



Daily Diplomat

**“I Had to Be My Own Role Model” -
Interview With Our Guest Speaker
Kerstin Leitner**

**Old but Gold - What Motivates
OLMUN Alumni to Come Back
to the Conference**

**A Real First Timer’s MUN -
Survey About Our Delegate’s
OLMUN Experience**

Wednesday, 19th June 2019

Off to a New Beginning - Moving Beyond Borders

What OLMUN in 2019 is all about



Off to a new beginning - Moving beyond borders. Since it is printed on every single bracelet and every badge, you might have already noticed it: That short sentence is this year's OLMUN general theme. Also, Hedda Spengemann's speech at the opening ceremony shared this topic.

We met Dennis Kirsch, the President of General Assembly, who explained to us that "Off to a new beginning - Moving beyond borders" is supposed to be a call to think in new dimensions, to not fall back into old habits of solving problems and to recognize new ideas. If you look at newer movements such as Fridays for Future, there are so many fresh concepts coming in and being represented. Their hope is that nobody stays with their old schemes, but that they think of new ways to improve the world. The phrase moving beyond borders says it all: This has to be a united action. We cannot solve the crises on our own, we have to

cooperate and work hand in hand. Eventually, all the leaders praising isolation will have to join in as well.

During the opening ceremony, the Secretary-General Hedda Spengemann gave an inspirational opening speech, which was met with great applause by the general assembly. An important topic in this speech was the recent 75th anniversary of D-Day. The landing of the allies in Normandy marked the end of the terror and the oppression of Europe that originated from the Nazi-Regime. The 6th of June 1944 made history as a symbol of freedom, liberty and hope and it still holds great meaning to this modern age. After this event, which allowed the world to hope again, the United Nations were created to prevent anything as dreadful as the Second World War from happening in the future. This was 75 years ago and the UN still stands as an icon for change in social, ecological and economic regard.

The United Nations set a time limit by 2030 for all the problems that need to be solved urgently to ensure fast development and progress. It is not a disgrace to get involved in something new, especially if it is something good. Humanity can only improve from change, which is regrettably feared by many people, but we can all assure that the future will look brighter with every help the world can get. This is what the UN is trying to secure.

So Hedda Spengemann is definitely right when she says that "Only cowards go the way of isolation and separation." We just can start with ourselves, even today.

*By Cosima Scherbening
& Janna Griem*



How about a Career at the actual United Nations?



Kerstin Leitner talks to us about her career at the UN during the opening ceremony.

Q: We know that you have worked for the UN, could you tell us for how long?

All in all, I worked for the UN for 30 years, from 1975 to 2005. 28 of these 30 I worked at UNEP and during that assignment I traveled twice to Africa, twice to China and twice to New York. For the last two years, I worked for the WHO in the health and environment department.

Q: What did you study?

I studied history and politics, which was a great foundation for my work afterwards. History made me see many events from other than just my own point of view and politics have taught me how we are one, we form the world and make it how it is, thus every decision we make has its consequences.

Q: What was your motivation to work at the UN?

There was no motivation really. To be honest I didn't know I would end up working for the UN. With the things I have studied I actually thought of

“I had to be my own role model”

becoming a teacher, but somehow I ended up working at the UN. And as time went by I grew into the job, loving it more and more with each day that passed.

Q: What was a typical day at work for you?

Unexpected. Every day was unique and full of surprises, which led me to believe in this quote: “Don't plan too much as in the end it won't happen anyway, so let the future surprise you!”

Q: What was your favorite part regarding your job?

I loved working with my colleagues from different countries and cultures and forming new resolutions through the work with them.

Q: What was something that really influenced your work?

Well, first I realized that all problems that are caused by humans can also be solved by humans. The only things we need to achieve for this are the will to participate in politics and the right resources. There's only a very small number of issues this doesn't apply to, and I think we have to remind ourselves of this when it comes to conflicts. Additionally, we are all part of this world and we should start to see ourselves as a small part of something big.

Q: Did you have a role model that inspired you?

No, because Germany was only a member of the UN in the beginning of 1973, making me one of the first workers there. Therefore, I had to be my own role model.

Q: In your opinion, was there anything bad about your job?

The only thing I can think of is the

traveling. On one hand it was good to get to know so many new cultures, but on the other hand it made me miss my family and my hometown since I was away for half a year at times.

Q: What do you think of the concept of MUNs?

I think it is really amazing seeing young people overcome borders and widening their horizons by participating in the MUNs. It's really important to learn how the local and the international politics work.

Q: What was your motivation to hold a speech at this year's opening ceremony?

I teach at the Potsdam University and many people gave me the feedback that my speeches and experience can make a difference and help young people, so I want to reach out to them and help them to have a better future.

Q: What is something important that you want the MUN participants to take with them from your speech?

That the United Nations are indispensable and even if we have many things that are already really good, there are still things that need to get better for the world to become a better place. I want the students to know that their work matters and that they – and only they

By Nai Alscheikh Almkadam & Mia Kluge



**Interview
Housing Coordinator**



What is your task at OLMUN?

As Housing Coordinators, it is our job to make sure all delegates wishing to be housed in host families can be provided with suitable accommodation. To do that, we have been in touch with both MUN-Directors and hosts since early before OLMUN.

What obstacles are you facing?

Our main obstacle is bringing together hosts and guests and to bear in mind their wishes concerning each other — be it in terms of age, gender, or food. This sometimes turns out to be difficult, especially as it is not always easy to establish a reliable contact to foreign schools.

What do you like most about your job?

Firstly, getting in touch with a bunch of interesting people from all over the world and secondly tackling the surprising obstacles occurring throughout the week!

By Joanna Grave



Stories behind Faces

Lihi has come a long way to join OLMUN!



This is Lihi.

She is 17 years old and from Israel. Her priority in life: peace.

Let's use her commitment to peaceful cooperation as an inspiration to get actively involved as well!

A few years ago, she and her family had to leave their home behind after it had been raided and destroyed.

By Femke Behrends, Gwen Buhl & Tiffanu Pieske



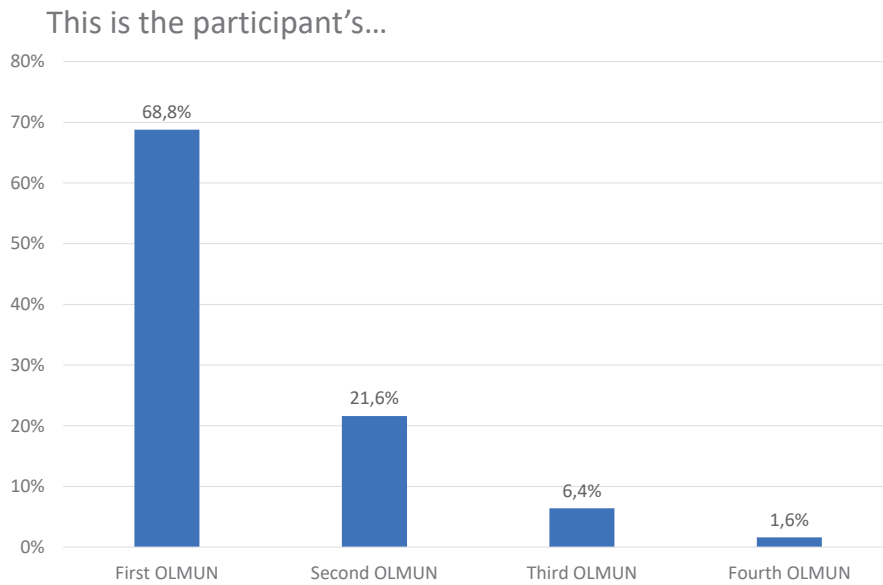
One of her neighbors was killed and everybody's life was in danger. She had to flee and hide in a shelter for one year. An indescribably and traumatic experience at such a young age. Thereupon she decided to get involved and make a change.

Joining her school's peace club was the first step.

Here she learned about the OLMUN and immediately took the chance to collect first experiences in the political field. „Seeing how the world communicates“ in order to ensure a peaceful and safe coexistence was her main motivation to take part. To show her commitment, she is also going to join the army next year.

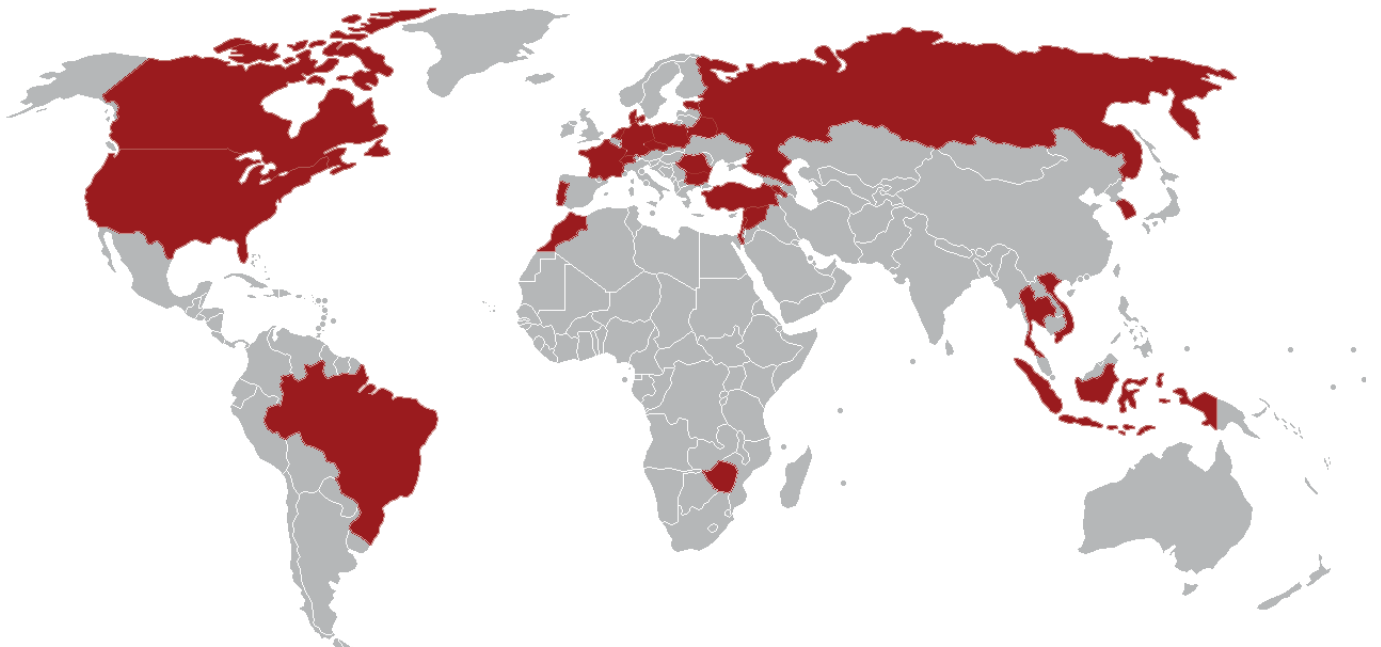
A Real First Timer's MUN

We made a quick poll asking how much OLMUN experience you have



OLMUN goes International

Where are your fellow Delegates from?



Armenia 0,15%
 Belarus 2,36%
 Brazil 0,31%
 Bulgaria 0,15%
 Canada 0,31%

Czech Republic 0,15%
 Denmark 0,15%
 Estonia 0,15%
 France 0,47%

Germany 80,61%
 Indonesia 0,15%
 Israel 2,05%
 Morocco 0,15%
 Netherlands 5,20%
 Poland 0,78%

Portugal 0,15%
 Republic of Korea 0,15%
 Romania 0,15%

Russia 0,15%
 Switzerland 0,15%
 Syria 0,15%
 Thailand 0,15%
 Turkey 3,94%
 United States 0,94%
 Vietnam 0,15%
 Zimbabwe 0,31%

Interview with the ExAdOs



Anne zur Horst, Taalko Janssen and Hendrik Ebel are this year's Executive Administrative Officers (ExAdOs).

What are your tasks at this year's conference?

We have been working in the background previous to the conference, organising aspects like printing the badges and bracelets, and ordering bus tickets for the delegates. We also found suppliers for our MUN that support the conference by offering discounts for conference participants. And, of course, we are in charge of the of the participant's registration process, where all our work sums up to the to the start of a great conference!

What was the most challenging task for you?

This has been searching for so many different suppliers. We wanted to enable you to choose from a wide range of various restaurants so that you can enjoy a wonderful lunch break. You can find an overview of our suppliers right here and in the Conference Guide.

By Joanna Grave



A Look into the Rear-View Mirror

The year before the conference



During the week, many of you will get in contact with the team behind the scenes more than once. That is, of course, because the different activities and the conference itself require a lot of helping hands. Yet, during the conference you will only see a tiny portion of all the preparation that has been put into OLMUN.

Usually, the preparation for the next conference starts right after the Closing Ceremony of the previous one. Therefore, if you are thinking about starting your own MUN conference, pay attention, because we would like to give you a tour through one year of OLMUN preparation.

Our journey starts in August, when the new Secretariat is usually elected at the annual assembly of the OLMUN association. At this meeting, the members review the past year and may decide upon changes in the charter of the OLMUN association. After this meeting, it is up to the new secretariat to recruit new members for the Inner Circle.

But there are also several organizational matters which require the secretariat's attention immediately: venues for the conference need to be found, sponsors and a topic for

the next conference. In November, it is already time to find topics for all the different committees. To do that, the whole Inner Circle meets and debates suggestions for every committee. Once this is done, no time is lost and before Christmas, the candidates for Chairing and Student Officer positions are interviewed.

The new year is characterized by the work of the Chairs, who prepare their committees and get in contact with their delegates once all the participants have been allocated to a position. Meanwhile, the Secretariat and the Student Officers take care of all the things that have to be sorted prior to the OLMUN week: finding MUN suppliers and guest speakers or registering the conference and the party with the city of Oldenburg.

And then, OLMUN approaches and before you know it, the whole circle starts from the beginning...

By Dominik Ulke



Old but Gold

Our former members of the Inner Circle are still involved!



In the following article you will learn about an important part of OLMUN: the alumni!

These people have officially finished their time at OLMUN because they are already done with their school education. Now they support all kinds of positions with their experiences.

To give you an example, we will present Ruben to you, who is responsible for the layout of the Daily Diplomat. He started participating in OLMUN in 2013 as a photographer for the press team. He was also responsible for setting up the TV section in 2014. In the following year, Ruben became Secretary-General, which gave him the opportunity to organize the OLMUN conference in that year and showed him what students are able to create just by themselves.

He also served as Chief of TV and managed the Social Media Accounts in 2016 and now he is assisting our Chief of Press with formatting the daily newspaper.

According to him, among all of his positions the most productive one

was the job of Secretary-General because he liked the responsibility of giving younger people the opportunity to take part in the event that he helped organize. His motivation to be at OLMUN every year since 2013 is the solidarity of OLMUN, the ability of students to create such a big event, which is important for world politics.

How important OLMUN is for the future can be seen in Ruben's choice of studies. He studies politics to learn more about political campaigns and our values, which are often forgotten but present at the MUN events. Ruben also gives MUN credit for a lot of skills he has obtained, like the ability to organise big events, to work according to a timetable and the ability to take responsibility.

Taking part in OLMUN for so many years means that you can observe the conference as it changes. In the time period of seven years, the most noticeable change was the digitalization, which you can see by the creation of our own app. The system in general has stayed similar with just small improvements.

As a result of this presentation you can say that Ruben has made many important experiences, which are valuable for his future career. He considers the OLMUN an event where students can learn how to pass on values like being confident and as an opportunity to be able to change something in the world.

We also spoke to two more alumni, Yannick and Dominik. Both of them took part in OLMUN for at least seven years, like Ruben, and served as delegates but also as members of the Secretariat. As a general image of the alumni that we gathered from these interviews, they are all enthusiastic participants and MUN has even influenced their studies and future plans, although some were not as interested in politics at first. All of them started as delegate or member of the press and then continued to fill responsible positions and to contribute a lot.

Ruben, Yannick and Dominik also named the - in their view - best lessons from OLMUN, which are the courage to talk to people and show your opinion, the ability to take part in constructive debates and the enrichment of your own view.

By Chiara Lindemann & Veronika Gockel



Interview with the Entertainment Managers



Is this your first time as Entertainment Managers?

Yes, this is our first time, but not our first OLMUN. We also supported the last year's managers and could get a few insights for the job. For this reason we are really happy to have gotten in this position.

What are your tasks?

We plan and organize the evening events. We just make sure that everything runs smoothly.

Why did you choose to be Entertainment Managers and what is your favourite task?

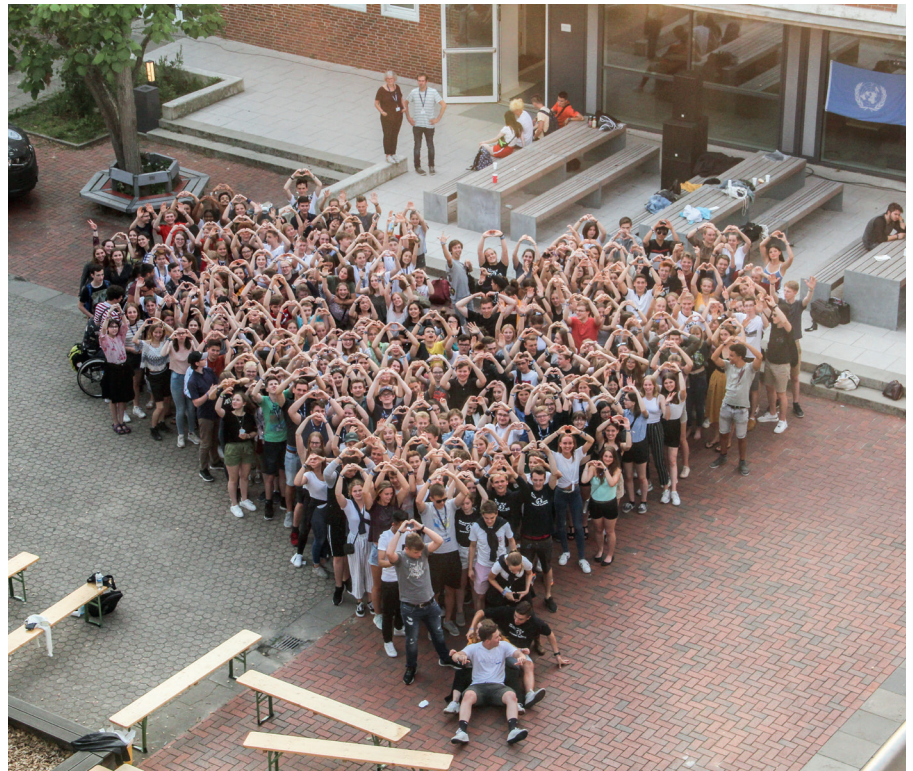
We just like to organize and create a great mood. Our favourite task is planning the party at the 'Molkerei-Klub', because it is a pretty cool feeling to have organized a big party on your own. You simply cannot compare this with a birthday party.

By Svenja Wiecking, Sarah Bieberstein & Carla Tolksdorf



Grill and Chill

The barbecue



A great first day ended with an even better barbecue. Our Entertainment Managers (Lisa and Frederike) had prepared the event, which took place at the 'Graf-Anton-Günther-Schule' and lasted three and a half hours till 10:30 PM.

Luckily, it was an enjoyable warm evening without any rain. So the weather was perfect to eat and chill out. It was also the first opportunity to get in contact with other participants, especially the ones from abroad. Due to the big selection of different sausages, something delicious was available for every taste.

Yet, for our social media team it was a big challenge to take a good photo of the crowd. Later some of the students showed of their unique dance moves to the music, which also animated the rest of our delegates.

Behind the good mood you might forget how much effort it took to prepare it all. For every simple step is a team necessary. Some people take

care of the grill and others have to slice the bread rolls. Sometimes difficulties occur, this year the vegan sausages were not available in this amount in most supermarkets, because 200 vegan sausages as well as 600 pork sausages and 120 poultry sausages were needed.

After asking a few people it got clear that the evening with its atmosphere was a huge success. For this reason we are looking forward to the next events this week and encourage you to take part in them as well.

By Sarah Bieberstein, Svenja Wiecking & Carla Tolksdorf



Funny Notes

Spilling the Beans



From: Finland

To: Kuwait

"Dear delegates, we are very open to improve the relations of our countries, but we have a suggestion to bring forward. Although the climate is cold in our country, our saunas are as warm as our hearts. So if you want, come over and sweat with us."

From: Albania

To: Lesotho

"I like your hair! Did you dye them white or are they natural?"

From: Sudan

To: Korea

"The boy from Germany who hold the speech was the Russian boy with the nice hair!"

From: Mauritius

To: Italy

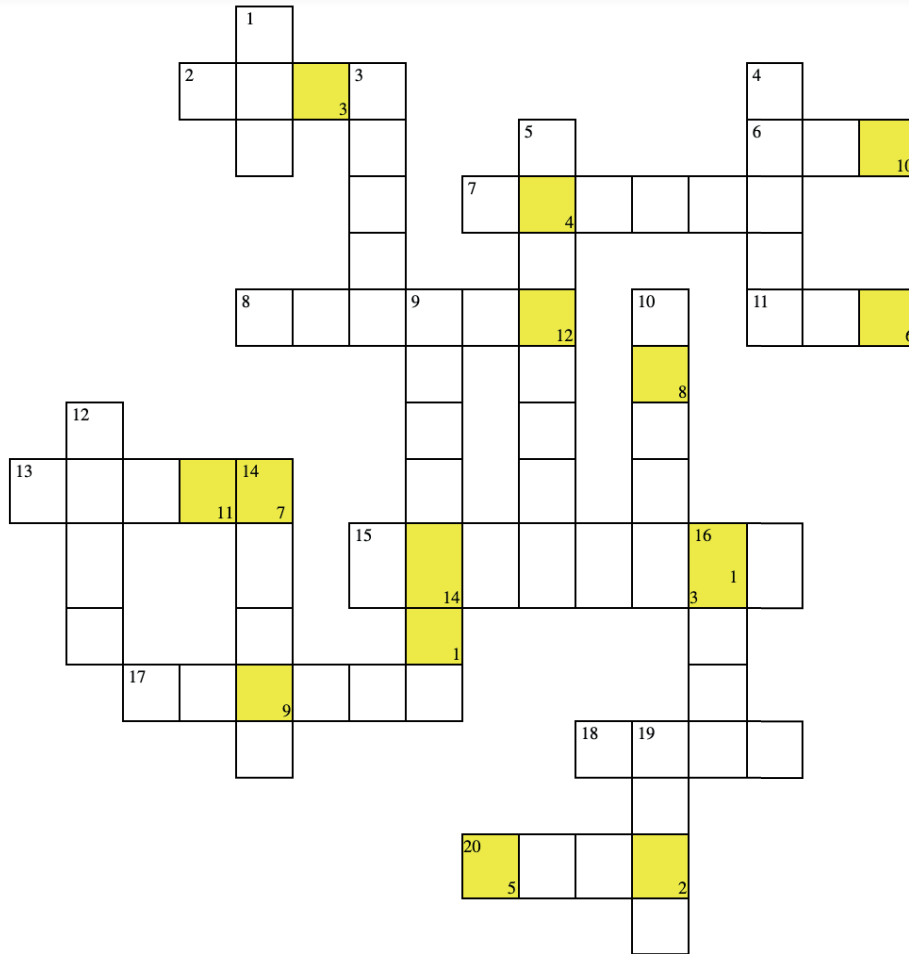
"We should meet-up! P.S. You are attractive!"

By Janne Kuhnt



Crossing Words

Time to test your general knowledge!



Lösungswort:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14						

horizontal

- 2. planet
- 6. climbing plant
- 7. bus stop in Oldenburg
- 8. Greek goddess
- 11. chest bone
- 13. one aim of the UNESCO
- 15. capital of Finland
- 17. small in Latin
- 18. committee, which was founded in 1972
- 20. point of the compass

vertical

- 1. headgear
- 3. tired animal
- 4. music: mode
- 5. French dessert
- 9. unlimited, incessant
- 10. colour
- 12. country in South America
- 14. founder of the OLMUN
- 16. part of the leg
- 19. committee, which is a military alliance

By Chiara Lindemann & Veronika Gockel

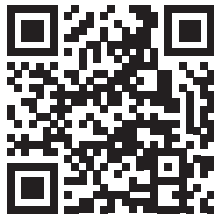


OLMUN Social Media

Snapchat:



Facebook:



Instagram:



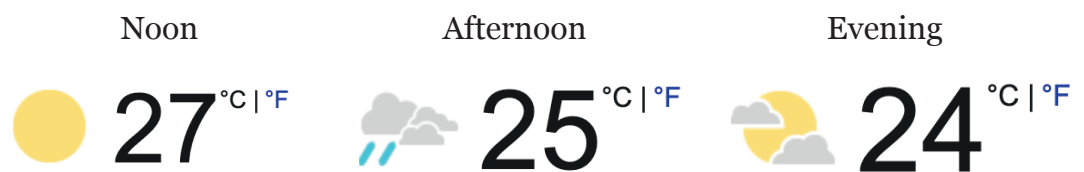
Maps:



Weather

Should I stay or should I go?

Wednesday



Thursday



Imprint

In cooperation with Kultusministerium, the issue of the Daily Diplomat was exclusively produced for the Oldenburg Model United Nations 2019. The included opinions and views do not necessarily reflect the opinion of OLMUN or its advertisers.

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Evening Activities

Soccer Game at the Dobbenwiese:

This evening you will have the chance to be physically active whilst getting in touch with new people. From 7 to 10.30 pm you can show off your soccer skills or play a round of traditional Wikinger-Schach (kubb). To anyone who isn't quite sure about the rules, instructions will be given.



Where?
Tirpitzstraße
26122 Oldenburg
7.00 pm

