

DAILY

# DIPLOMAT



Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> of June



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Ceremony

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Yoda

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in Profile



## Let's Get It Started!

by Saskia Meinert, Anna Wemken, Jette Wehrmann and Arienusch Zhu

Yesterday was the day, OLMUN 2018 has officially started! The opening ceremony at the Weser-Ems-Halle shortly after lunchtime served as a kick-off to this year's conference. The ceremony acted as an introduction for all participants to the following OLMUN week.

The Secretariat welcomed everyone and wished them a great and unforgettable 18th international session of OLMUN!

As every year the OLMUN was officially opened with a grand opening ceremony. After long preparations, the opening ceremony began at 1.30pm with the delegates excitedly entering the conference room. As the house came to order this year's President Nika Andouz checked the delegations' presence by doing the far-famed roll call. After a few welcoming words, they introduced this year's topic: "Shared History, Shared Challenges, Shared Future" by showing a short opening video produced by Ruben Semmerling. Following the video the Secretary General Robin Runge gave his opening speech and talked about the challenges in our world, mentioning discrimination, civil wars and poverty and hunger. He encouraged all participants of OLMUN to work towards making the world a better place saying that "our world is desperate (...). You are the people who can change the world." Then he officially decla-

red the OLMUN 2018 for opened. Next came more speeches. Starting us off, Oldenburg's mayor Jürgen Krogmann thanked all organizers of the OLMUN for their great work and stressed that in his opinion the OLMUN is an incredible event. He found it was important to have a possibility like this for pupils where they could discuss political issues and deemed the OLMUN part of the education, not just leisure time.

As Stephan Weil, Prime Minister of Lower Saxony, could not attend, a short video message was shown after a small break. In the video Stephan Weil, similarly to the mayor, talked about what an important role the OLMUN plays in furthering young peoples' interest in politics. He also thanked the organizing team.

We are proud to say that a further guest speaker was Prof. Dr. Markus Tepe from the University of Oldenburg visited us today. He

held a speech about analytical politics containing many equations which no one fully understood but at the end everyone knew what he meant: in a world like this we have to work together and give, not work against each other and steal from one another.

One of the last speeches from all guest speakers was the MUN-Director of the Altes Gymnasium Oldenburg, Jörg Witte. He welcomed the founder of the Oldenburg Model United Nations, Gero Elerd, who used to be one of his students. Gero Elerd could not believe that OLMUN had become so big, as he presented the reason for the foundation of the MUN in Oldenburg: "Being part of OLMUN is something people shouldn't miss."

Inbetween the different guest speeches, delegates also had the chance to give short opening speeches.





## “We are the people who can change the world“

by Janne Teschke

At the opening ceremony Robin Runge, this year's Secretary General, gave a very inspiring speech to open the conference.

The Oldenburg Model United Nations 2018 is held under the motto „Shared History, Shared Challenges, Shared Future“, to which Robin Runge referred in his speech. He described the history by naming some of the most important challenges of the human history: civil wars, racism, hate, and fear by naming only some of them. But there has also been great progress in science, politics and civil society.

And now we are the first generation without the experience of war who has to learn from this history. The world's countries are more connected than ever. Not only by internet but also by feelings, he stated. There are many conven-

tions and deals but there is not only peace in the world. Strained conditions between countries and unions split the world. Even though fear and terror are changing the world and are creating issues, we have to create a future worth living by learning from our lessons, he appeals. No nation is alone in our world, we all share their challenges and have to work together to create a better world. So as Robin Runge said: “We can't abandon our world and the people suffering. Because we all share responsibility and we have the tool to seize it. We must look at our shared history, use it to fight our shared challenges and create a shared future. Keep this in mind while writing your resolutions and having productive debates.” Think about the future, work together and not against each other and make the best out of it!

## First Impressions

by Britta Punke

Yesterday delegates were asked for their first impression of this year's OLMUN. Many were overwhelmed by all the different people talking different languages. They were not sure what to do and where to go but they soon realized that they could ask anybody from the Inner Circle and all their questions would be answered in a very friendly and welcoming way. After they were registered and all ready for the week they thought they were fine but they were not expecting what they saw when

they went into the conference hall. They were speechless. It was huge and just epic. Despite that it was easy to find their seats and there they found their own “Daily Diplomat”. As the opening video and the following speeches were all interesting the opening ceremony was short and crisp. They also liked the cool and well-fitting OLMUN merchandise. In order to sum up all the impressions gathered yesterday all the delegates had fun and loved the great OLMUN spirit.



### **Q: What is your position in this year's conference?**

*I am the Crisis Manager of the 18th OLMUN conference, actually this is the first time this role has been given to someone.*

### **Q: What are your tasks as a Crisis Manager?**

*I am in charge of taking care of everything substantive beforehand. I deal with the chairs and the Security Council and inform myself about the speeches they will be holding. I organize the rooms and connect the content with the organization.*

### **Q: Why did you want to take this position and what are your hopes and wishes?**

*Unfortunately this will be my very last OLMUN so I wondered what kind of position I could choose. I found out that there is a new role that never existed before, so this might be a good completion for me. I hope that everything works out well and that the organizers as well as the delegates will all have an enjoyable week.*





## Host and Found

by Charlotte von der Ohe, Enie Mulder and Felix Bazoche

Since there are many foreign students taking part in OLMUN every year, the housing programme is a perfect opportunity for families to get to know different cultures.

Peer Krüger and Jonas Lüttke, the Housing Coordinators, have been searching for families who would like to accommodate students for the last four to five months. This year 100 students from Hungary, the Netherlands, Belarus and Turkey are taking part in the programme and luckily the housing coordinators found a host family for everybody, although the number of students taking part in the programme has almost doubled

since last year. As Peer said, the organizers have done a great job! Being a host family can be a fun experience. You get to know a person with an interesting background, improve your English skills and build friendships that last for a lifetime. It's also not a burden to take a student because the OLMUN takes up the whole day. You only need to help them find their way around in Oldenburg and offer them breakfast, dinner and a bed to sleep in.

So if now you are interested in accommodating a student next year, you should to keep an eye out for newspaper articles which will inform you that the search for

host families has started. Then all you have to do is apply for being a host family which is even easier than being one. You can send the filled-out form to the housing coordinators per e-mail and wait for their reply.

Until now there have never been big problems with the programme and if there are some, you can always contact the coordinators. But the experiences from previous families and students have generally been very positive. Therefore, the housing programme is a great experience for everyone that takes part in OLMUN.

## Our Founding Father

by Johanna Klauke and Marit Klebb

Mr. Gero Elerd, the founder of the OLMUN was a student of the Altes Gymnasium Oldenburg. On a trip to Athens he visited the Model United Nations conference there and got the idea to arrange a MUN in Oldenburg, too. He got this idea because the way to the MUN in Athens was very expensive and not every student was able to afford it.

In his opinion the OLMUN needed to be for everyone. And now it is for everyone: You can choose what kind of job you want to work in during the conference and money is not relevant. Using the housing programme, the cooperation between the schools in

Oldenburg and the offers in many restaurants we are able to avoid paying high prices and travel expenses.

Mr. Witte, a teacher at the AGO, used to plan the trips to Athens so Gero Elerd asked him for help founding the OLMUN here in Oldenburg. First, Mr. Witte was against his plan, thinking it could not work in a town as small as Oldenburg. There was nobody who thought a MUN in Oldenburg would be a great success except for Gero Elerd. So he decided to try it out and almost immediately he managed to convince Mr. Witte to support the project.

“Without Mr. Witte and his trip to

Athens we wouldn't be here right now“, Mr. Gero Elerd mentioned in his speech.

The first OLMUN was opened in 2001. So what has changed until now? Gero Elerd's response:

“Holy f\*\*\*!“ He was sure the OLMUN would be big but not as big as it turned out to be.

But what should never change?

“The generations. You start in the 9th grade and you will do every job you can do at the OLMUN“, he said. It does not only have to do with politics but you can also play the role of a journalist or take care of logistics.



## “Always Pass on What You Have Learned”

by Mareike Höhn and Milena Menzel

Mr. Witte, who was of great help when founding the OLMUN, did us the honour of conducting an interview about the beginning and furthermore the meaning of the Oldenburg Model United Nations nowadays. Bringing a good handful of experience to the simulation due to him involving students to cooperate with MUNs in Athens, the Netherlands and Berlin, he is an important person to interview. Having been a part of the OLMUN for nearly two decades one of the main things he pointed out was how amazed he is by the independence of the students organizing the event. Furthermore, how in his opinion the model is a unique preparation for the future due to its internationality and importance: “The OLMUN is a game that prepares you for the future and a political career”, he said. In the same sentence Mr. Witte named many examples of students actually persecuting a political career on an international level. As an answer to the question about significant changes that the

OLMUN has experienced over the years, it was important for him to emphasize the professionalism that the conference has gained. In this context he mentioned the growing amount of people participating from the outset and throughout as well as the digitalization and involvement of professional speakers including politicians.

Mr. Witte’s primary role at the OLMUN originally was, as he says, to motivate students. This does not seem to be necessary anymore as most of them show the initiative to participate and organize on their own. In addition to that, Mr. Witte praised teachers staying in the background whereas the students play the role of the leading body. Regardless of that, teachers are being treated highly privileged.

As a closing fact he stressed the high quality that the OLMUN-Party embodies in comparison to other MUNs.

A wise quote of OLMUN’s Yoda: “Listen to your heart and do not deny your dreams!”



### **Q: What is your position in this year’s conference?**

*I will be serving as President of the HSC at this year’s conference together with Dominik Ulke.*

### **Q: Why did you want to take this position?**

*I chose to commit to this Council because history has always thoroughly fascinated me. I think that the HSC gives us the unique opportunity of assuming a historical political position on one hand while also enabling us to try to do better than the Security Council in 1994.*

### **Q: What are your expectations and wishes for the upcoming days?**

*I am looking forward to fruitful debates in our council, however, I am also deeply convinced that our delegates will do a terrific job and that we will be able to turn this year’s session into something memorable for everybody. I hope that I will prove myself worthy of the great honour given to me by the Secretariat while also learning from Dominik’s experience.*





How often have you visited OLMUN? And how many of those times have you seen the Inner Circle wear those jumpers with the OLMUN-Logo and wanted one for yourself? Well now you finally have the chance to buy your own OLMUN merchandise! We have white t-shirts and polo-shirts with different OLMUN-themed designs that we are sure you will love!

If you want a chance at securing some conference merch, take part in the OLMUN 2018 social media competition! Until 10pm on Wednesday, you can publish a picture that captures the OLMUN spirit on Instagram and Facebook, using the hashtag #OLMUN2018merch. The winners will be selected on the same day and the results published at 11pm on all OLMUN social media. Take part and make this conference unforgettable!

## Meet New Friends

by Joscha Grap and Robin Jurr

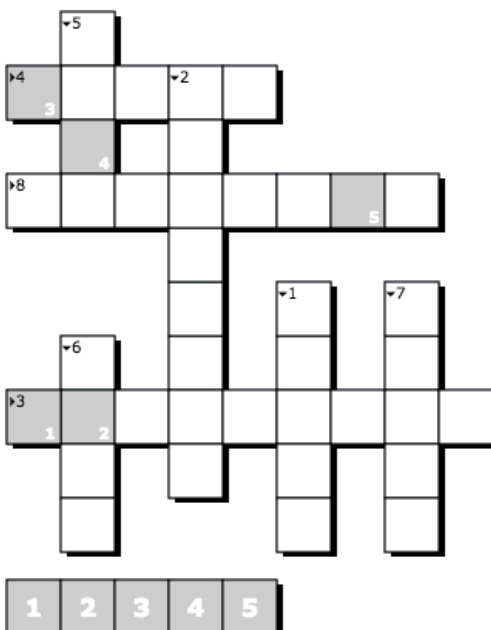
The first day of the 18th annual OLMUN conference had to come to an end. The Inner Circle, like every year, had prepared a barbecue which started at 7PM and took place at the “Graf-Anton-Günther-Schule“. The weather could have been better but at least there was no rain and even if here had been, the dancing delegates would not have minded. When the barbecue came to an end at around 10pm and the rain did come out,

everyone helped clear up, so it was finished quickly. The guests enjoyed being together, eating sausages in a festive atmosphere and looking forward to the next activities.

Were you there? If not, you definitely missed something! Hopefully, you will take part in the upcoming events which are the soccer game on the “Dobbenwiesen” and the OLMUN-Party.



## Crossword Puzzle



1. What's the name of this year's Secretary General
2. How many years has the OLMUN existed
3. Where does the OLMUN take place
4. For what does the 'M' in OLMUN stand?
5. How many days is it long?
6. What is the traditional OLMUN colour?
7. What is happening Thursday evening?
8. What is the surname of the first guest speaker?



## Sudoku

For Robin

					2	1	7	
7		1		5	3		4	6
6	3	8			1	9		5
4		9		2	5		6	
			1			2		
			3					
3		4	2	6		5		
	5		4		9		3	
	7	2	5					

For Nika

	1		9		2			
2	5			8		1		9
			5		6		2	8
		2				9	5	
		1		9				2
5						4		
	7	6				5	8	3
	9	5	3					
4			1		8			

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## Asking a frog – the weather forecast

Wednesday noon



16°C

afternoon



18°C

evening



17°C

Thursday morning



16°C

noon



20°C

afternoon



22°C



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