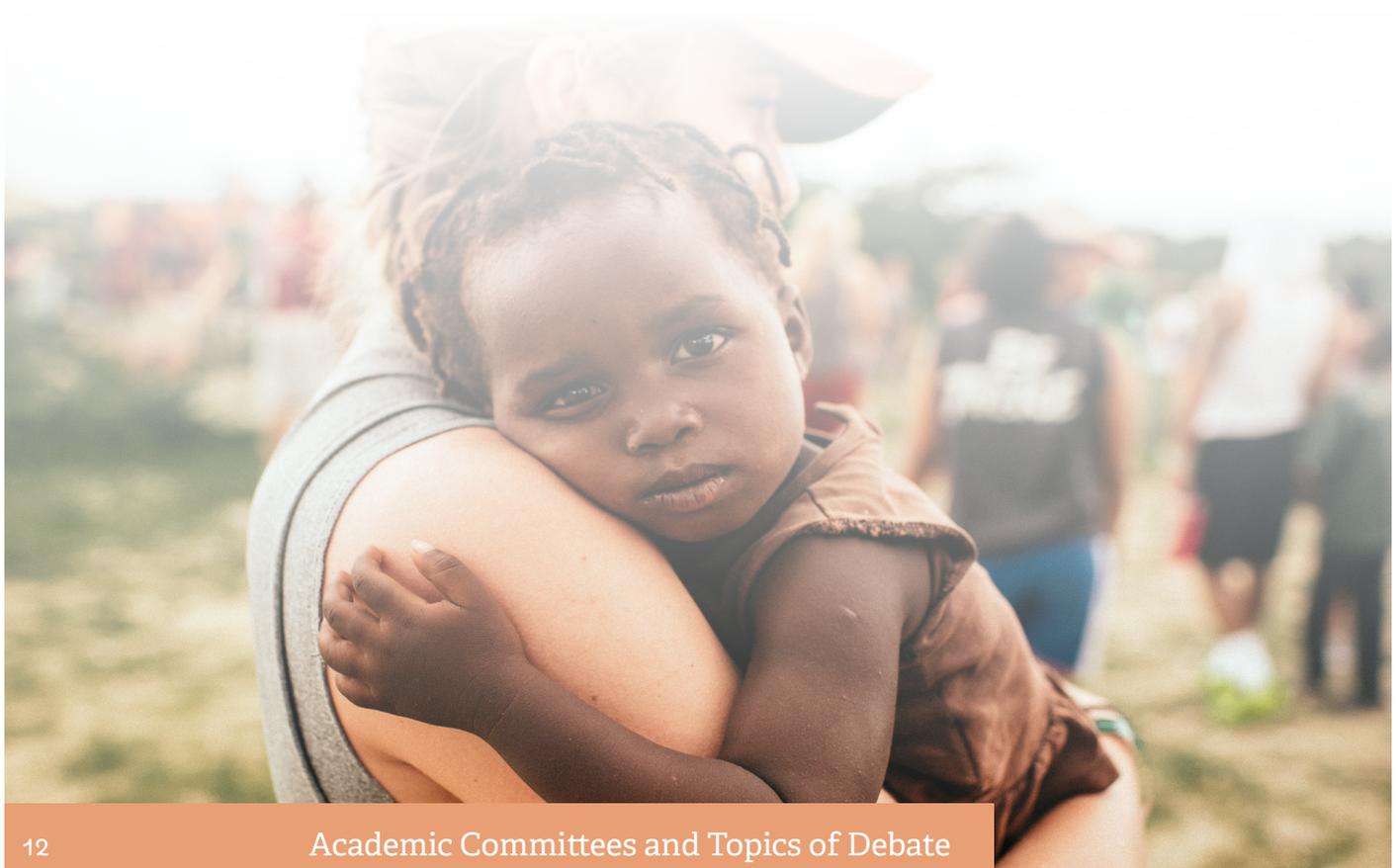
Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Reviewing the International Seabed Authority's mandate

The International Seabed Authority regulates the use and administration of marine resources in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. In light of the modern day shortage of resources and increased tensions and competition between nations, the mandate of the Authority must be revised so that it is in tune with the current tensions, conflicts and needs of the international community, and may play a more regulatory role in international maritime and resource affairs. Delegates must consider competing claims from governments and corporations, as well as construct a framework for responsible resource use.

The Gender Wage Gap

Closing the gender wage gap is crucial in society's quest to reach its fullest potential. Discriminate wage brackets prevent women from fully participating in society, resulting in societal costs such as lower economic productivity as employers are unable to access and take advantage of the whole talent pool. Much attention has been focused on raising awareness of gender pay inequity. Delegates must first consider whether closing the gender wage gap is a beneficial or plausible action, as well as the economic and social costs of establishing and implementing an equal gender pay. Delegates must also review current structures and explore the factors that contribute to the difference in salaries between the genders, as well as other non-gender related contributing factors that lead to inequality.



Social and Humanitarian Council (SOCHUM)

Child Terrorism

Terrorism has vastly mutated from the small-scale guerrilla warfare that the world was familiar with a decade ago. Terrorists today are better-funded, better-equipped and more organised. Contrary to convention, recruitment does not entail individuals traveling to the bases of extremist groups; rather they could remain and operate from target countries, making them all the more lethal. With a dangerously effective propaganda, terror organisations across the world have started to induct younger individuals into their cadres conveniently through inter alia, social media. These radicalist groups have a potential to severely cripple the next generation with child-terrorists. It is undeniably a matter of consequential importance to critically assess and assuage this threat. Delegates should be prepared to analyse this issue critically and provide novel solutions that are also ultimately politically palatable.

Addressing healthcare needs for refugees and stateless persons

With the number of refugees and stateless persons seeking asylum steadily increasing since the 2000s, living conditions of such peoples have become all the more of importance. However, the healthcare needs of these people are often neglected as governments are caught up with balancing their humanitarian goals with that of domestic ones. Even as the “right to health(care)” has consistently been recognised as a fundamental right enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights amongst other international agreements, countries often disavow their liabilities towards the stateless and those seeking refuge. The duty has consequently fallen to NGOs such as Mercy Hands to uphold. However, this is undeniably insufficient considering the deluge in numbers of such persons in need, in light of recent conflicts in the Middle East and South-East Asia. Delegates should aim to provide short-term to long-term solutions that are feasible both financially and politically in order for them to be effective.



Criminalisation of UN workers

In recent years, the United Nations has seen a bout of criminal allegations across the globe against its workers, including reports of extortion and rape, within has threatened the international community's confidence in UN missions. Prosecution of culprits is often a long drawn out process; reports may take months to process when put beside local issues that require immediate attention. In fact, in some occasions, victims prefer not to report incidents for the fear of removing what little support that remains. It is paramount that the legal committee reviews the UN's code of conduct for its agents and peacekeeping forces, and structure a coherent and transparent system to bring the culpable parties to justice. Only then can the UN truly live up to its ideals and remain a beacon of peace and hope for the international community. Delegates must however take note of the challenges that prosecuting contributing states' nationals may entail whilst forming their solutions.

International Adoption

Over the past few years, the rate of cross-border and transnational adoption has steadily increased. As countries become increasingly interconnected with greater access to other states, the rise in the trend of adoption across borders comes as no surprise. However, due legal compliance is often not met or where it is, other issues plague the integrity of the process. Lack of credibility checks of adopting parents and those putting their children up for adoption are also issues that may potentially affect the safety of the children (or adoptive parents) in question. It is of importance that the international community forms a coherent, and more pertinently, an accessible legal framework or platform to address this phenomenon.

Legal Committee



Traditional Medicine

Traditional medicinal practices vary based on the cultures and beliefs indigenous to each community. Many practices are steeped in history and even superstition, and the medicines and practices may be harmful to consumers and to the environment. However, regulation of such practices is challenging, as consumers may turn to the black market to purchase medicines, or practice harmful procedures privately. To this end, one must look into the safety and regulation of traditional procedures, and consider the plausibility of changing the consumer mindset and implementing restrictions on traditional procedures. Culture must be balanced against modern healthcare practices, and steps on how to move consumers away from such harmful practices must be established.

Reformation of Healthcare Frameworks

The healthcare system is often seen as a money-making enterprise that exploits economic demand. While a subsidised healthcare system is ideal, the cost of such a practice must be borne by a party. The question is who should bear this, and whether costs can be reduced at all, or must be passed on to the consumer. Persons in health care, from medical researchers to the government to private enterprises and investors to insurers and to consumers, have competing interests and needs. Given that healthcare is integral to a developed society, accessible and affordable healthcare is important. Current healthcare systems must be reviewed to balance the competing interests of consumer and producer and create sustainable healthcare practice.

Special Session of the Arab League (Crisis)

Addressing the Qatar - Gulf Crisis

Ties between Qatar and its other Gulf neighbours (amongst the other Middle East nations) have devolved over recent months. In June 2017, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in a concerted effort with the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Bahrain, cut diplomatic and trade links with Qatar on the 5th June (effectively closing its airspace, sea routes and borders). In September 2017, Saudi Arabia further suspended all dialogue with Qatar alleging the Gulf state of distorting facts. There is a real risk of armed conflict if the situation is left to further deteriorate. Not only are the Qatari people experiencing major disruption but so are the other middle eastern nations that have come to rely on Qatar's industries. A special session of the Arab League has been called by the region's leaders to de-escalate the tensions between the parties and thaw relations. Open and honest communication is a fundamental requirement for this dialogue to work. Delegates should come prepared to address any developments that may occur over the course of the session and tackle issues with an open-mind. This is a crisis committee.



United Nations Security Council

Promoting regional stability in the Middle East

The skirmishes and strained relations between Israel and Palestine (and by extension the greater Arab states) date back to the 1940s. Displaced Jews fleeing persecution in Europe wanted to establish a national homeland in what was then a predominantly Muslim territory in the aftermath of the Ottoman Empire. The Zionists have laid claim to the many territories in dispute quoting historical roots of Zionism amongst others. However altercations between the muslim factions and jewish factions are also a product of mutual antagonism between both peoples as years of conflict and war have brewed such hostilities. The situation has now devolved to an almost proxy war between the supporters of Israel and those of Palestine. Most recently, with US President Donald Trump's unconventional recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital, fresh demonstrations and protests have ignited threatening to further exacerbate the Arab-Israeli tensions. The move by President Trump, described as "breaking years of US precedent" on the issue, evoked strong criticism from countries across the globe. Along with the clashes between Iran and Saudi Arabia, the Middle East region is progressively becoming precarious. The UNSC has a quintessential role of de-escalating tensions in the region and must now offer solutions that are palatable to not just the immediate parties involved but also of the larger states at play.

Threats to International Peace and Security (Addressing DPRK)

Tensions between the United States (US) and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) have reached an all time high. Amidst President Donald Trump calling North Korea a "sponsor of state terror" and calling its allies to slap fresh sanctions on the isolationist state, the DPRK has described the world leader as a "dotard" for his unconventional recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. While some analysts have catergorised DPRK's recent ICBM tests as mere scare tactics, the recent threats of nuclear warfare are nonetheless, a cause of grave concern. The call for peaceful resolution of the escalating tensions with North Korea has to be taken vigorously by the UNSC which has the mandate to make binding resolutions on countries. The exigencies of crisis management and patient negotiation is more pronounced than ever in a bid to thwart what could potentially be an all - out nuclear war that will rock the world at large.

ASEAN Plus Three



Skills Mismatch

With globalisation and increased competition, economies have to constantly diversify to retain a comparative edge. Discrepancies between the share of job seekers and the job openings available lead to skills mismatch and economic inefficiency. For the region to reach its goal of greater economic cooperation and growth, leaders must ensure that worker's skills remain relevant to the evolving needs of the economy, and that displaced workers find alternative roles. ASEAN Plus Three leaders must consider the social costs of doing so, and implement a plan that capitalises on the strengths of each nation, creating an integrated economy while balancing the personal and competing interests of each member state.

Addressing Sustainable Development

With the ASEAN 2025 Blueprints and the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, ASEAN Plus Three nations have recognised the importance of sustainable development and multilateral cooperation to this end. Economic and environmental issues have drawn much attention over the past few years. However, for the region to achieve sustainable development, delegates must look in particular at the social dimension of sustainable development, and develop social policies to issues such as but not limited to population, equality, poverty and prosperity, and immigration.

Social Event

SMUN is a conference known not to only offer days of rigorous debate on pressing world issues, but also as one which ensures that delegates enjoy their conference experience both in and out of the council. With a diverse delegate pool of both international and local delegates, SMUN traditionally holds a social event on the evening before the final day to allow delegates to mingle with each other and forge meaningful friendships. Previous SMUN organized social events include city tours around Singapore's iconic sights and dinner receptions. All registered delegates and faculty advisors are eligible to participate in the social event at no extra cost, participating in a fun filled evening of food and friends.





Thank you for having taken time to review our Delegate Prospectus. If you have any further questions, please get in touch with the SMUN 2018 Secretariat at the following email addresses:

Weina Lai (Ms.)
Secretary General

secretarygeneral@singaporemun.org

Ngiam Hui Xin (Ms.)
Deputy Secretary General

deputysecretarygeneral@singaporemun.org

Deng Yushan (Ms.)
Delegate Liaisons

usg.liaisons@singaporemun.org

Connect with us at:

- www.singaporemun.org
- www.facebook.com/singaporemun
- [@singaporemun](https://www.instagram.com/singaporemun)