

DAILY

DIPLOMAT



Thursday, 14th of June



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A Normal Day at OLMUN

by Arienusch Zhu, Jette Wehrmann, Paulina Schulz, Antonia Francke, Eva Lam-mek, Saskia Meinert and Anna-Marlen Wemken

The first day of actual committee sessions of all councils started out similarly for everybody. Most delegates were on time but as usual, some of them forgot to check their watches and were too late. In panic they searched for their seats while hoping not to be punished later. With some help from the staff everybody could take their place and the session began.

Since most delegates did not know each other, icebreakers were used to loosen up the atmosphere. The Historical Security Council for example played songs from 1994, the year their simulation takes place in, and delegates had to guess chart breaking songs like Hyper Hyper by... Can you guess the artist?

Meanwhile in the HRC, the chairs started to show how an open debate works with a mock debate. The delegates were able to choose between several topics made up for them: “German is a fake

language”, “Legalizing cocaine for kids below the age of four” or the question whether pineapple should be on pizza or not. In the end the pineapple topic won. The discussion started: While some delegates stated that pineapple on pizza could be the “healthy part” of the unhealthy pizza, others declared pineapple on pizza as the human right to have the freedom of choice. Disrespecting various culinary tastes would be discrimination.

Most of the other committees started the actual debate right after the icebreakers with delegates presenting their policy statements. Getting a first glance at potential partners for resolutions, many committees went into lobbying having fruitful debates, which for example resulted in a stunning six resolutions in the GA 1st.

To drive the debate forward, a lot of committees invited guest speakers who informed the partici-

pants about the specific topics to create a base for further discussions.

After this morning stuffed with new impressions the delegates went into their well-deserved lunch break, which ended with surprises for some of them: The delegates of the HRC found the representative of Cuba playing “My heart will go on” on the piano and everyone, including the Chairs who were imitating the popular Titanic scene, listened with fascination.

Even more entertainment was offered by some following punishments for being late or not following the dress code: Delegates had, for example, to sing songs like “Atemlos” in front of the committee which clapped enthusiastically.

Well, just a normal day at OLMUN.

Newbies

by Leah Sassmannshausen

We asked a few delegates about their main reason for attending OLMUN and most of them responded that they were just curious about how everything would be and that they wanted to meet new people.

The foreign delegates took part in the housing program and were excited to explore Oldenburg and be part of the OLMUN 2018. Through the housing programme they got the chance to meet a German family and to experience

living with them and they were all very happy to learn a bit from the German culture. They did not get that much time to spend with their host-family the first day but are looking forward to visiting a bit of northern Germany. Few of them have already visited the city centre during lunch breaks.

Their first committee session was a huge experience for them, because they got to discuss an interesting political topic and to see different point of views of delega-

tions representing their countries. Especially those whose native language is not English were glad to speak with other people to improve their own English skills, although they were a bit self-conscious at first.

So, if you are a newbie at OLMUN, don't worry! There are many people who are at OLMUN for the first time, too, and you just have to be confident and to not think about it too much. Just enjoy your stay and have fun!



“Do not sell your soul” – Organ Trafficking in China

by Mareike Höhn and Milena Menzel

Today Manyan Ng, born in Hong Kong and now working at the University of Heidelberg, held a speech about the harvesting of organs in China. Since the year of 2000 he is a board member of the International Society for Human Rights and has already held speeches at press-conferences and parliaments in eleven countries, which is, as he says, “very exciting and meaningful work”.

Organ harvesting has continued to rise and very high trafficking is happening in China. Raising awareness for this, Mr. Ng talked about an incident that happened in 2006: A Chinese woman hid in the USA after uncovering a frightening story. She herself worked as nurse, her husband as a doctor doing organ transplants. Discovering her spouse was involved in a huge organ harvesting ring, which involved him getting double payments for those mass killings, she got divorced and flew to America. In spite of her being afraid of Chinese secret agencies, she went public and informed the world about the tragedies.

From 2005 until 2015 a huge amount of organ transplants were practiced in China, leading to the question where all the organs were coming from. Until 2007 China had not even had a working organ transplant system and even until this day religious Chinese inhabitants believe in being buried with missing organs is bad luck. The government later admitted to taking organs of death penalty prisoners but the numbers would

still not add up.

Studies’ outcomes say that up to 66% of Chinese torture victims are members of “Falun-Gong”, a spiritual community based on moral fundamentals such as charity, mercy and sustainability. A huge amount of harvested organs even come from these members, them having been persecuted many years ago.

Furthermore, Manyan Ng told the delegates about the Chinese government’s involvement and interest in making money from illegal organ transplants, due to the development in Chinese politics over the last 70 years. But still only a minority of citizens is aware of the incidents happening behind the curtains of their daily life.

So, what can we do? Mr. Ng himself said he could talk at more parliaments or at press-conferences to inform, not push, but simply give people the right information to enable them to form their own opinions and draw their own conclusions. We as the young generation should raise awareness and think about our future and in what kind of world we want to live in. “History does not only judge what we do in the future, but also what we did not do when we could have done something.”

After he had delivered his speech, Mr. Ng did us the honor of giving an interview. Notwithstanding the fact that he is never heard of the OLMUN or MUNs in general before, he praised the idea and how good of a training it is for interac-

ting with other countries. This is, as he says, very important due to the fact that people from all over the world have to work together because the more they do, the better the outcome of any solution for each and every project is, although the UN itself is not a remarkable role model in that cause. Taking the Human Rights Conference as an example he pointed out how little the delegates care about ethical and moral points of interests compared to money and power, since the controlling delegates are those of the countries violating the human rights the most. Mr. Ng further hopes that the students take his speech as a foundation for further action in political and economic matters and consider it as a nod in the right direction: “If you seed beans, you get beans. If you seed melons, you get melons.”

On a more personal level, he stated how China changed over the last few decades. China’s population used to be polite, considerate and compassionate but not it has become the opposite.

He indicated that it is unacceptable how the Chinese inhabitants and populations world-wide are being kept in the dark about this significant matter. For clarification he put out that 70% of the internet and every radio, newspaper and television are being censored. As a final statement he gives the following advice: “Stand for being honest, righteous and always be true to yourself. Do not sell your soul.”



Making a Difference

by Charlotte von der Ohe, Enie Mulder and Jette Krueel

On Wednesday, the 13th of June 2018, the guest speaker Dr. Dirk Embert gave his speech in front of the UNEP committee. He is a member of the WWF, the World Wildlife Fund, which is a non-governmental organization that supports environmental protection projects all over the world. The biologist and consultant of Latin America especially stands up for the protection of eight million hectares of Amazon rainforest. As a consequence of deforestation the survival of animals and indigenous people is no longer secured. The upcoming issues are not only noticeable for the directly affected countries, but also for living beings around the world.

In his speech, Dr. Embert first gave some general information about the current situation referring to the deforestation and issues in the Amazon areas. Producing around 20% of the worldwide oxygen, the Amazon is an indispensable resource.

One of the biggest issues in those areas is the Flying River. It is one of the most powerful discharge of any single river in the world and is responsible for providing the southern countries with enough water to survive. Because of the hot atmosphere the water cannot reach those countries and as a result there are huge problems for the citizens. These include water or electricity shortages. In addition to that the lack of water in-

creases poverty in these countries, as there is none to practise agriculture. The governments of the affected countries mostly ignore this massive problem. So this is where the WWF gets involved and tries on the one hand to stop the deforestation but on the other hand to recreate forests where and if it is possible.

The issue is urgent and first you may not believe that there is a possibility as a student to improve the current situation. Dr. Embert states clearly that even if you cannot support worldwide organisations by donating money, you are still able to stand up for environmental protection. Getting active in regional organisations is a good possibility to become influential. It is of no importance in which organisation you are active, because they all have the same target.

You can also make a difference by your way of living. As an example

Dr. Embert is convinced that it is not necessary to be a vegetarian in order to live consciously. By taking deeper insights of the production of your meat, you can make a difference.

Due to his experiences in foreign countries, he is able to adopt values and habits from each culture and form his own. This serves as a perfect example for being open-minded and reflecting your own and other culture. You need to have an overview in order to support other countries in environmental issues.

Dr. Embert experienced the OLMUN quite positively. He liked that so many young people are interested in politics and want to get involved in environmental issues. They show effort and that is another way to engage. For him it is funny that the atmosphere is even stricter than in the climate conference.





OLMUN's World Cup

by Joscha Grap and Robin Jurr

Even if the soccer World Cup starts tomorrow we had a much better tournament to play. Yesterday evening about 200 people came together at the “Dobbenwiesen” to end the second day with another free time activity – the soccer game. Under a clou-

ded sky the boys and girls once again enjoyed the international atmosphere and had fun together. People who did not want to play soccer also had the chance to play other games like frisbee or “Wikingerschach”.

Today's and also the last sociali-

zing for this conference will take place at the “Alte Molkerei Klub” where a big OLMUN Party from 8 pm onwards is prepared for you! Make sure you purchase a ticket in your committee and you bring your badge, ID and your ticket!



A Speech for the World

by Marit Klebb and Johanna Klauke

Ulrike von Pilar is the manageress of “Ärzte ohne Grenzen”, which is also known as “médecins sans frontières” (msf) or “doctors without borders”. According to her it is obligatory for humanitarian organizations to guarantee aid to as many people in need as possible. Of course it is impossible to treat every single person medically in a war, which is why the aid workers have to decide whom to help and whom not to help.

According to the law of war everyone, even wounded soldiers and prisoners of war, deserves help. The only condition is to enter the hospital unarmed and to guarantee the safety of all other patients and medical staff. But the danger is not only caused by people entering the hospital, but also from other governments who are involved in the current conflict and

show interest in threatening these hospitals.

Ignoring the right of getting medical treatment, the American government bombarded a hospital in Kundus in 2015. Many patients and even volunteer helpers died or were wounded. To prevent catastrophes like that, volunteer organizations such as msf refuse to cooperate with the military. Therefore, and for other reasons it is quite uncommon for humanitarian aid groups to ask for help from governments or the military. But there are exceptions like for example a great flood in Pakistan or the Ebola outbreak in Africa. In the case of Ebola the organization asked military specialists to find treatments and medication for the infected people. Because of the widespread tradition to wash and kiss a dead body in west African

countries it was easier for the virus to spread. Another reason for the spreading is that the inhabitants of the affected countries move around a lot so the germ spread very easily and quickly. It took six months for the rest of the world to react to the epidemic and to close the airways to the affected regions. It is alarming that patients had to be refused because the flood of people searching for help became big and bigger and the doctors could not handle the bulk of sick people. These are the reasons for the organizations to change their mind and ask for help.

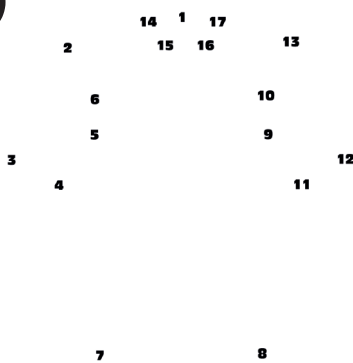
But not every catastrophe is caused by an illness. There are armed conflicts in the world in Yemen, Afghanistan and The Democratic Republic of Kongo. So it may be that the question appears why



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Get your
Merch!
On Friday
at the
Closing
Ceremony

Drawing by numbers



they get less attention than natural catastrophes. A matter for that fact is that environmental influence does concern innocent people while a conflict can always be retraceable to human decisions, faults and wishes.

Natural catastrophes affect not only armed soldiers, but many civilians are in danger too. Still a catastrophe such as an earthquake is unpredictable and people are involved and have to suffer the consequences without having been responsible in any way.

Also, these environmental catastrophes concern stable countries as well as developing and third world countries. Political interests and the impression of the possibility of being in the same situation do attract the media's attention to report more about catastrophes like

a tornado or a flood as war does. But the media also influences donations by convincing people to call and donate. This can lead to a whole wave of donations and to the misbelief that more money saves more lives. As you can see, humanitarian aid organizations face a lot of problems. So what can one do?

Try to respect the independence of these organizations and support them and this independence in any way you can.

Save Havens in Rwanda

by Janne Teschke and Melaia Nanz

The Historical Security Council recreates the situation after the outbreak of the Rwandan genocide 1994. Therefore, the delegates are negotiating how to stop the civil crisis that is coming. The Red Cross, immediately transmitted this significant breaking news: 100 wounded, 10.000 killed, 600 freed and hundreds of refugees crossing the border to Tanzania. The delegates had to react immediately to save the innocent citizens and their lives. In general, all of the countries wanted to achieve peace but in different ways. To achieve a fast and efficient solution it is necessary to stop discussing irrelevant things and focus on fundamental issues. Nearly every delegation agreed on establishing Save Havens where att-

acked habitants could escape from violence and oppression. In these areas weapons are not allowed, otherwise they will be attacked. Protecting the civilians outside of these regions is important because they have no protection and are on their way to the Save Havens. On the other hand, it is important to tackle the main source of the violence. In addition to that, one proposal is to control the borders, and especially the weapon trade. But remember, as the delegation of Rwanda said: "Weapons don't kill people, people kill people." We are looking forward to seeing how the delegations with different opinions will cooperate and find a final way solving the problem peacefully.



Sudoku

For Country Boys

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

For City Girls

	8					9		5
	2		9				6	
	1			4			2	
6	9		2				8	
				7		1		
			4	5				
5	7		8			6	1	
8				1			7	
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For Those Who Complained

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

Asking a frog – the weather forecast

Thursday noon



20°C

afternoon



21°C

evening



18°C

Friday morning



17°C

noon



20°C

afternoon



22°C



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Copy Team
Ofener Straße 29
D - 26121 Oldenburg

Chief of Press

Iris Kirchhofer (V.i.S.d.P.)
Lea Lassak (V.i.S.d.P.)

Layout

Tammo Strack

Editorial Staff and Photographers

Anna-Marlen Wemken, Antonia Francke, Arienusch Zhu, Charlotte von der Ohe, Cosima Scherbening, Enie Mulder, Eva Lammek, Felix Bazoche, Fynn Dresler, Ina de Matos Herzog, Janna Griem, Janne Teschke, Jette Krueel, Jette Wehrmann, Johanna Klauke, Joscha Grap, Leah Saßmannshausen, Leonie Paula Berthold, Leonie Thomsen, Mareike Höhn, Marit Klebb, Melaia Nanz, Milena Menzel, Paulina Schulz, Renke Boekelo, Robin Jurr, Saskia Meinert, Swantje Wehmeyer