FSMUN 2015 Final Report









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PREFACE

FS Model United Nations (MUN) initiative offers students of the Frankfurt School of Finance & Management the unique opportunity to participate each year in the National Model United Nations (NMUN) Conference in New York.

In the academic year of 2014/15 over 50 students participated in the initiative's preparation sessions and 32 students were eventually selected to attend the NMUN Conference in New York.

This final report presents what FS MUN has been up to in the past year.

We have organized this report in four main sections. "About..." gives a general overview of what MUN is all about and of the organization it revolves around: the United Nations; "Preparation" covers the activities that led up to the conference in New York and some administrative particularities; "New York" reports on our activities and experiences in the city that never sleeps and "Returning Home" reflects on what the Delegation and its Heads learned in this past year and what lies in store for next.

If you want to see more of FS MUN - pictures, videos and other information on the initiative - make sure you check out our numerous appereances on social media! Visit us on:

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/fsmun

Instagram: fsmun2015 Twitter: FSMUN2015 Youtube: FS MUN

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..THE UN

The United Nations Organization was founded in October of 1945 as a replacement for the League of Nations. Its purposes – according to Article 1 of the Charter of the UN – are: keep peace throughout the world, develop friendly relations among nations, and help especially poor people to conque hunger diseases and illiteracy.

The experience of two world wars has made an international organization with such a purpose and responsibility indispensable. Indeed the UN has been able to secure or restore peace several times already. The most significant (military and diplomatic) operations have been: The UN peacekeeping mission in the Congo, the peace negotiations in El Salvador, the peacekeeping mission in Namibia, the democratic election in post-Apartheid South

Africa and post-Khmer Rouge Cambodia. Today the UN has 193 Member States and 2 Observer States, its main Headquarters are located in New York City and there are other main offices in Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi. The official languages are Arabic, French, English, Chinese, Russian and Spanish. Since 2007 the UN has been led by the South Korean Ban Ki Moon. The most important organs of the United Nations are the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Secretariat, the International Court of Justice and, of course, the Security Council with its five permanent members and their veto right. The UN's Security Council is the organization's only body with the power to issue legally binding resolutions.

2015 marks the UN's 70th anniversary.

...MUN

Model United Nations conferences are academic simulations that reenact the sessions of the principal organs and agencies of the UN system in order to educate participants about current problems in the international political sphere, about the political agenda and the rules of procedure of the different bodies of United Nations Organization and about the art of diplomacy in general.

Participanting delegations that commonly have a university or high school background usually represent the delegation of a certain member state to the UN's different committees. Having researched the position of their assigned country beforehand, they discuss a handful of actual agenda topics before the simulated UN body in a committee session and develop solutions in the form of resolutions

and reports – the UN's regular working documents.

Model United Nations simulations trace their history back even longer than the United Nations itself. For instance, National Model United Nations and Harvard Model United Nations, today two of the most frequented conferences in the United States, allegedly originated from students' simulations of the League of Nations – the predecessor of the United Nations Organization.

Since 2010, Frankfurt School Model United Nations has been attending the National Model United Nations New York conference - one of the world's largest simulations with more than 5,000 participants per year and the only conference to host part of its sessions in the actual New York Headquarters of the United Nations.

...NMUN NY

National Model United Nations (NMUN) conferences are organized by the Na-Collegiate Conference Association (NCCA) and are known for being among the most professional Model United Nations conferences in the world. The NCCA is a non-profit and non-governmental organization associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information. That is why many NMUN conference speakers are associated with the UN, as for example the speakers in this year's opening and closing ceremonies, and also why it is possible to hold the last formal sessions and the closing ceremony at the UN Headquarters.

The beginnings of NMUN go back to 1946. The organization basically emerged right after the foundation of the United Nations itself. From then on it has steadily grown and

college students from all over the world have come to New York City in order to discuss current issues of world politics. In 2015, more than 5,000 students were part of the largest Model UN conference in the world and over 120 staff members served voluntarily in order to make NMUN-NY possible.

Furthermore, the NCCA has started to expand NMUN and has organized Model UN conferences in other places besides New York City. Upcoming NMUN events are to take place in locations that range from Washington DC to Olomouc in the Czech Republic and even Kobe in Japan. According to their own website, the NCCA's goal with NMUN is to prepare college students "to be better global citizens through quality educational experiences that emphasize collaboration and cooperative resolution of conflict."





THE KICK-OFF



Even though FS MUN has by now established itself as one of the core student-led initiatives of Frankfurt School and has obtained a steadfast placement within campus life, it is, first and foremost, the product of the collective work of its participants each year. In other words, its success depends enourmously on aptly gathering a group of dedicated students who are willing to put in their time and effort into the demanding prepartion process. And this was the first challenge we faced as initiative heads: recruiting.

Due to the popularity of the initiative in the past, kindling general interest among students has definitely become easier. Nevertheless, quite a lot of work still has to be put into attracting future delegates. This year we had our mind set into putting together a very diverse delegation to take to New York, including students from as many majors and study levels as possible.

To start with, we took advantage of the events offered to first-years (both Bachelor and Masters incoming students) during their orientation week, such as the initiative fairs. These platforms allowed us to show photos and reports of past FS MUN delegations and talk to students about what we do. We could directly answer many of

their questions and personally invite them to our official Kick-off events. Through flyers, posters, social media and word of mouth we were able to target students from other study levels and were finally very pleased at the large number of people who showed up to our Kick-off meetings.

In these Kick-off meetings we gave a more structured account of the work of the initiative and the learning experience we had to offer and explained what becoming a delegate ultimately entails in terms of work, time and money. To give people a better idea of what this all meant, we posteriorly held a couple of so-called "Mock Sessions" - i.e. short simulations of UN committee procedures but using mock-countries (things like Irony Coast, Greede, Viceland or Sparta) - in which we could bring students closer to the work of MUN. These meetings already gave us a good idea of what our applicant pool looked like. But before moving on to the delegate selection process, we wanted to work with all interested students in a more serious environment so as to give them the chance to further immerse themselves in MUN work and to allow us to get to know them better in order to make our selection decisions more informed and ultimately fairer. For this purpose we organized the Workshop Weekend in Wiesbaden.

THE WORKSHOP WEEKEND

Over 50 students attended the FS MUN Workshop Weekend at Pentahotel in Wiesbaden. Here the account of one of our participants:

Before our big journey to New York could start, we needed a lot of practice and preparation. Reason enough to host a workshop weekend. It took place in Wiesbaden at the beginning of November of last year.

After our arrival at Pentahotel, it all started with a short briefing of what was going to happen during the weekend. We were all pretty excited and couldn't wait to start debating and holding speeches. But before this could happen we needed an introduction to procedural manners, the Do's and Don'ts of Diplomatic speeches and guidance on how to write a working paper.

The mock session we held afterwards simulated a meeting of the UNEP committee. Every one of us was representing his/her own country, as we would India in New York all together. For the most of us it was the first time simulating a committee session, but it was still a lot of fun trying to find partners to make your interests part of the working paper and the resolution later on. After three hours of hot debate, discussion and promoting interests, the meeting was suspended until the next day.

The next point on the Agenda was dinner together at "Die Hütte". Everybody was delighted to enjoy a good dinner after a long day of debating. We all got to know each other a little bit better and it was a great opportunity to make plans for the night. And so we left the restaurant to have some fun in the city of Wiesbaden. After a drink or two at a bar the group spread. Some of us went to a club, some to another bar and some went back to the hotel, which was also a wise decision since the next day would be challenging again.

The next day started with a great breakfast that had everything you could imagine. It was great for getting the power you would need for the committee session, which followed.

During the session we worked on our working papers and turned them in for correction. In the end, all of our papers were accepted to be voted on and so we did. The voting procedure was the last act of the mock session. We were happy that we were able to bring our interests to paper and to acceptance by vote. After voting we got some more information what would come next on our way to New York and this was the end of the workshop weekend.

The workshop weekend was a great experience that showed us how New York would be. We all had a good time and some of us found new friends. Everything was well organized and did not have any difficulties. Therefore a special thanks to Christoph and Katherine who did a great job.

- Constantin



THE COUNTRY ASSIGNMENT

The country assignment has a tremendous impact on the entire preparation process leading up to the conference in New York. Whether the delegation is representing a developed nation or a very poor one, a world power or an isolated island obviously influences how the delegation's position to different political topics is prepared and represented and ultimately shapes the learning experience of delegates and what they take away from participating in MUN.

One of our main goals was thus to obtain a suitable country assignment that would be interesting and relevant for students of business and economics and that would also be a 'big player' in the international political sphere so as to give our delegates plenty of material on which to base and develop their policy ideas.

We eventually set our minds on India: a country central to current world politics with enourmous regional influence, a very active participant within the UN system and a major rising economic power with an remarkably rich and diverse culture. So we did some research and sat down to formulate a convincing application for India.

We dug into Frankfurt School's different resources, among them the International Advisory Services, the professors, the international education centres and even the international students in search of support for our application. We additionally referenced our own experiences and those of several of our delegates with India - quite a number of us had been to India already, either for work or leisure, one of our delegates even spoke fluent Hindi! All these insights and support gave us a very solid foundation for our application.

It was thus particularly good news when we found out that the Frankfurt School's delegation had obtained India as a country assignment for NMUN 2015. We were also granted two spots to represent the United Kingdom in one of the Security Councils.





FUNDRAISING & FINANCES

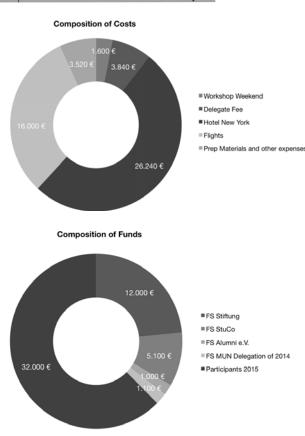
Participating in NMUN NY is inevitably tied to number of financial expenses. The main ones include hotel costs and the flights to New York, which amount to about 1.000 EUR per person. On top of that come conference fees, expenses for other necessary material such as SIM cards and preparation booklets, organizational costs and daily expenses while in New York. In all, a 2015 FS MUN participant would have had to calculate with a total participation cost of around 1.600 EUR. We also experienced a very unfortunate exchange rate trend between the Euro and the US dollar, which made the costs for this year's delegation soar even higher.

Composition of Costs	Costs per person	Total costs (32 participants)	
Workshop Weekend	€ 50,00	€ 1.600,00	
Delegate Fee	€120,00	€ 3.840,00	
Hotel New York	€820,00	€ 26.240,00	
Flights	€500,00	€ 16.000,00	
Prep Materials and other expenses	€110,00	€ 3.520,00	
TOTAL	€ 1.600,00	€ 51.200,00	

In order to make participation in FS MUN truly accessible to all students, we made an effort to raise financial support from a variety of sources. We are very thankful for all the support and contributions we were given, which in total amounted to the highest financial aid that FS MUN has ever received!

Pentalhotel Wiesbaden offered us special conditions for our Workshop Weekend. Deutsche Bank supported our preparation by providing us with a conference room in their headquarters in New York to hold our pre-conference workshop. Our most significant patron, however, was by far the Frankfurt School Family. We received direct financial support from the FS Alumni association (1.000 EUR), the FS Student Council (5.100 EUR) and the FS Stiftung (12.000 EUR). The Marketing Department additionally donated FS attire in the form of ties, scarves and pins.

With all this support, FS MUN was able to reduce participation costs to 1.000 EUR per person. It is through these contributions that the initiative is able to keep offering students of all backgrounds the opportunity to be part of such a unique academic experience. The entire delegation is deeply grateful.



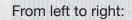
THE DELEGATION

We were delighted to see the large amount of interest shown by Frankfurt School students in the initiative this year. Unfortunately, the nature of the NMUN conference only allows us to take a limited number of people to New York, defined by the number of seats that the assigned country has in the different Committees of the United Nations. For this reason, we had to carefully select our delegates to fill the 32 spots we had.

All interested students submitted a filled out application form in which they stated their motivation to be part of this year's delegation. Additionally, we considered the interest that each candidate showed through active involvement in previous meetings and the Workshop Weekend and we took into account any previous experience that candidates might have with MUN or similar simulations, politics and diplomacy, public speaking or special knowledge of the assigned country (for example having traveled or lived in that country, speaking an official language of that country and so on).

Selection was in no way easy, but in hindsight we are very pleased with the wonderful group of people who came to make up the FS MUN Delegation of 2015.





Julian Bauer Christopher Wild Szevdalina Menke Philipp Sauer Enrico Schön Martin Röchow Georg Fernkorn Barbara Nitzschke Lennart Lattwesen Riccardo Pariti Paul Kindler
Nikolai Grüner
Felix Braun
Timmy Hubart
Johannes Manuel
Kersten Schütze
Constantin Meyer
Maximilian Wald
Jonas Schenke
Henrik Konermann
Gianmarco Steinhauer

Franziska Pitzer Benjamin Schedl Ahmed Rizk Sophie Pötzsch Marlon Struck Anna Gerber Clara van Biezen Katherine Perez Christoph Wild Patrick Böhm Moritz Tilgner







MUN SKILLS DRILL & POSITION PAPERS

Once the delegation had been determined, our next task consisted of training them as best as possible for the upcoming conference. In the time span between November of 2014 and February of 2015 we did just that.

As a delegate in a UN simulation, you are required to familiarize yourself with a set of procedural skills and rules that are necessary to guarantee an orderly and efficient work progress during committee sessions as well as to promote respectful and diplomatic interactions between participants.

Our delegates were by now familiar with most of these skills, but nothing is better than repetition to achieve true mastery.

In addition to these procedural skills, delegates also need to have a solid working knowledge of the United Nations. They must be familiar with the committees that will be simulated in New York and know about their main responsibilities and the role they play within the UN System. We had our delegates split into pairs and assigned each pair one of the committees that would be simulated in New York. This would be the committee that they would be attending during the conference as well, so it was very important for them to become experts on all things concerning their committee. As a group, we reviewed a bit of UN history, the rationale behind the different UN organs and the current state of the UN and then had each pair do further research on their own.

Another very important aspect of the preparation for the conference is learning about the the country you will be representing in New York. This meant going over the history, political system, foreign policy, economic and development situation and cultural landscape of India. We combined this with some public speaking excercises in order for our delegates to practice holding speeches and become more comfortable with 'staying in character' the ability to convincingly represent foreign interests and argue from a perspective that is not your own without falling into mockery or exaggeration.

With all of this down, one last thing remained to be learned: how to write a position paper! Position papers are 2-page statements about a country's position on a series of topics that will be discussed during the conference. These position papers are written a couple of months before the conference and are then distributed to all participants. This not only helps delegates to familiarize themselves with the topics of discussion and to develop a structured position and think about possible solutions, but also allows delegates to learn about the perspectives of other countries before the start of the conference. This is crucial for finding allies and coordinating strategic negotiation blocks during the simulation.

The following section includes four outstanding position papers written by our delegates.

Position Paper for the United Nations Environment Programme

The topics before the United Nations Environment Programme are: Financing International Climate Change Technology Transfer; Sustainable Development in the Arctic and Promoting Resource Efficiency in Urban Development. The Republic of India is strongly committed to resolving the above-mentioned issues with comprehensive and efficient solutions.

I. Financing International Climate Change Technology Transfer

Having an economy highly reliant on natural resource-based and climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture, the Republic of India is facing a substantial threat because of the projected changes in climate. As constituted in the 'National Action Plan on Climate Change' (NAPCC) India strives to attain a self-sustaining economy by choosing an ecologically sustainable mode of development. Recognizing that Climate Change needs to be challenged globally, the Republic of India has been actively engaged in multilateral negotiations in the 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change' (UNFCCC) ever since its signature and subsequent ratification in 1992. The Republic of India has hosted the eighth 'Conference of Parties' (COP) of the UNFCCC session, which was chaired by our Cabinet Minister of Environment and Forests and lead to 'The Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development' (Decision /CP.8).

The government of the Republic of India sees the Transfer of Technology as critical to foster sustainable development, especially in terms of climate mitigation and adaptation technologies. The Republic of India emphasizes the importance of Technology Transfer as stated in paragraph 34.5 of Agenda 21: 'New and efficient technologies will be essential to increase the capabilities, in particular of developing countries, to achieve sustainable development, sustain the world's development.'

As stated in paragraph 34.18/e/v of Agenda 21, governments, international organizations and the private sector should promote the provision of financial resources to acquire environmentally sound technologies that consequently enable them to implement measures to advance sustainable development. Compliant with chapter 4 of the UNFCCC, the Republic of India relies on financial support by Annex II countries through the 'special climate change fund' (SCCF), created by COP decision 7/CP.7, since the purchase of licenses and the adequate implementation circumstantially constitute a 'special or abnormal burden' (Agenda 21: 34.18/e/v). Moreover, Agenda 21 emphasizes the creation of favourable conditions to encourage the public and private sector to innovate, use and market environmentally sound technologies (Agenda 21: 34.18/b) and the reduction of barriers by introducing incentives, such as but not limited to fiscal incentives.

As the success of a Technology Transfer is substantially determined by the readiness to receive a particular technology of the receiving country and local Research & Development (R&D) capabilities in order to ensure effective implementation (current science, Vol. 106, No. 8, 25/April/2014: 'Status of technology transfer in India'), the issue of comprehensive and efficient Financing of International Climate Change Technology Transfer is of crucial importance to the Republic of India. Consequently the Republic of India supports the COP decision on 'Development and transfer of technologies' (2/CP.14) welcoming the 'Poznan strategic programme on technology transfer' (FCCC/SBI/2008/16) and requesting the 'Global environment facility' (GEF) to consider the long-term implementation programme by addressing deficiencies relating to investments in the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and leveraging private sector investments.

Since the positive impact of International Climate Change Technology Transfer is heavily dependent on its financing, the Republic of India is seriously committed to the matter. Starting solely with agricultural Technology Transfer in 1862 it has transitioned towards a well embedded large-scale market. The legislation of the Republic has signed 'The Protection and Utilisation of Publicly Funded Intellectual Property Bill' on the basis of the 'Bayh – Dole' draft act into law which raises the transfer of technology to the industry and strengthens local R&D institutions. The governmental 'Department of Science and Technology' (DST) has also created the 'Technology Transfer Division' and the 'Renewable Energy Development Agency' (IREDA) to promote, develop and extend financial assistance for the transfer of technology and respectively renewable energy or energy efficiency projects. For instance the IREDA and the 'International Bank for Reconstruction and Development' (IBRD) promote and commercialize the private sector investment in wind farms and solar photovoltaic power systems through the provision of below-market loans. Furthermore, the Republic of India is actively engaged in South-South cooperation programmes such as the 'India-Brazil- South Africa Dialogue Forum' (IBSA) or the 'India Africa Forum Summit' (IAFS) constituting the 'India Africa Science & Technology Ministers Conference and Tech Expo' where the efficiency of South-South technology transfer is improved and capacity building assistance is developed and provided.

The importance of the matter has been acknowledged by various organizations which consequently improved the status of technology transfer globally. The investment in the Transfer of Technology in India through 'Foreign Direct Investment[s]' (FDI) is ten times higher than through development aid. Market oriented approaches to the transfer of technology such as FDI's are able to thrive in favourable conditions characterized by the reduction of

protective economic policies and should continuously be promoted. The creation of incentive structures on a regional level should be supported to consequently encourage private sector involvement.

The structure of development aid programmes should be improved by an effective institutional arrangement which introduces clear responsibilities among organizations and provides clear guidance to the process of technology transfer especially regarding the sources of funding such as the SCCF, financing partnerships of Annex II parties or subsidiaries of the World Bank in order to provide efficient and comprehensive financing concepts. Investments into R&D systems should be encouraged to improve process-efficiency and eventually lower costs.

II. Sustainable Development in the Arctic

In the context of climate change, the Arctic is one of the most sensitive regions on the planet. The Arctic region hosts 4 million people, many of them part of indigenous tribes and cultures as well as a broad range of wildlife. Furthermore, the Arctic is of high economic relevance, which is determined by its broad natural resource base and the availability of shipping routes. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, 'the attraction of arctic oil and gas reserves, unexploited marine living resources and shorter shipping routes connecting the Pacific and the Atlantic Oceans is undeniable, the adversarial impact of melting Arctic Ice cap on the indigenous communities, the marine ecosystems and aggravation of global warming is equally undeniable.'

Consequently the Republic of India has launched the Arctic expedition programme and has entered MOU with the Norwegian Polar Research Institute. Research revolves around Glaciology, Atmospheric sciences and Biological sciences. A sum of over US\$12 million has been committed for financial investments in Arctic Studies for the next 5 years. It is in recognition of this contribution to Arctic Studies that India's application for Observer Status in 2012 received widespread support from all Member States and India was granted observer status to the Arctic Council at the Eighth Biennial Ministerial meeting of the Arctic Council on May 1, 2013. The Republic of India has ratified the 'International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution From Ships' (MARPOL) and supports the 'Task Force on Arctic Marine Oil Pollution Prevention' (TFOPP). Consequently, India believes in the creation of an adequate balance between economic and environmental factors as described in the 'Brundtland Report'. Therefore it is of crucial importance to include all stakeholders in this process to find a global solution. This should especially be considered towards the 'Arctic Council'.

Moreover the Republic of India endorses multilateral agreements on the basis of the 'United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea', especially articles 55 and 57, pertaining to 'Exclusive economic zone[s]' (EEZ) on the basis of the 'Illulissat Declaration' regarding the comprehensive regulation of shipping routes.

III. Promoting resource efficiency in urban development

The number of people living in urban areas has been steeply rising since 1950. It is expected that about 64% of the population in developing countries and 86% in developed countries will live in cities by 2050. The Republic of India recognizes one of the highest urbanization rates with the number of people living in urban areas expected to increase by 7% by 2020, making up 40% of India's entire, rapidly growing population. Consequently major infrastructural challenges arise, especially regarding energy generation and supply systems, which demand an efficient procurement of resources.

Through various ongoing projects to address infrastructural and efficiency problems as well as the regulation of the urbanization process, the Republic of India's government is seriously committed to the matter. The 'United Nations Human Settlement Programme' (UN-Habitat) introduced by the 'Vancouver Action Plan' and the subsequent resolution on the 'Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the UN-Habitat' (A/RES/67/216) and the respective UN-Habitat 3 Conference in 2016 are strongly supported.

In order to decrease traffic congestion and GHG emissions the Indian Ministry of Urban Development has implemented public transportation projects in urban areas. The Republic of India is also collaborating with other Member States in order to improve resource efficiency, for instance by the 'Efficiency programme on secondary raw materials' or the 'Water and waste management programme' in cooperation with the German Ministry of Environment. The Republic of India launched a US\$ 19 billion action plan in 2009 aiming towards the advancement of solar photovoltaic power systems with further US\$ 100 billion made available in January 2015 to widen the power capacity to 100GW by 2022. The desired accomplishment is to fulfil the goals set within the Agenda 21 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's), as declared in HSP/GC/23/7.

The Republic of India's specific long-term goals are to create a more efficient and environmentally friendly energy supply for the population as a whole and to regulate the urbanization process, providing an efficient housing system, as proposed in the 'Shanghai Manual'. To achieve these objectives the Republic of India emphasizes the 'Sustainable Cities Programme' (SCP) and supports cooperation among Member States to achieve efficiency during urbanization processes. India believes that specific solutions should be "nationally determined" (Prakash Javadekar, Minister of Environment) in terms of energy efficiency. Furthermore the Republic of India is convinced of the importance of the post-15 Development Agenda as stated by the Republic of India's Ministry of Environment.

Position Paper for the United Nations General Assembly Second Committee

The topics before the United Nations General Assembly Second Committee are: Women in Development; The Impact of Migration on Development, Adapting to Globalization: The New International Economic Order; and the Green Economy. The Republic of India believes in international collaboration and is willing to contribute to important resolutions concerning current deficiencies.

I. Women in Development

According to the 2012 United Nations Revision of the World Population Prospects, India will have reached a population of nearly 1.3 billion in 2015. About 16.5% of the world's female population are Indian citizens. Consequently, India has a significant responsibility towards the empowerment of women and considers of importance to support resolutions concerning women's economic, social and health related development.

After adopting The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) by the General Assembly, the Government of India had set up the Department of Women and Child Development, in 1985. With effect from 16 February 2006, the Department has been upgraded to the Ministry of Women and Child Development. Within the UN system India supports mainstreaming of a gender perspective and creating gender focal points. The Indian government achieved considerable advance in increasing awareness of gender related problems, such as the feminization of poverty in accordance with A/RES/48/104 and A/RES/66/216. After A/RES/65/1, India intensified its dedication in providing Indian women with access to quality health care, education and labour markets, especially in the structurally weak areas in the Northeast. To institutionalize the empowerment of women, India has introduced a Gender Budget Statement as part of the Union Budget. The increased dedication to promoting gender equality has attained substantial success, especially concerning the political representation and health conditions. India has 1.3 Million elected women representatives in local bodies, exceeding the percent reservation. The development of women has been supported by many legislative actions, such as Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013. The Indian government acknowledges the relevance of a supporting legislative body, but prioritizes education over punishment in order to raise consciousness.

India's growing international importance within the community of Member States demands a further engagement in women's empowerment. The Republic of India will use its influence to encourage its neighbouring States to adapt similar measures in order to enhance women's empowerment especially in Southeast Asia. India recognizes the obligation to take supplementary actions against the discrimination of women, since Indian women still face noticeable gender related obstacles. The maternal mortality ratio is approximately 200 and needs to be lowered by improvements in education and health care. Similar actions will help decrease the relatively high number of HIV infected, which disproportionally affects women. The government of India is engaged in developing a gender sensitive curricula from kindergarten to universities. Violence against women impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and constitutes a major obstacle to the achievement of gender equality, development and peace. The Indian government believes in education as the most powerful weapon to fight inequality and achieve economic development. India will intensify its international collaborations, especially with the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. All actions concerning the issue will be in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the spirit of gender equality.

II. The Impact of Migration on Development

For the Republic of India, migration constitutes an important factor that shapes its social and economic reality. A recent World Bank report, which includes internal migration, states that nearly a third of the Indian population, or more than 300 Million people, are migrants. According to the OECD and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, more than 7 Million Indian citizens have migrated abroad during the last 5 years. Although the most relevant destination for Indian migration North America, India notices an increasing trend in South-South migration, where countries like the Russian Federation, Ukraine and India are both major sending and receiving countries. Since India is the world's biggest receiver of remittances, which account for approximately 3.5% of the Indian GDP, migration contributes significantly to poverty eradication in India. According to the 2014 World Bank's Global Monitoring Report on the Millennium Development Goals, India has lifted approximately 140 Million people out of absolute poverty, becoming the biggest contributor to poverty reduction between 2008 and 2011.

Nevertheless migrants still face discrimination. The foreign work force in States in which the "Kafala system" is applied is often exposed to exploitation and abusive treatment. Many of the ILO fundamental conventions have not been ratified. The "Kafala system" is inherently problematic, because it creates an unequal power dynamic

between employer and employee. India calls upon the UN to monitor the implementation of the eight-point agenda on migration by its Member States according to A/RES/66/128. India believes that in order to support the economic and social development of the origin countries, international transaction costs need to be lowered significantly and that the rights of migrant workers, their mobility, their education and their families have to be protected by an international legal framework. The Indian Government calls upon the international community to conduct negotiations about bi- and multilateral agreements on entry and exit requirements and immigration laws. As a founding member of the International Labour Organization (ILO), India recognizes the importance of the cross-border protection of migrant worker's rights according to A/RES/45/158 and supports the work of the Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration (MFLM).

III. Adapting to Globalization: The New International Economic Order and the Green Economy

Since the establishment of the UN in 1945 the world has experienced a major structural change: Globalization. Its opportunities and threats can be seen plainly, especially in India. The Republic of India, one of the world's biggest and fastest growing countries, plays an increasingly key role within the world's new economic order and will have an important impact on the direction of the future globalization process. The United Nations World Economic Situation and Prospects 2015 report confirms the Indian leadership position for the Southeast Asian economy and recent forecasts project that India will join China and the USA as a global economic power within 2050. The Indian Government acknowledges its responsibility to shape an inclusive and sustainable economic development, as defined in the 1987 Brundtland Commission Report Our Common Future as "development, which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

India's economic development has been appreciated by the UN Environment Management Group because of its low environmental impact while generating income and facilitating growth. To meet its international responsibilities, the Indian Government and the UNEP agreed to strengthen energy efficiency and emphasized India's leadership role for an ambitious, comprehensive and equitable agreement at the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference in Paris. Investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies will play a major role in tackling current global challenges such as climate change and global economic recovery. The Republic of India is working towards decarbonisation of the energy sector and emission reductions of greenhouse gases to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) according to A/68/970. The Building a Low-carbon Indian Economy report, by the Confederation of Indian Industry asserts adopting suitable policies to promote non-carbon intensive fuels, renewables and state-of-the-art technologies to promote energy efficiency. The Indian Government has lowered entrance barriers in the ethanol and biodiesel industry and invests heavily in wind turbines companies such as Suzlon Energy.

The UNEP report Towards a green economy: Pathways to sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication states the challenges of the transition towards a green economy. Especially for a highly populated country like India, poverty eradication and sustainable economic growth might be conflicting under certain circumstances. Small businesses encounter unfavourable environmental regulations and limited financing. India appreciates the collaboration with the UN Industrial Development Organization that helps balancing industrial development, especially in the important automotive industry, with environmental issues. The eradication of poverty by stimulating the economy and developing the infrastructure while simultaneously maintaining its commitment towards the environment, probably presents India's greatest challenge of this century. As A/RES/63/303 states, further sustainable economic development is threatened by financial instability and an unequal distribution of wealth. The Reserve Bank of India had a noticeable influence on draft guidelines within the Basel III accord to regulate global financial markets. In order to not put past achievements at risk, the Government of India recognizes the need to address especially its relatively high inflation rate and its balance deficit. About 30% of the Indian population still lives below the poverty line. Consequently, the Indian Government has started talks with the IMF and the World Bank, which are the organizations best equipped to consult with and co-ordinate respective economic actions. India will intensify its efforts to promote children's education according to Article 51A of the Constitution of India and encourage sustainable economic growth, especially in its structurally weak areas in the Northeast, where the transition towards a green economy constitutes a major opportunity for the economic development of the area.

The Republic of India, perceiving its growing responsibility within an interconnected community of states believes that the matter of globalization needs to be addressed urgently and in a collaborative and consensual atmosphere. The UN and its agencies, funds and programmes constitute well-situated platforms to approach the adaptation to globalization and the transition towards a sustainable economy. To assure a representative outcome, the United Nations, however, must reflect contemporary global realities. Therefore the Republic of India is in favour of an extensive reform of the UN and especially of the Security Council and will support Atul Khare as leader of the Change Management Team on this behalf.

Position Paper for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

The topics before the UNESCO are: Empowering Youth through Access to Information and Communication Technology and Media, Improving Water Security through Natural Resource Management and Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Republic of India is thoroughly committed to the advancement of living standards through comprehensive approaches in collaboration with the regional and international community.

I. Empowering Youth Through Access to Information and Communication Technology and Media

The Republic of India is well aware of the unique opportunities that ICT offers to empower young Indians in urban as well as in rural communities. By 2020, two thirds of the Indian population will be under 35 years of age, making India the youngest country in the world. Thus, India has to ensure that its youth is well-educated and highly- skilled, in order to meet the needs of the growing Indian economy within a globalized world. Providing the population, especially young people, with free access to ICT is not specific to India but a duty that every country has. The Republic of India therefore encourages a global approach to the topic. Many Asian countries have similar high percentages of young people and are thus facing similar difficulties as well as opportunities. India looks forward to discussing problem solutions as well as experiences not only on a regional level but also with a global scope.

India affirms its endorsement of the objectives expressed during the UNESCO International Conference addressing ICT for People with Disabilities in New Delhi in 2014. Individual genetic or social disadvantages can be overcome by the unique opportunities ICT offers. The generally high affinity of young people in dealing with new devices speeds up their access to the new tools, which promises great potential that is yet to be fully unlocked. India's main activities to empower its youth through ICT are consolidated in the governmental initiative "Digital India" which started last year. The purpose of this highly ambitious tech-driven project is to give all Indian citizens Internet access via smart phones, which are mainly produced in India. Every citizen should possess a smart phone by 2019, thereby enabling the population to also use electronic Government services as ICT has great potential to facilitate general administration. Though roughly three quarters of the population are already equipped with mobile phones, most are possessed by urban Indians. However, the initiative Digital India especially supports ICT in rural India. As a first step, India aims to set up a nationwide optic-fiber network by June 2016. The Republic of India encourages its neighbors to adopt joint actions in setting up fast Internet connections. The vast IT illiteracy, mainly among the economically disadvantaged Indian youth in rural areas, remains a severe obstacle. Reducing IT illiteracy is a unique opportunity to improve the Indian youths' economic prospects whilst providing the national IT industry with much-wanted staff. Member States are thus encouraged to share their experiences and the challenges they have faced with the implementation of Internet networks in rural areas. The Republic of India is aware of Digital India's huge economic impact. Public-private partnerships (PPPs) with enterprises dealing in e-commerce and social networks may help to implement the project through financial support and with their specific know-how. In addition they will help to secure the effectiveness of the foreseen activities. The Republic of India has to confirm, however, that the predicted high profits will primarily benefit the Indian population considering that the production of the needed smartphones is primarily located in the country itself. Furthermore, India looks forward to being able to share its experiences in dealing with PPPs with other Member States.

Illiteracy remains a major problem blocking the access to ICT. India makes no exception in South and West Asia's low literacy rates. Every fifth Indian child of 10 years of age cannot read. As stated on UNESCO's International Literacy Day in 2014 in Dhaka, Bangladesh, India firmly believes literacy and education to be key levers for sustainable development. ICT might provide a way to better literacy, too. The Internet and smart phones can probably be used to set up literacy programs in various regional languages. The Republic of India welcomes a South and West Asian cooperative using ICT to improve literacy.

The Republic of India acknowledges the multitude of problems yet to be solved in order to transform India into a knowledge-based society. It is convinced that obstacles such as illiteracy and IT illiteracy must be overcome using a holistic approach. Successful problem solving needs an in-depth understanding of the connections linking the issues at hand. Furthermore, all affected parties - including the Indian Government, private investors and, most importantly, the Indian People, have to participate. ICT empowers the Indian youth to contribute to much wanted solutions.

Participating in the democratic process via Internet and social media is not only highly important for India's economic future, but it is a new chance for democracy, India being the largest democracy in the world. In the latest general election, some 150 million were first-time voters requiring political information. ICT will help to provide all citizens, especially young people, with political knowledge.

The Republic of India also ensures and is a proponent of free Internet access without censorship. It is more than willing to enter into discussions about the advantages of free Internet access with all parties concerned.

II. Improving Water Security Through Natural Resource Management

During the UN International Decade 'Water for Life' (2005-2015), India has made huge efforts to meet the UN Millennium Development Goals concerning water security (MDG No. 7 & 8). It has successfully implemented improved water sources for nearly all of its urban population (97%) and for the vast majority of rural communities (91%), as stated in the latest UN Yearbook 2013.

Nevertheless, India has not yet achieved a comparable breakthrough in sanitation and wastewater treatment. 50% of the Indian population, nearly 600 million, defecates in the open, as UNICEF reported in May last year. The new government has set up a multi-million dollar sanitation project to fulfill the UN goal aimed at totally eliminating open defecation by 2025. However, changing the everyday habits of over half a billion Indians remains a difficult task. The Republic of India acknowledges Bangladesh's huge success in improving sanitation and is looking for advice from its South Eastern neighbor. All parties involved, especially local environmentalists, are encouraged to help ensure that open defecation is stopped.

The natural water resources, and India's biggest river, the Ganges, in particular, are severely damaged by open defecation, colossal littering and the lack of sewerage facilities. Several new embankments and even higher withdrawals for agriculture have reduced the stream's velocity, thereby lowering its capacity for self- purification.

A sustainable management of India's natural water resources urgently needs the participation of every single one of its 500 million occupants dwelling on the river banks. Only they are in a position to identify problems and find, implement and supervise effective solutions. Local contribution and knowledge, as understood in UNESCO's Local and Indigenous Knowledge system program LINKS, are indispensable for a sustainable rejuvenation of the Ganges' waters. The Republic of India has recognized that the Ganges cannot be cleansed unless the riverside residents are willing to cooperate.

India is aware that the gigantic dimension of the project could make it inefficient. Wastefulness can only be conquered using a holistic approach adopted by all parties involved, especially on a local level.

Cleaning up the Ganges is important not only in India, but even more so for its south eastern neighbor Bangladesh, whose agriculture highly depends on the Ganges waters. Indian Natural Resources Management should, in the future, intensify contacts to its neighbors, China as well as Pakistan and Bangladesh. The management of trans-boundary rivers such as the Ganges and Brahmaputra must be done internationally. The Indian Government strictly obeys the UN Convention on Trans-boundary Water of 1997.

III. Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage

Today, India faces huge challenges in managing its natural resources. In comparison, safeguarding its rich intangible cultural heritage might be seen as being only of minor importance. 'Toilets are more important than temples', according to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

But a closer look at the complex situation in multicultural India shows that, on the contrary, living together peacefully can only be secured by mutual respect for the cultural identity of the many religious and ethnic groups forming India, especially the numerous minorities. What better way of showing respect for other cultural identities can there be than to safeguard their specific cultural heritage?

India esteems its rich cultural legacy dating back to the third millennium BC, not only as a legacy from the past, but also as a living proof of the ongoing success of the Indian multiethnic society. In this spirit, in 2003, India signed the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and has since added special Indian traditions from all Indian cultures to the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Two years ago, India successfully attached the Buddhist chanting of Ladakh, a recitation of sacred Buddhist texts. India proposes to its neighbor China to set up a dialogue about protecting the Buddhist heritage in Ladakh and Tibet. Safeguarding Ladakh traditions shows India's respect for Buddhist rites. By cherishing cultural immaterial heritage India encourages every citizen, be they Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and all others to follow their own religious beliefs and traditions. Safeguarding intangible cultural heritage is a means to building peace in the minds of men and women. Multicultural India will stand by this basic UNESCO vision in order to maintain peace amongst its ethnic groups.

India is also aware of ongoing religious tensions mainly between the Hindu majority and India's second largest Muslim minority. Since Indian independence in 1947 and the partition of India and Pakistan, Muslim-Hindu relations have been tense. The Republic of India condemns racial discrimination. In order to show India's respect towards its Muslim community, India plans to make Eidul-Fitr, the Muslim Feast of Breaking the Fast a nationwide holiday. India strives to have Indian Eid-ul-Fitr implemented in the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

The Republic of India is convinced that the severe problems at hand in all three matters can be solved by dealing with them holistically. To find "Unity in Diversity" has always been a fundamental motto of the multiethnic and multicultural Indian State and will remain so in future. India will overcome all obstacles by relying on the innovative power and the joint effort of every Indian citizen.

Position Paper for the Security Council

The topics before the Security Council (SC) are: The Situation in Iraq; Measures to Combat Terrorism in Africa; as well as Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Security Sector Reform. As a long time active participant and major contributor to the United Nations' (UN) peacekeeping operations and Permanent Member of the Security Council of the UN, the United Kingdom (UK) looks forward to fulfilling its duties and commitments to the promotion and perpetuation of peace and security when dealing with the topics at hand.

I. The Situation in Iraq

Having been a member of the SC since its foundation, the United Kingdom has been witness to the long history of the topic of Iraq on the Council's agenda and is aware of the complex questions associated with it. Despite the challenges that the situation in Iraq still poses, it is the duty of this council to reach prompt agreements on effective measures targeted at aiding the Iraqi government to put an end to violence and lay the necessary grounds for sustainable peace in line with the pledges made at the Paris Conference last September.

Acknowledging the grave terrorist threat posed by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant/Sham (ISIS/ISIL) to the Middle East and the rest of the world as highlighted in the SC's presidential statement S/PRST/2014/23 issued in November, the United Kingdom is convinced that, first and foremost, strong military action is necessary to halt the spread of ISIS/ISIL. The United Kingdom therefore urges the provision of support to the Iraqi military in line with the needs expressed by the Iraqi authorities and in accordance with international law and without jeopardizing civilian security. Such support should take the form of both active intervention, which is to be understood as direct deployment of troops in the conflict region with the task of coordinating counter-attacks, air strikes and other operations and providing training for local forces and passive support, which includes the provision of military equipment, technological know-how and other forms of indirect military involvement.

The strategic coordination of such military assistance is of utmost importance for its effectiveness and the United Kingdom thus sees the need for a platform that promotes the enhancement of cooperation between the International Coalition in the fight against ISIS/ISIL and the humanitarian efforts of the UN Assistance Mission to Iraq (UNAMI), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Recognizing the crucial role of armed forces in the dismantling of ISIS/ISIL and believing that a more cooperative military involvement through the International Coalition is already under way, the United Kingdom advises this Council to prioritize the discussion of the non-military measures that are imperative for the efficacy of military intervention in the long term.

The United Kingdom maintains that the fight against terrorism in Iraq cannot succeed without a comprehensive approach that addresses the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, as outlined in Pillar I of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (A/RES/60/288), and in this respect commends the work of the Counter Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate (CTED) in countering violent extremism, preventing terrorist financing and recruitment and identifying capacity gaps in the implementation of resolutions S/2001/1373 and S/2005/1624. However, the current situation in Iraq as reported in the Secretary General's February report (S/2015/82) indicates that a lot remains to be done. The United Kingdom thus recognizes the following three priorities for a successful peacekeeping and peacebuilding process in Iraq: first, the improvement of Iraq's internal stability; second, the instigation of constructive relationships between Iraq and the rest of the Arab World and with the West; and third, the establishment of a diversified economy that enhances the availability of work opportunities.

The United Kingdom believes that the current fragility of the political and social structure within Iraq has permitted ISIS/ISIL to amass considerable amounts of influence in the last months and is thus convinced that internal cohesion is paramount to the advancement of any peacebuilding process that is to take place. The United Kingdom thus calls on the Iraqi government to foster strategies that promote values of respect, solidarity and unity among Iraqi citizens and calls on all Member States to offer their support in the strengthening of the rule of law and the implementation of a policy of inclusiveness that ensures that all involved parties are fairly represented within federal institutions and that guarantees that all citizens are treated equally in accordance to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In this context, the United Kingdom praises the work of UNAMI and wishes to highlight it as the key organization for coordinating the implementation of such measures.

In order to maximize the effectiveness of UNAMI's future work, the United Kingdom welcomes any proposals to revise and possibly expand the mission's mandate in the belief that this will serve the goal of achieving internal stability in Iraq. Pleased with the advancement of positive relationships between Iraq and Kuwait as reported by the Secretary General in S/2014/776, the UK additionally encourages all other neighboring countries and members of the Arab League to assist Iraq in the implementation of measures against illicit funding of ISIS/ISIL as outlined in resolution S/RES/2199. The United Kingdom also calls upon all Member States to commit themselves to assist Iraq in its post-conflict reconstruction work with the aim of achieving fair regional development necessary for establishing a diversified and sustainable economy, in particular through the provision of know-how, expertise and appropriate financial aid. This approach should emphasize offering a broader access to education for boys

and girls and creating employment opportunities for Iraqi citizens. A binding commitment to support Iraq in such ways will generate confidence of the international community in the country's prompt recovery. As Prime Minister David Cameron rightly acknowledged before Parliament, "this is going to be a mission that will take not just months, but years, and we have to be prepared for that commitment". The creation of a solid post-conflict recovery framework will make it possible to bring sustainable peace to the Iraqi citizens and to unlock Iraq's full potential.

II. Measures to Combat Terrorism in Africa

The United Kingdom has been continuously involved in diverse efforts to combat the many outbursts of terrorism in Africa. These various engagements have provided valuable insights on what measures prove effective in countering terrorism in the continent. In particular, the UK's involvement in operations in Somalia in accordance with the 'Building Stability Overseas Strategy' (BSOS) developed by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Department for International Development (DFID) and the Ministry of Defence (MOD) in accordance with the UN's Global Counterterrorism Strategy as outlined in A/RES/60/228, have shown that even in the most fragile countries, some elements of the private sector can continue to thrive, and targeted support to these can help generate income, jobs, and alternatives to violent conflict. The BSOS has evidenced significant success in creating a new and legitimate government, significantly reducing piracy levels and the reconstruction of Somalia's armed forces, police, coastguard, justice system and public finances.

Even though the UK is aware that social, political and economic structures differ from country to country within the African continent as reported in S/2014/9, some key features can be derived from the effective operations in Somalia, which include the empowerment of African troops and the continuous support of the international community by providing constant diplomatic, financial and humanitarian support. A major challenge in the implementation of such measures, as stated by Foreign Secretary William Hague, is the protection of human rights, "since the threat from terrorism is greatest in the countries where the rule of law and human rights are the weakest." In this context, the UK wishes to highlight the importance of information sharing to prevent the accelerating spread of terrorism as described in S/PRST/2013/5 and the support of the efforts of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Other measures that are necessary include building up counter-terrorism capacity of overseas security services, supporting prosecutors and judges to ensure that the processing of terrorism cases through national court systems is effective, fair and in line with the rule of law, and working to improve and monitor the conditions in detention facilities so that convicted terrorists can be held securely and their treatment meets international standards. The United Kingdom is already mobilizing the implementation of these crucial measures through the Africa Conflict Prevention Pools (ACPP), as evidenced in the cases of Somalia and Mali, and calls upon all Members of this Council to incorporate them as well.

III. Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Security Sector Reform

The United Kingdom has displayed its commitment to the prevention of violent conflict and the provision of peace in fragile through its engagement in the adoption and application of the principles for the Security Sector Reform (SSR) in line with S/RES/2014/2151 with the purpose of "help[ing] governments of developing and transition countries fulfill their legitimate security functions through reforms that will make the delivery of security more democratically accountable, as well as more effective and efficient, thereby reducing the potential for both internal and external conflict." The SSR Strategy of the UK relies on three outputs to achieve this objective: policy development and analysis, technical assistance and capacity building. Implementation has been taking place through instruments such as the funding of courses on defense diplomacy and military education, the establishment of the Defense Advisory Team to provide defense management in partner countries, financial management support and advice on civil-military relations, and the creation of the Global Facilitation Network, a research, advisory and mobilization tool for the government of the United Kingdom and international partners.

The United Kingdom has also worked closely with the OECD Development Assistance Committee and thereby helped governments of developing countries to elevate policy-making processes, strengthen the accountability and transparency of the security sector and enhance efficiency in the utilisation of security sector capacities. The success of the efforts of the UK on SSR depends to a large extent on developing a common understanding on the role of SSR in conflict prevention, conflict reduction and peacebuilding. Bearing in mind the outcomes of previous implementations of SSR in fragile regions, the UK is aware that the preservation of long-lasting stability and peace cannot only rely on the above-mentioned measures.

The United Kingdom thus urges all Members of this Council to reconsider the scope of the current content of SSR and to acknowledge the importance of a closer connection between SSR and measures for sustainable development in fragile regions. Members should recognize that the nature of conflict in most unstable regions is closely tied to a lack of economic and social opportunities. The United Kingdom thus advises the inclusion of more educational and economic focused factors that ensure a sustainable development of peace, to help governments foster prosperity and fight poverty through economic growth and financial stability. Such an integration of sectors can be enabled through the facilitation of communication and collaboration between SSR experts and other development agencies and organisations. The United Kingdom is convinced that only this Council has the ability to support the initiation of such cooperation and in this way act for more efficient and durable achievements of SSR.









OCATION: SHERATON NYC

The Sheraton Hotel New York with it's 1.700 rooms is located directly between Central Park and the Times Square and is known as one of the main accomodations for both business travellers and tourists in central Manhattan.

The delegates of this year's National Model United Nations were accommodated in the Sheraton as well. Despite the inconveniences of staying at an extremely crowded hotel due to the conference, it provided perfect opportunities for combining the work in the committees, getting together with other delegates from all over the world and from time to time catching some sleep.

The more than 2,500 students from all over the world ensured that the NMUN spirit was overwhelming in the hotel and every delegate could establish various contacts beyond the work in the commitees. One also only had to step outside to have perfect access to many of Manhattan's main attractions. A variety of restaurants, cafes and pubs are only short walks away, as well as some of New York's busiest streets, such as 5th Avenue and Broadway. The metro station is also around the corner making transportation around New York extremely convenient.

We, the delegation of Frankfurt School of Finance and Management, are pleased and say thank you for spending 11 exceptional and unforgettable days in this hotel.



WORKSHOP AT DEUTSCHE BANK

The Frankfurt School Delegation was very pleased to have, like last year, the opportunity to hold the preparation workshop at the Deutsche Bank, directly located on 60th Wall Street. We were all very excited, so during the long subway ride downtown we shared expectations not only about Wall Street but especially how would it be at Deutsche Bank, which the most of us knew already very well but only from Germany.

As we passed the security line, Ms. Vasquez showed the group the way to the bank's basement where our perfectly fitting congress room was located. We all took place in a big half circle table, so everybody could see each other, and listened to the warm welcome speech from Ms. Vasquez. After the applause was over and our heads handed over the thank-you gift, we finally could start to work. The schedule was very tight so the delegates were very focused on their workflow. First we started to prepare our welcome speech, every delegation should have to state India's position about the order of the topics their council was dealing with. The media team and the heads were walking around and gave tips and helped out with more proper formulations when asked for.

As everybody was finished we had a break and everybody restored themselves with good food from the cafeteria nearby the conference room. After the break and to get deeper in touch with the MUN spirit we watched the video from last year's delegation. In context everybody who attended last year shared their most significant experience, gave advise and motivated the young group of delegates to do their very best. In the afternoon we also listened to a detailed presentation from our heads about important issues we have to keep in mind when it comes to set up a working paper in our councils. By the point every question was answered and the time ran out the group was exhausted but confident about the upcoming MUN conference sessions.

On the second day we could arrange our schedule a bit more slowly due to the excellent progress we made at the first workshop day. We improved our opening speeches and made last variations. After that we had the great opportunity to deliver the speech we wrote in front of the delegation and were filmed while doing it. Thereby we could see ourselves talking and so gain a different perspective on how we perform. Together with the media

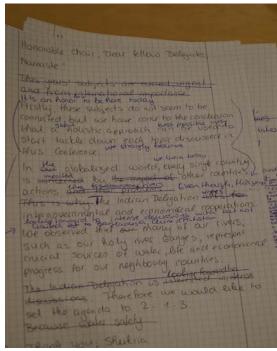
team and the heads the speaker was watching the video in a next-door room and received invaluable feedback on his delivery. This practice gave very strong reliance to the delegates so they were very confident about their speeches in the end. After we figured out the best strategy on how to behave in the informal conference sessions, before that we again listened to a presentation from our heads on this topic and received a lot of tips and tricks. Overall the workshop was a huge success. When

Overall the workshop was a huge success. When we were looking back on these two days we realized that we learned a lot, had much fun during the preparation and we became ready, ready to show our best!













OPENING CEREMONY



The opening ceremony of the National Model United Nations Conference 2015, which took place in the Sheraton New York Time Square Hotel, was an actual intellectual enrichment and a powerful motivator for the tough conference days which were ahead of us.

The first two speakers of the evening were the Secretary General Roger Tseng and Deputy Secretary General, Viviane Jeffrey, of the conference. In the context of the moto of the conference, which was "IMPACT", they stressed how we could develop ourselves as "Global Citizens" in the following days participating in this simulation game and ultimately make a difference in international politics.

The first keynote speaker of the evening was former Ambassador to the United Nations of the United States of America and MUN veteran James Jonah. He gave a very strong speech emphasizing that it is the duty of our generation to make decisions to strengthen the UN and consequently maintain peace around the world.

Furthermore he criticized the current veto structure of the United Nations Security Council and the dominance of nationalism in international politics. This was leading to failures on passing resolutions on Syria and Ukraine which consequently weakened the position of the UN peacekeepers. He asked why African and Latin American countries are not permanently included in the Security Council.

James Jonah urged us to use the various opportunities NMUN provides to train to serve the international community. He stressed that it is our task to make decisions that strengthen the UN and to be independent, professional international servants and not to take instructions from overly self-interested governments. Consequently we have to transfer those attributes to the entire UN body.

In his closing remarks he made clear what our duty not only during the MUN conference, but in the future as well, should be: "We need committed delegates who know that without the United Nations, the world will be destroyed."

The last speaker of the opening ceremony was the Executive director of NMUN Michael Eton. He honoured Ambassador Joseph H. Melrose, Jr., who has been a life-long contributor to the conference but passed away unexpectedly last fall. Starting as a delegate, he later joined the US Foreign Service and never lost NMUN out of sight. After his retirement he became NMUN Faculty Advisor at his alma mater and helped secure impressive guest speakers such as Susan Rice or Samantha Power. Ambassador Melrose is missed and will long be remembered. As a gesture to show that he will always be with us, his two year old granddaughter officially declared the conference open.

COMMITTEE WORK



Describing the atmosphere at National Model United Nations in just one word would result in a collection of a thousand words, if you ask a thousand people. Hence we will now look deeper into some stronger aspects of the conference.

Firstly, from the very beginning of the conference one can easily feel the sense of competitiveness that is running through all of the committee rooms. Starting right after the conference many delegates are immediately moving into discussions with other delegations to convince them of their agenda and if necessary form big alliances just to be able to set the agenda into the preferred order.

Within further progress the competitive character of the conference gets stronger as ideas need to be put into working papers. During this stage, the most competitive delegations are fighting to push their ideas and to keep opposing ideas as small as possible. In the next stage, the eventual stage of merging big papers, it is important to make sure that the own ideas will stay in the merged paper. As in this stage it is easy for ideas to fall down the edge as the need for compromising is really big and a big amount of written clauses can decrease the importance for specific clauses. But even shortly before voting procedure as well as during voting procedure one needs to be careful as amendments and the motion to divide the question can rip off contents of the draft resolutions. This shows quite well how competitive, depending on the engagement of the delegates, the conference can be.

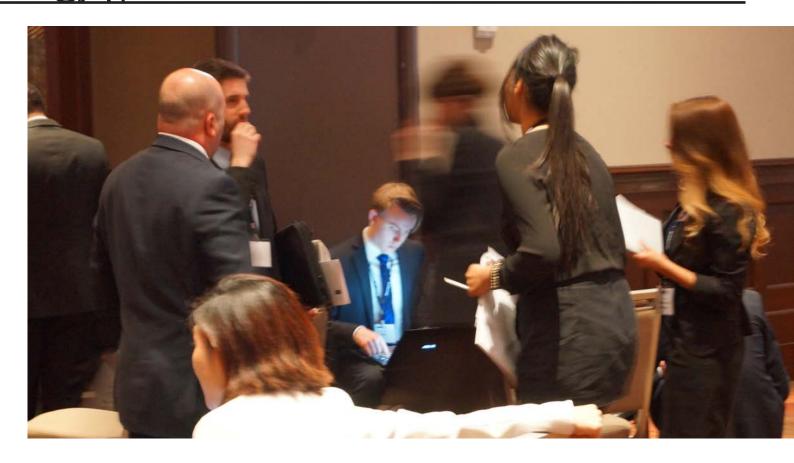
Secondly after showing the competitiveness of the conference the need of compromising and discussing in a diplomatic manner seems to be obvious.

During all the mentioned stages that will typically appear during the conference, one needs to be open minded towards the ideas of others and most of the delegates are. So the atmosphere is also characterized by compromising within ideas that are negotiable for the represented countries, while sometimes there is the necessity to maintain the standings of the country. Therefore delegates are requested to stay friendly, however firmly upholding the opinion of the countries.

Thirdly, as it is already getting clearer, the conference is labeled by the typical traits of character from the countries. One of the main objectives for the delegates is to stay in character. Accordingly many delegates try to adopt casual behaviors and ideas of the represented countries. Despite the competitive and diplomatic atmosphere it sometimes happens that one delegation is not willing to work together with another delegation normatively. In the first moment this appears unreasonable to everybody else, because the opinions seem to be similar, although when understanding the individual countries position it might be inappropriate to work together with certain countries. On the other side specific delegations usually try to group up with specific countries, the represented country shares already existing bonds with or already has binding contracts and commitments.

Having a look at these important aspects of NMUN can somewhat transmit the atmosphere that is arising during the few days of the conference.

The following section reports on the work of each committee.



The General Assembly First Committee was a really challenging committee this year. It was my first conference and I had to represent our delegation alone in this large committee but with great support by other delegates from the FS.

Over 130 Nations where represented in the General Assembly First Committee. During the agenda setting procedure you could see that the most important topic for the main block of the delegates was "Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems", so it was foreseeable that this was the topic we talked about in the General Assembly First Committee in the course of NMUN 2015.

The Frankfurt School represented India so I had to advocate the Indian position. India encourages the international community to keep discussing this topic with a long-term solution perspective instead of focusing on short-term decisions maybe in the form of a ban because Autonomous Weapon Systems are able to lower the casualties in the fight against terrorism and paramilitary groups, which is the reason why the General Assembly First Committee should be committed to obtaining more information and details about such possibilities for guaranteeing human rights and protecting civilians against acts of terrorism that aim at destroying human life. I think everyone can imagine that this is a position which is not really concurrent with the positions of African

nations or nations in the Middle East. So it was quite understandable that the most qualified allies for India where states like the United States of America, Israel or Russia.

Referring to that I focused to work together with these states against a ban after the first formal session and it was successful. I found strong allies in the United States of America and Israel and so it was possible to work on three different working papers. Our main point was to prevent a strong prohibition of LAWS. On the other side in the General Assembly First Committee there was a strong block of nations for example the African nations or some European nations which wanted to prohibit LAWS and the invention of new technologies in this sector. After two days with hard work and a lot of informal sessions there were seven working papers on the floor and we went into voting procedure. India sponsored one working paper and was a signatory of one other. Unfortunately this two papers failed during voting procedure because the block of nations against LAWS was quite large. But only working papers passed which had no strong ban of LAWS and so India could sigh with relief.

All in all the NMUN General Assembly First Committee 2015 was a great life experience and I think it was successful.

- Felix

The topics before the United Nations General Assembly Second Committee are:

- I. Women in Development
- II. The Impact of Migration on Development

III. Adapting to Globalization: The New International Economic Order; and the Green Economy. The Republic of India believes in international collaboration and is willing to contribute to important resolutions concerning current deficiencies.

This is how we started our position paper. We were ambitious. And in the end, we were quite successful.

When the GA2 committee started, my partner Ahmed Rizk and I had already discussed our strategy. We would split up and always work in different groups to have as much influence on as many working groups as possible. The topic we mainly focused on was topic III. Unfortunately, we were not able to hold an agenda setting speech, but during the numerous suspensions, we could to talk to many delegations that had very similar views on setting the agenda. We were quite optimistic and well prepared concerning the transition towards green economy.

During the agenda voting procedure we realized that while many agreed on the third topic as the most important one, people couldn't agree on the order III-II-I or III-I-II. Hence, the chair set the agenda by default: I-II-III. A first big setback and

the session had just started. The next morning we would have to talk about women and development. Not an easy topic if you represent India. We had to be prepared. There was no time to sleep.

In order to be as close to reality when representing India at the 2015 NMUN NY conference, we tried to collaborate as much as possible with the BR(I) CS. Unfortunately Brazil was not very active, but we collaborated closely especially with China and South Africa. Simultaneously we formed a working group with member states in our geographic area. Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan. Kyrgyzstan and India took the lead. Together we worked especially on microfinance and education issues and in the end submitted one of the most broadly supported draft resolutions.

We faced difficulties only when other member states did not agree on formulations on our working paper. The disagreement could only be resolved through patient mediation. From time to time we sought direct contact to the chair to ask questions, clarify statements and to show our commitment in the whole conference.

A combination of good preparation, the ability to improvise, determination, leadership and diplomacy, was our key to be one of the most successful delegations in GA2.

- Gianmarco & Ahmed





The General Assembly Third Committee is responsible for social, humanitarian and cultural affairs and issues.

So that is why the three topics of the agenda were Rights of Indigenous Peoples, The Right of Privacy in the Digital Age and Xenophobia, Racism and related Intolerances. In the agenda setting process it turned out very quickly that although every theme is equally concerning, most of the Member States preferred to start with either topic two or three, especially because the first and the last one were so similar. India was glad about the order of the agenda agreed upon in the first evening and that we were able to begin the discussions and negotiations with the third topic that was focused on Intolerances.

In advance we already discussed the idea of a school program to fight prejudice and intolerance from the beginning and to let children and young adults experience how fruitful intercultural communication and diversity can be. So we were delighted to realize, that some Member States wanted to focus on education as well so that we had the chance to speak about specific ideas very early in the negotiation progress and to start two working papers with a different approach to the topic, concentrating on education and human traffic and to cooperate with different countries such as Russia, China and Singapore. The chance to take part in two working groups was very interesting but also demanding. It was important to interact a lot with representatives

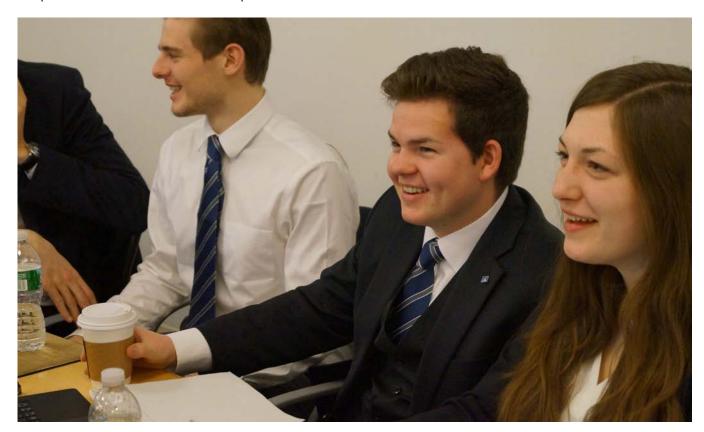
from Member States to be as present as possible during the writing progress without a partner.

Especially to discuss different points in the papers or conversations we had during suspension with the each other while trying to keep an active and important role in the different working groups was a challenge. But we managed to arrange with each other, especially in the last period which was mainly about discussing the draft resolutions we had not worked on and negotiating for example with the European Countries about some details and possibilities to agree on the draft resolutions (most favorable in consensus) rather than just making them pass.

In these sessions we had the impression that a sure tact was even more important for the process and the collaboration than the days before. Finding a good expression in English to communicate problems or worries in a polite and respectful way was one of the most important tasks in the last suspensions before we went to voting procedure.

Altogether it was demanding and exhausting but at the same time a very unique experience. And beside all the negotiations and formal procedures having lunch with some fellow delegates and hearing about their home countries and universities added the final touch to this conference.

- Clara & Maximilian



The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34) has been established by the General Assembly resolution 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965 and is an important subcommittee of the General Assembly. The committee consists of 147 Member States, mostly past or current contributors to peacekeeping operations and 14 others, like intergovernmental organizations and entities, including the African Union, the European Community, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) participating as observers. The overall goal of C-34 is to conduct a comprehensive review of all issues relating to peacekeeping and to report to the General Assembly on its work through the Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization). The General Assembly has requested an annual report from the committee to conduct "a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects", review the "implementation of its previous proposals" and "consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfill its responsibilities in this field". For the New York Model United Nations Conference 2015. the topics under discussion were:

I. Strengthening Regional Arrangements in Africa; II. Enhancing Robust Mandates to Deal with Complex Crises; III. Enhancing the Use of Technology in Peacekeeping Missions

India voted to set the agenda in the order III, II, I - with the goal to protect all troops in current and future peacekeeping operations by using advanced technology and robust mandates. As one of the biggest contributors to peacekeeping missions, this goal is of utmost importance for the Republic of India and its people. Furthermore India saw in this order the best opportunity to increase the success of all missions and also allow developing countries to benefit more by getting access to new technologies that can also be used to accelerate national development. Strengthening regional arrangements in Africa is also a very important topic for India – but only with limited priority since India tries to focus on worldwide level within the committee and not on regional topics.

On the first day, the committee was unable to agree on an agenda order, which resulted in the outcome that the given order (I, II, III) was set by the chair. After several discussions and negotiations, it became clear that the African countries were going to form an exclusive alliance to work on an individual report to push their goals and activities forward. India supported the draft report of this alliance as

a signatory to state its endorsement of the African countries' important idea to become in charge of the developments on their continent.

Another draft report was more focused and hence better suited for India to contribute in line with its assigned priorities and political beliefs. Primarily in cooperation with Switzerland, China, New Zealand and many others this draft report underlined the use of advanced technologies and the need for robust mandates. In this draft report, India acted as a sponsor and participated actively to formulate, negotiate and network with other allies to complete a comprehensive draft report in time.

Ultimately and much to the regret of India, only agenda topic I had been investigated by the committee and the conference ended with voting for the inclusion of different draft reports into a common report of the whole committee. Providing this final report is the overhead purpose of the special committee on peacekeeping operations.

All in all, it was a very interesting and valuable experience to participate in this committee. For both learning how politics and decision-making on a global level work and collaborating in an environment with many players that have more or less conflicting views but also the urgent need of making a compromise to be successful and aligned in the end.

- Riccardo & Georg



UNDP

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) advocates for change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. It provides professional advice and support to developing countries.

Our first Committee Session began directly after the Opening Session on Sunday evening. After getting in contact with some other delegations we already discussed which topic we would prefer. Some member states prioritized topic three on our agenda: "Improving Access to Water and Sanitation for Socioeconomic Development". The other member states preferred a discussion about "Fostering Developing Countries' Capacities for Climate Change Adaptation", the second issue on our agenda. We were part of the second group. Therefore we started to convince other member states to set the agenda in the order we preferred. Our prioritized agenda was 2-3-1 (the first topic on the agenda was "Building Democratic Governance by Expanding Access to Justice").

Then our first formal session of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) started. During the first session the setting of the agenda was discussed. Almost every member state held an opening speech to welcome the participating delegations and also to convince other member states to set the agenda in the right manner. Finally the UNDP voted for prioritizing the second issue on our agenda. With our first voting procedure the first day ended successfully.

On our second day many position speeches were held in formal sessions. In the first informal session the Republic of India grouped with Qatar, Nicaragua, the United Arab Emirates, Nigeria and Mongolia. We immediately edited a working paper. It recommended establishing new, innovative ways to gain energy in developing countries. Handing our first draft to the chair, the chair corrected some format details and we had to amend our working paper during the next caucuses.

Even though we were working on our paper all the time, our group was always in contact with other groups to exchange ideas. In order to become a signatory on one of the other working papers it was necessary to be in touch with as many groups as possible. However, many other member states welcomed our working paper and we could convince them to be signatories of our paper as well. After hard work and many amendments, our working pa-

per was finally accepted by the Chair and went into voting procedure as a draft resolution. Along our draft resolution four other draft resolutions were on the floor. Finally all five draft resolutions were accepted, two even by acclamation. In our opinion this is only one way that exemplifies the good collaboration that took place in our committee.

We really enjoyed the international atmosphere and the perfect mix of serious and professional work combined with amusement. The great city and the contact to different cultures and students made Model United Nations so special. Our time in New York was great, we gathered a lot of experience in negotiating and working with people from all over the world and we were proud and enjoyed being part of the Indian Delegation of 2015 at all times.

Thus we are looking forward to be part of the MUN next year again.

- Christopher & Henrik







The Frankfurt School of Finance and Management represented the Indian delegation at the NMUN 2015 conference in New York. The delegates in the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) were Martin Röchow and Kersten Schütze.

The official UNEP mandate is "to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations". This mandate is of great significance to India, as the country is facing various environmental and social problems.

Before the actual meeting each delegation had to prepare position papers on three topics for each commitee: 1. Financing International Climate Technology Transfer; 2. Sustainble Development in the Arctic; 3. Promoting Resource Efficiency in Urban Development.

The position papers display the political standpoint of every country to every topic. They are needed for the delegations to assess the other members' objectives in order to prepare for the working paper phase.

The UNEP conference began with the obligatory agenda setting, that would determine the order in which the 3 topics would be discussed. Due to time constraints it is usual that only the first chosen topic is debated in depth. We managed to convince a majority to support the agenda of our choice. The chosen subject was: "Promoting Resource effi-

ciency in Urban Development", the broadest and most relevant issue to India as it not only focuses on a sustainable urban development but also on resource efficiency and technology transfer. The Republic of India strives to find a nationally determined, economically based solution with special focus on renewable energies. These premises are the mainstay in the Indian position paper.

After the agenda setting, the main part of the commitee meetings started. The speakers list was opened and India's delegation was one of the speakers in the first meeting, underlining the importance of a sustainable urban development for India in the speech. Between the official debates, the meetings were suspended for informal session, where the delegates were able to meet up and talk about the different position papers and form syndicates to create a working paper that would eventually become a resolution. The two delegates cooperated with many groups and brought in their ideas to enhance the various working papers.

After 3 days of informal session the papers moved into voting procedure. 15 working papers were approved for voting by the chair, 2 failed, the rest were accepted by the house and got confirmed as resolution. India sponsored 5 working papers, every single one became a resolution.

After successfully adopting 13 resolutions the UNEP committee closed.

- Martin & Kersten

UNHRC

At NMUN 2015 the topics for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) were:

- 1. The Syrian Refugee Crisis
- 2. Protecting the Civil, Political, Socioeconomic Rights of Refugees
- 3. Protecting Refugees from Human Trafficking.

After a few introductory sentences and general information about the procedures by the chair, the first informal session quickly turned into a heavy discussion about the agenda setting. It turned out that there were two major groups, one preferring the ongoing Syrian Refugee crisis and one preferring the Protection of the Civil, Political and Socioeconomic Rights of Refugees as first position in the agenda. As expected, the voting on the topic was very tight and in the end, the Syrian Refugee Crisis was voted as first topic.

On the next day, we tried to ally the BRICS member states in order to write a working paper together. Unfortunately this was not possible, since Brazil and South Africa were not represented in the Committee. I decided to join a group in the lead of France and Switzerland and agreed with Russia that we would keep each other updated.

The first informal session with my new allies was marked by heavy discussions between several delegations and we were not able to find a common position. In the following session it quickly turned out that our positions were actually relatively equal and we decided to split the working group into two parts. One group focused on quick response ac-

tions and the others on a durable long-term solution. I was part of the long-term solution group and focused mainly on education and vocational training.

It took us the whole Tuesday to finish our paper, which was finally accepted by the Chair as a working paper at the end of the day. In the last minutes of the Tuesday session it became clear that Russia and two other Delegations wanted to merge with our group. We postponed the decisions about the merger in order to guarantee that everyone had enough time to read through those papers.

On Wednesday morning we decided in a democratic way to merge with Russia and accepted one clause of another group as amendment in our existing working paper. Since the voting procedure should take part in the second committee session, we were in a hurry and had to merge and finalize the paper in only two hours. In the end it was successful and our paper became Draft Resolution 1-3. During the voting procedure we tried to adopt the draft resolution by acclamation but it failed by only one vote against it. Nevertheless, the Draft Resolution passed in the regular voting procedure.

All in all I am looking back at an amazing week with great discussions and negotiations. I was really satisfied with the results of our working group and the work of all delegations in the committee. The great work with delegations from all over the world was an important step to become a global citizen.

-Lennart



UN-WOMEN



The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (which is the full name for UN-Women) is just this: a leading and supporting body towards gender equality. For both of us being newcomers to MUN it was the perfect committee to start with. Since the committee is quite small with only 33 delegations from Member States and one NGO, it was possible to work with other delegations very intensely and also hold several speeches during formal session. What also makes this committee special is its main focus because all delegations have roughly the same interest, which brings the collaboration on a different level.

The topics discussed by UN-Women were: 1. Empowering Women, Empowering Humanity: Beijing +20 Review; 2. Achieving Gender Equality Post-2015 By Eliminating Violence against All Women; 3. Strengthening Women's Political Participation.

On Day 1, after the impressive opening ceremony, the discussion about setting the agenda gathered pace even before the session started. Surprisingly, the agenda setting took the whole evening session and was even close to failure. Nonetheless our reasoning and strategic planning with like-minded delegations lead to our favored setting of 2, 3, 1. In the following days we discussed topic 2 with the focus of eliminating Violence against Women (VAW).

The next days our major challenge was to create unique working papers to avoid merging. Merging working papers is a tough fight and considered the most unpopular task to deal with. So on day 2 all delegations tried to divide and specify topics and we as India clarified our most pressing issues as we could not possibly work on everything. Then of course, we had to propose our ideas to other delegates and realize them in preambular and operative clauses.

Our first and major collaboration was with the other BRIC states. Brazil went a big step forward and gathered many countries to work on a grand working paper covering a variety of issues which affected all of us. The group was divided in 3 smaller focus groups and further divided in expert working groups for specific topics. India mainly focused on safe cities as one of the most impacted countries. Additionally we brought in ideas on engaging men, monitoring and child marriage. Also, 2015 is an important year for the UN as the Millenium Development Goals (MDG) are about to expire, to be followed by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) which are yet to be defined. We made sure that it would not be forgotten to push VAW as a stand-alone goal in the SDGs. Another significant working paper addressed violence against marginal groups. Although it was tricky to reconcile some parts with India's position, it was our concern to introduce violence against elderly and disabled women to that paper.

At the end we managed to have 4 draft resolutions on the floor (without merging), India being sponsor on two of them as well as signatory on the other two. All 4 drafts were passed as resolutions. Our committee went through four intense and productive days which got us our chair's appreciation. All in all, we found it most interesting and complex to represent India. Although Germany is still far away from gender equality, India has radically different problems regarding discrimination of women. We learned a lot not only about India and other countries but also about working with different cultures and people as well as about ourselves. But we also found room for even more improvement and are looking forward for our next NMUN.

-Anna & Timmy



Representing India in the WFP, the World Food Programme, was the task Nikolai Grüner and I, Patrick Böhm faced in the course of our National Model United Nations participation.

The first committee session took place directly after the opening ceremony on Sunday and started at 7:30 pm and lasted until 10 pm. During these two and a half hours our goal was to set the agenda in our favour. Therefore Nikolai held our opening speech which we prepared during our Deutsche Bank workshop.

Moreover we had some intense discussions during the informal parts of the session, trying to convince other delegates to vote for the agenda setting we supported. Finally, the vote passed and the agenda was set as we desired and we successfully finished this first session.

During the next two, intense days full of committee sessions we started to work on the first topic 'Empowering Women and Girls in the Fight against Hunger'. Therefore we – Nikolai and I – split up to work in different working groups, contributing to

different working papers. Nikolai's group focused on microfinance and workshops for women and girls, whereas my partners and I concentrated on maternal health and special support in disaster situations.

On Wednesday the last committee session of the WFP took place. From 8:30 am to 4:30 pm the final draft resolutions had to be written and after that the voting procedure took place. Gladly, both of our working papers we contributed to as sponsors passed the vote and were accepted as resolutions.

To sum it up, the work in the committee was really interesting and exciting for both of us. It was very nice to meet people from all around the world to exchange ideas on topics of current interest.

Furthermore, hearing a speech of Ban Ki-moon inside of the United Nations plenary hall was an experience I will probably never forget. I am really glad I participated in the FS-MUN initiative.

- Patrick & Nikolai



The Economic and Social Council Plenary plays a unique role within the United Nations as a primary organ tasked with discussing cross-cutting issues related to development, cooperation, and international standard setting. In addressing these issues, ECOSOC may initiate studies, call international conferences, submit draft conventions to the General Assembly, and make recommendations. Through policy dialogue and oversight for specialized agencies, functional commissions, and regional commissions, ECOSOC's mandate allows for the responsibility to address problems with comprehensive approaches.

This years topics under discussion for ECOSOC were:

- I. Mainstreaming Youth in the Post-2015 Development Agenda
- II. Fostering Sustainable Development Practices through Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- III. Social and Economic Integration through Sustainable Urbanization

This year's delegates of the Frankfurt School of Finance and Management - Paul Kindler and Moritz Tilgner - represented the Republic of India. As India is facing a rapid urbanization and believes that this

development is interconnected with the other topics on the agenda, its representatives urged the other ECOSOC member states to vote in favour of setting the agenda to 3, 1, 2.

The lobbying for their interests started already before the official start of the conference, as there were intense discussions about the respective delegation's interests before the formal session even was opened. After having already approached nearly every other member state, the delegates of the Republic of India held a speech during formal session in order to once again underline their strong recommendation to set the agenda in the order 3, 1, 2. Working hard for India's interests right from the start got ud then rewarded by the majority voting in favour of India's proposal.

After the agenda was set, the real work began - speeches had to be written and long discussions had to be conducted with other member states.

The aim of these measures always was to maintain common ground with countries with a compliant interests and trying to find consensus with countries with differing ideas and country-specific needs.

- Paul & Moritz



CPD

A short walk from the opening ceremony, Frankfurt School's delegates for the commission on population and development (CPD) Benjamin Schedl (MPE) and Marlon Struck (BA) entered the conference room 30 minutes prior to the start of the first formal session. During this time we had the chance to introduce ourselves to the other delegations from all around the world and to have first discussions about the agenda setting.

Director Linda Critzer and Assistant Director Stephanie Toschi opened the first formal session with a first roll call. After several speeches and informal sessions, the Commission's member states could finally agree upon an agenda and got started discussing the first topic. We where very happy with the first topic "Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Health Services, and Education" since it is a very important topic for India. Since India was one of the first on the speakers list for the following day, the closing of the first session still brought some work for the next day. Thanks to fruitful discussions with other member states, our delegation was also invited to join writing a working paper on the following day.

Because the second session started after lunch, we had time to prepare our speeches and do some final research for our working paper in the morning. After the roll call, India held his first speech in the committee, raising awareness for the essential topic sexual education!

Sexual education was also the topic we started working on in our working paper. Another speech by India's delegation followed by several informal sessions, that were filled with writing our working paper brought us to the end of the second day. Feeling good about the successful day and our efforts, we decided to join the other committees in going to the delegates lounge to discuss the points for the following day and to get to know each other. A very good and funny opportunity to make new friends.

After a rather short night the third day started early at 08:30. Now was the time to discuss our working paper with the other countries and NGO's working on it. As everyone agreed upon all the points we submitted this first version to the chair. Finalizing the wording and winning other delegations as signatories were our next tasks. After a very interesting seminar with the topic "Business vs. Charity" our

delegation held their next speech during the formal session promoting our working paper. Winning every country as signatories for our now draft resolution was a great success and made us feel confident about the voting on the following day. Again, Frankfurt School's delegation joined the other delegations in meeting at the delegates lounge.

Because our working paper had already become a draft resolution, our task on the last day was mainly to talk to other delegations about their ideas and resolutions. At that moment there were two other draft resolutions, which we were both supporting as signatory.

The exciting part started after a short lunch break. Final speeches led to the last official part of the conference, the voting procedure. Since India's draft resolution was the first accepted by the chair, the member states voted upon this draft resolution first. We were very proud of our work, as almost all countries voted in favour. This made our draft resolution the first passed resolution of the day.

A total of three passed resolutions underlined the work we all put in over the last days. Excited and exhausted we all cheered, when the last session ended.

- Benjamin & Marlon





FAO stands for Food Agricultural Organisation and it is the organisation which is dealing with current questions relating to the global agriculture.

In the last years, the focus was mainly on rural areas with very low technical standards as well as the increasing unfair distribution. In the committee are representatives from western countries like France, Germany or the USA, as well as representatives from countries with a high population such as India, China or Pakistan. With this plurality there is a good balance between countries with a modern agricultural sector and countries which want to improve their agriculture.

This year three topics were at the top of the agenda. Protecting and Securing Fisheries in Small Island Developing States (SIDS). This topic deals with the protection of the coasts and the support of small fisheries. The second major topic was Reducing Rural Poverty. This point addresses the massive rural poverty, as well as the increasing gap between cities and rural areas. The last point was Investing in Agriculture for Food Security and Economic Growth. It mainly focused on the unfair supply of goods and the regulation of food trade.

On the first day of our meeting with the other countries the agenda was set to 3,2,1. But we only had time for discussing topic 1.

At the beginning, there were different approaches on writing a working paper. In the last two days of our meeting some working papers were summarized in one, that's the reason why the number of working papers was reduced from 8 at the beginning to 4 at the end. The main contents were the expansion of the current partnerships on a supraregional level, copying existing social programs to other parts of the world, introducing microcredits for small farms and expanding regional trading with agricultural goods and the regulation of trade in general.

For us as representatives of India were the elected working papers a great success. All points of the resolutions would help to tackle the current problems India has with the rural areas and the agriculture. 200 million people could be helped.

- Enrico & Julian

UNESCO

In this year's NMUN conference we represented the Indian delegation in the UNESCO Committee. UNESCO stands for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Under its motto "building peace in the minds of men and women" it shares the UN goal of maintaining international peace and security. Nowadays it has 195 member states, India being one of them.

The four major UNESCO goals are education, protection of world heritage, scientific cooperation and protecting freedom of expression. The topics for the 2015 NMUN conference reflect these major goals.

The topics were Empowering Youth through Access to Information and Communication Technology and Media (1), Improving Water Security through Natural Resource Management (2) and Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage (3). We were content that the agenda was determined to be 2-1-3 as we believe water to be a major topic from the Indian point of view. In fact, we mainly discussed topic 2 due to time constraints.

Regarding topic 2, we stressed in our position paper that the Republic of India has successfully implemented improved water sources, but still faces severe problems in sanitation and wastewater treatment. Nearly 600 million Indians defecate in the open; therefore the government has set up a multi-million dollar sanitation project.

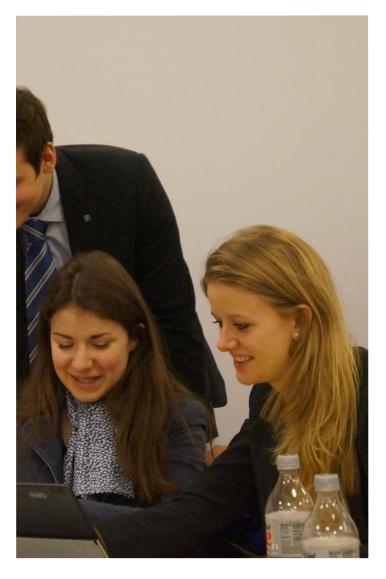
Cleaning up India's biggest river Ganges urgently needs the participation of the 500 million occupants dwelling on the river banks. Local contribution and knowledge, as understood in UNESCO's Local and Indigenous Knowledge system program LINKS, are indispensable. A holistic approach adopted by all parties involved, especially on a local level is the key to success. We were able to point out the importance of this approach to the other delegations; our idea was implemented in a working paper which eventually became a draft resolution.

In order to ensure the effectiveness of such gigantic projects we introduced the idea to include the private sector through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs). Our approach was subject to another working paper, which also passed and became a draft resolution. The delegation from India has achieved its goals and has drawn attention to India's severe problems and its solving-strategies regarding Natural Resource Management. We are pleased that our holistic, multilateral and global approach was generally approved and adopted.

Simulating the United Nations in NMUN and representing India was a totally new, rewarding experience. We saw the world from the point of view of a developing country, from our German point of view many Indian problems were difficult to even imagine at first.

In today's globalized world it is more important than ever to understand and accept different positions in order to understand each other and to build peace in the minds of men and women.

- Barbara & Szevdalina





Since 1967 over 800.000 Palestinians, or about 20% of the total population, had been imprisoned by Israeli Authorities at one point in time; many of them children, ill or elderly people. To improve the conditions of Palestine detainees and ensure the immediate release of all Palestine political prisoners was this year's task of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP).

Due to the small size of the committee and our position as the Republic of India, which we had the honor to represent, we had the chance to get to know each countries perspective and be an active negotiation partner for all drafts of CEIRPP's report.

And fast actions were necessary. Because a vicious circle has to be broken: Public anger and frustration on both sides of the Israel-Palestine conflict lead to violence and an aggressive law enforcement policy, intensifying the conflict and provoking frustration in the first place. So it became obvious during our committee work that this problem could not be solved by only focusing on regulations and standards, we also had to strengthen the direct contact between the two parties, while at the same time improving the conditions of the thousands of prisoners still waiting for results in the peace process.

Because India was due to our strong support for Palestine and our important economic relationship with Israel one of the most neutral countries involved, we saw it as our task to not get involved in ideological conflicts but to focus on ensuring the most basic human rights, like the right to fair trials.

This was also the topic of our working report. Besides our draft on fair trials, three more drafts were developed. One focused on the health care of prisoners in Israeli jails, another one proposed the idea of rehabilitation centers for released Palestine prisoners, to reintegrate them into society and lessen resentment, and the third paper suggested social media campaigns to raise public awareness.

As a result of open-minded discussions and negotiations all four papers were accepted as parts of CEIRPPs draft report. And although our report is just seen as a recommendation and will have to be voted on in the General Assembly before it is integrated in a resolution, we were thankful for the experience and the chance to get a glimpse on possible solutions of a seemingly unsolvable conflict.

- Sophie & Constantin



The Human Rights Council which is composed of 47 member states is responsible for promoting and protecting human rights around the world.

The 2015 agenda of the HRC for NMUN was composed as follows:

- Advancing International Human Rights to Protect against Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
- 2. Protecting the Rights of Migrant Workers
- 3. Promoting and Protecting Human Rights in Post-Conflict Societies

We actually preferred either topic number 1 or topic number 2 to be discussed. Unfortunately, our least preferred topic number 3 was chosen first, so we had to swallow that setback at the very beginning of the conference. But with time, we started to get more and more involved in the discussions and tried to emphasize on our ideas and put a lot of effort into our working paper.

Even though India sometimes lacks in the legal enforcement of all women's rights nationally, India stands up for gender equality and the empowerment of women internationally. In the end we were Sponsor of one meaningful paper and Signatory of quite a few other agreeable working papers. Furthermore, a great success for India was a friendly amendment, which resulted in re-phrasing two non-favorable operative clauses from another working paper, which we were not able to agree with. In the end, all of the eight working papers became resolutions, which is a great success for almost 50 different delegations.

Since the Human Rights Council consists of 47 Member states, we were a rather small committee compared to the big General Assemblies. Therefore, one could easily talk to all the other delegates.

All of the other delegates were friendly and it was almost every time a nice experience discussing with them. Although most of them were interested in compromising and finding long lasting solutions, some of the delegates were really eager to transpose their ideas into the working papers. Therefore it was sometimes tough to discuss important issues with them as they either tried to compromise in a way it would perfectly fit their standings or they wanted to have it delivered in perfect quality. Despite this, every delegation was working hard on their papers to get great work done before the deadlines for the working papers were met. Even with delegates working on other papers, we always had conversations in a nice atmosphere and diplomatic manner, so we even could overcome issues we did not agree on mutually.

As committee work came slowly to an end, the atmosphere in the committee was heated as the air conditioning was transforming our room into something that could have better served as a fridge. Within this atmosphere the delegates were getting annoyed by the honorable chair (for multiple reasons). One of the significant decisions made by the chair was to set the maximum caucus time down to 30 minutes. As many delegations wanted to work further and more effectively on their papers, they did not agree on this decision and one delegation was even brave enough to appeal the decision of the chair and to reset the maximum caucus time back to 60 minutes. The chair was not satisfied with this motion and tried to prevent this motion, although the rules of NMUN did not allow the chair to prohibit this motion against the will of the committee. Besides this incident, it was quite enjoyable working together within this committee.

- Johannes & Franziska



SECURITY COUNCIL B



Our major challenge was representing a P-5 member in the Security Council. Being a P-5 and facing the most demanding problems in the world entails a huge responsibility. Stepping into a room every morning to find the best prepared and committed delegates in the whole conference was not just intimidating but a huge motivation. The topics we dealt with, the people we met and the experience we will keep were all unforgettable.

Topicwise, this year's Security Council faced the complex situation in Iraq, terrorism in Africa and the global security sector reform. When committee sessions started on Sunday evening all participants went straight into deciding which topic to deal with first. In the agenda setting process we almost unanimously voted on dealing with the situation in Iraq first, keeping in mind that it is the most pressing issue of the time.

After a round of discussion about each country's position on this topic, the council decided to split into several groups to deal with the different aspects of the topic in more detail and posteriorly unite the work of all groups into a comprehensive resolution. The United Kingdom was dealing both with military action plans as well as achieving political stability within Iraq. Other countries were dealing with humanitarian aid and civilian protection. In the end we all shared our efforts and created several draft resolutions that were positively voted upon to become resolutions.

On Tuesday morning our hard work on Iraq's situation was interrupted by the outbreak of a crisis in Yemen. Each country present was given information, some of it confidential, on the development of the political situation in Yemen. This included sev-

eral terrorist attacks among them, one that made the president flee the country. It was quite a shock to receive such alarming news so suddenly. It was captivating how fast things can change around the world and we really got a taste of what a crisis metting feels like.

Experiencing how much responsibility one must bear when one represents a country like the United Kingdom was a rare feeling we never had before. Discussing for days and training our intercultural communication skills will also help us in the future whenever we deal with international issues again. In the end we are looking back on an incredible time with even more incredible people. Our resolutions included well founded and detailed solutions for the alarming situation in Yemen which included a quick deployment of UN troops to the region as well as a close cooperation scheme with the Yemeni Government. We even had the privilege of speaking with a representative of Yemen who answered our most important doubts and gave us first hand information on the Yemeni government's position. Furthermore we created a very specific model for fighting terrorism not only in Iraq but also all around the world, including military interactions of united troops as well as humanitarian aid and the implementation of a stable political system and police force.

Being part of this year's Security Council was a privilege not only for it's own sake but also for the chance of experiencing conflicts of interest under time pressure and solving difficult problems that the world currently faces, which proves that we have truly become global citizens.

- Christoph & Katherine

CLOSING CEREMONY





After a long and busy week in New York, Frankfurt School's delegation met in front of the UN head-quarters for another highlight of the 2015 NMUN conference. While we were waiting in the queue for UN Security we couldn't possibly imagine the surprise that the NMUN organisational team prepared for this year's ceremony.

We were still very excited about finally seeing the General Assembly Hall and other UN facilities, such as the ECOSOC Hall. After entering, a couple of speakers shared their NMUN experiences with us and gave a review of the conference. However, the highlight was still to come! We could all just stare in disbelief as UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon walked in. Mr. Ban received a standing ovation before he opened his surprise speech. He told us, that he was "energized by this dynamic gathering" and its "serious discussions" on "cutting-edge issues on the international agenda".

"You are not just leaders of the future – you can start to lead right now," he told us, "now is the time for your generation to build human solidarity around the world."

The Secretary-General spoke that he first became aware of the UN when he received food rations as a child after the Korean War. He also shared his worries because of the many crises around the world. Like his former speakers, Mr. Ban encouraged the students to assist the UN with its many mandates including climate change, health issues, education, women and human rights issues! Giving young people a voice is the best way to adress our global issues!

Inspired by his words - a solid speech that lasted almost half an hour -, Frankfurt School's delegation listened to the closing speech of the actual NMUN Secretary General, who again congratulated us for our good resolutions and hard work, and gave a huge applause to the organisational team of this year's NMUN.

But for Frankfurt School another highlight was still to come. The whole delegation of Frankfurt School received a special "Honorable Mention Award" that recognizes only 20% of the attending delegations for their outstanding work. The applause of the other delegations was a great honor and recognition for our hard work of the past days. Because it was the first time ever that Frankfurt School's delegation could win this award, we are especially proud of it. The closing ceremony ended for Frankfurt School with a quick fotoshooting at the front of the General Assembly Hall. While walking back to our Hotel through rainy Manhattan, we were still overwhelmed by what had just happened. This will truly be an experience we can share with our grandchildren.















On the third conference day, NMUN NY traditionally hosts an Opportunity Fair in which diverse universities and organisations set up stands and give participants the chance to inform themselves about a number of different career paths. The NMUN Opportunity Fair has grown over the years, boasting a continuously increasing number of participants every time.

Frankfurt School once again took part in this year's Opportunity Fair. Among other famous american universities such as New York University, Harvard Kennedy School and Georgetown University and some other - but fewer - European universities such as Bocconi University, Frankfurt School was able to stand out this year by exhibiting one of the most visited and active stands of the whole Fair.

With the support of the Marketing Department and IAS, we were able to set up a table to promote the English language programmes of Frankfurt

School. Our Masters students Riccardo, Georg, Lennart, Franziska and Gianmarco gave first hand information to our numerous visitors. Out of the wide variety of programmes we presented, the ones that generated the most interest were the Master of International Business, the Master of Finance and the Master of International Healthcare Management. We soon ran out of sign-up forms and of most of our flyers and merchandise.

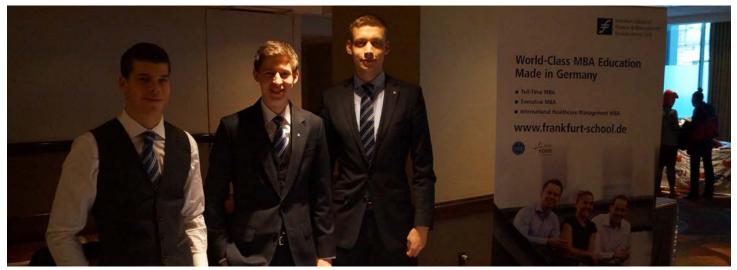
We were delighted to have had such a successful Opportunity Fair with so much positive feedback. We even met one or two american students who are actually coming to Frankfurt School as exchange students in the upcoming year! This overall satisfactory experience shows that the NMUN Opportunity Fair is a great occasion to widen the publicity spectrum of Frankfurt School without incurring on overly high costs or efforts and encourages us to come back next year!



OPPORTUNITY FAIR













DELEGATES DANCE

Finally! After four and a half days of hard work, intense role play and short late hour parties, we collected our true reward: The Delegates' Dance. After a short afternoon power nap to refill on energy, free of all past duties, we could release the wild animals inside us to keep them from starving. "Terminal 5" is the name of the club where things got real.

Showing your NMUN badge was mandatory in order to get in. Those under the age of 21 didn't get a ribbon and got crosses on their hands written with black edding. Yes, it was dark times for our fellow students of the age of 20 or below... But what do you have older friends for, right?;)

Inside the club, it made the impression of an old factory hall: spacious, plain, with 2 floors, reduced to the necessary. Did I say it was spacious? I mean, it was spacious! There was room for everything our young hearts might have desired. Two huge bars, one on every floor, a DJ table with a huge screen in the back for flashy effects standing majestically upon a stage, and lots of space to dance and flirt to every heart's content.

Just imagine. Of course, not all 2500 students who participated in conference A were also at the party, but there were still many, many delegates attending. And only delegates. Many students from all

over the world from about 200 different universities. All seeking for fun and reward after these demanding days, because they deserved it. Yesterday, you still argued about the wording of some operative clause because it was too strong for your country to support. That night, you danced close together and tried to make up (*cough*... out... *cough*) for the trouble you caused each other.

People danced, drank (mainly soda, of course), sat around, flirted, reflected on the past days, danced again, left the building hand in hand or just kept on dancing to have fun and freak out. About 4-5 hours and a lot of fun later, at 4 am, the DJ played our last song for the night: "Empire State of Mind" by Jay-Z and Alicia Keys. Classic! It was a great song to conclude the party and the past days with. Emotions were high, many people were reflecting. All of them already looking forward to NMUN 2016. To sum things up: We had a blast! A top-notch student party worthy of being the icing on the cake. With an emotional mixture of joy, relief, melancholy, pride, satisfaction and excitement, the delegates of the National Model United Nations - New York 2015, Conference A, left the building. Leaving behind, while keeping in mind and in our hearts, an awesome time full of life, value and new friends.

NEW YORK - THE CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS

The location of the NMUN Conference is, as the United Nations Headquarters, New York City. For many of us it was the first time in New York City or even the United States. Everybody realized right from the beginning that New York City is a place not comparable to other cities around the world. Even though one cannot describe the city as truly beautiful – just considering the infrastructure's bad condition, the noise and smell – there is something about it, which makes it an enchanting place.

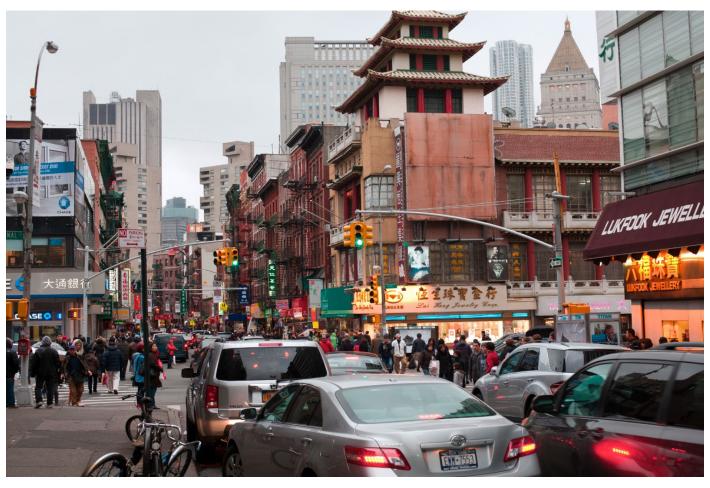
The true beauty of New York City lies in its multifaceted nature. There are things to see and do for people with all imaginable tastes and affinities. This characteristic results in the city being even more diverse, as people from every background, culture and region of the world are coming to New York City to fulfill their dreams and therewith contribute their own particularities.

The delegates of Frankfurt School of Finance & Management clearly enjoyed the overwhelming diversity the city has to offer. While some delegates used their spare time to immerse themselves in the arts and culture scene, amongst other neighbor-

hoods in Greenwich Village, Nolita and Williamsburg, others charmed their taste buds during visits of local gourmet temples. Of special note here is the visit to Tao Downtown, where a large group of delegates bonded over sharing excellent Dim Sum and Sushi.

On a cultural level, visits to the piano bar Marie's Crisis as well as expeditions into artistic spheres in the Guggenheim Museum, Metropolitan Museum, New Museum and Museum of Modern Art are worth to be mentioned.

Overall it should be pointed out that the participation at the NMUN Conference is not only enriching on the level of learning about diplomatic processes and meeting people from all over the world, but also about exposing oneself to all kinds of external influences. This enriching experience seems to be especially important for students of a business school, who aren't confronted with students of other academic fields on a day-to-day basis.







WHAT WE TOOK FROM NY

National Model United Nations 2015 is over: everybody is fit and relaxed, all delegates are unhappy with the results of their committees and all students cannot wait to fly back home.

Looking back now that's certainly NOT how NMUN 2015 worked. Of course it was impossible to predict how being at the NMUN in New York would actually be like. There is also no way to accurately anticipate what you will eventually take home from the whole experience.

It is true that during the conference not everything went as planned. We realized that one can prepare extensively on procedurals and become a true expert on one's assigned country, but once the conference starts, being an agile negotiator able to react swiftly to whatever the moment brings becomes the key to a successful performance.

However interesting the actual political content of the conference is, we think that the important things that you learn from it come from somewhere else. You get to know other countries, other delegates, other customs, basically too many impressions to mention and get to receive countless new impressions. Being able to deal with each of these new impressions and still focus on the main content to achieve the optimum solution is enriching and demanding at the same time.

One of the greatest things about the NMUN conference is the attitude each participant brings in. When all delegates get together and start working, it is really not that uncommon for people to forget that everything is, in fact, only a simulation. Despite this, you find yourself constantly working under time pressure and with so many people from so many different countries that it is necessary that you keep careful track of what you are doing.

We said it was impossible to name beforehand the things that you will learn from the NMUN, but we do dare to dictate a very general prediction: what you take is definitely not a long list of new facts about the country you represent, but much more a new perspective on diplomacy and on international relations and on the very concepts of empathy and cooperation.





FINAL REFLECTIONS

It all started in a warm summer evening on good old Frankfurt School's campus, gazing at the sunset, pondering over the future of FS MUN. It was in this crucial moment that we felt that this year's Model UN Conference in New York was meant to be an exceptional and unforgettable adventure.

Nothing drove us more than the high level of enthusiasm we saw in our applicants from the very start. We had the great pleasure of working with such a large group of highly motivated and engaged students who continuously wanted to contribute in making the world a better place. It was therefore an extremely tough situation to know that we could only take a limited number of these inspiring individuals to New York with us. We therefore used our fun Workshop-Weekend in Wiesbaden to get to know our pool of applicants better and to get a closer insight into the dynamics of this year's delegates-on-the-making. Choosing the 32 people for this year's delegation was probably our most difficult task, but we are convinced that we made the right choices.

With the delegation all set up, we put our hearts into preparing them as best as we could. Feedback from previous years continuosly communicated a lack of preparation in both content and MUN skills that rendered delegates insecure once in New York. We thus turned things up a notch and demanded a higher degree of dedication and work from this year's delegation in terms of preparation. Throughout our workshops in Frankfurt and in New York we

set high standards of quality and discipline and expected all of our delegates to give their very best at all times. And they did.

We felt that this year's delegation walked into the conference with a much higher level of confidence and competence, and this for sure showed in the delegation's overall performance. Being able to announce that we are the first delegation from the Frankfurt School to have brought home a Delegation Award from New York makes us increadibly proud and reflects all the effort and dedication put into the initiative by every single one of us.

But not everything was about such accomplishments. After working together for so long, we were able to cultivate a true team spirit within this year's delegation. United by common goals, the group developed a strong sense of unity and camaraderie that made the long days and nights in New York so much more enjoyable. Making new friends and having good laughs were the ingredients that made this year's trip to New York so much fun.

We can thus say that we are satisfied with our work of this past year and feel honored to pass on the responsibility of managing this great initiative to our successors.

Dear Anna and Benjamin, we really do hope that you will live up to the standard. You have very large shoes to fill. #NoPressure #joking #NOT

- Katherine & Christoph

PROSPECTS FOR 2016

To say it with UN General Secretary Ban Ki-moon's words: "You have to take ownership and leadership of tomorrow. (..) You have to strengthen your capacity and widen your vision as a global citizen. (...) You may be playing a role, but you are also preparing for life."

How thrilled we were when he turned up at our Closing Ceremony of this year's National Model United Nations Conference in New York! The entire hall exploded with cheers.

Back in Germany we still feel this energy and carrying along all the inspiring impressions of New York City itself, we are ready to take the helm.

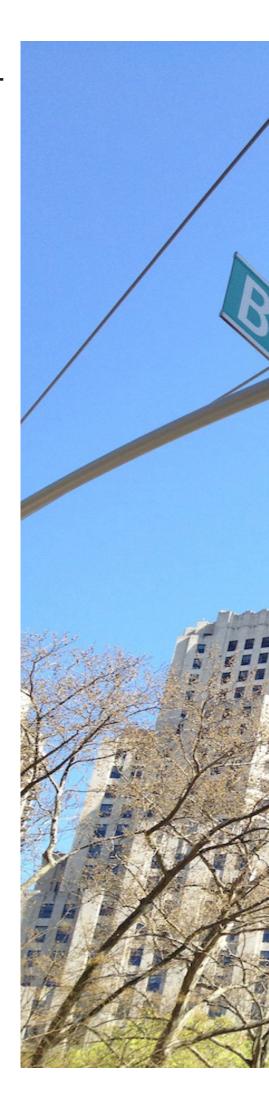
We are proud to have gained the title of Honorable Mention Delegation in the NMUN NY conference for the first time this year in FS MUN history. It was a special challenge, also because FS MUN counts as one of the biggest delegations. We are confident that with the terrific work of our predecessors and their experience value we will be able to take our crew to even greater success next time. That requires a most intensive preparation that will bind FS MUN together as a team. We will extend the preperations in order to help our delegates to perform at their best and establish FS MUN's position in the conference. We aim to make it possible for many excellent students to participate next time in applying for a promising, fascinating country that will teach us the most valuable lessons.

Also, we are happy that this year FS MUN got its own Instagram account as well as actively participated in the Frankfurt School Blog (http://blog.frankfurt-school.de/), spreading FSpirit and sharing joint experiences. Being present on social media, at the Frankfurt School and in people's minds is as crucial for our initiative as are motivated participants. This is why we plan to develop our external visibility on the existing basis and further, e.g. with an own website. In the end this is one of the steps that will help us in our work with sponsors and enable talented students to gain one-in-a-lifetime experiences and contribute to their personal growth. Additionally, we always have to bear in mind that we not only represent FS MUN but also the Frankfurt School itself on an international level.

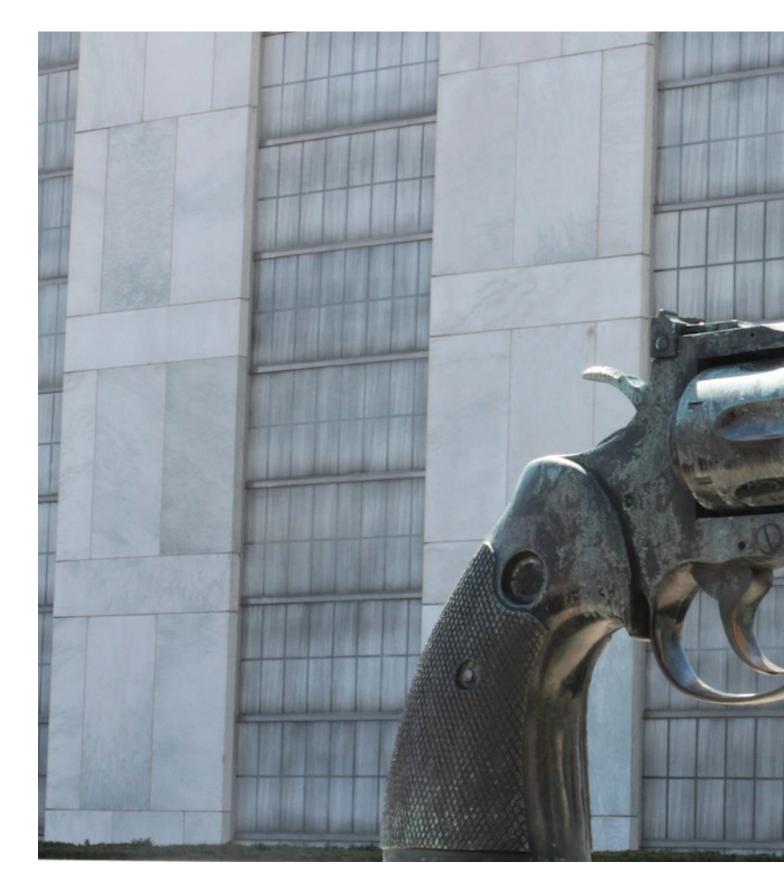
The new head delegates team comes from diverse study programmes which will certainly contribute to our productivity and creativity in working together. We will be mindful to choose a diverse delegation, with new students and their fresh, new views as well as past delegates to benefit from their expertise. We are enlightened to be in this position and to share our fascination for cultures, transnational work and the world.

In this sense: Carry on the spirit!

- Benjamin & Anna







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