



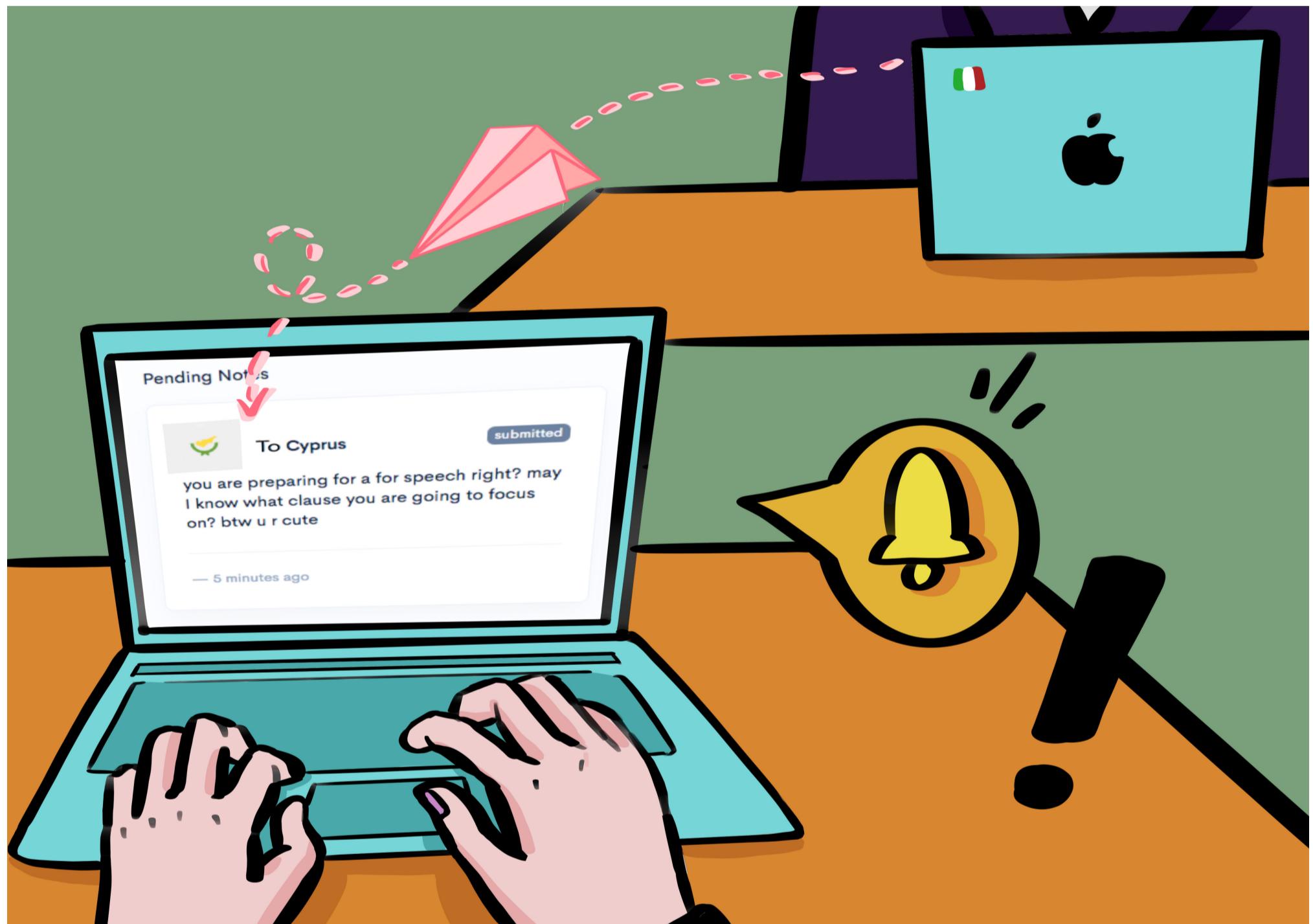
BEIWATCH

BEIMUN XXVIII

ISSUE 2

February 27, 2021

NOTE PASSING ADVENTURES



By Dorothy Du

Among the mingles of passionate and exciting voices that busied themselves with the exchange of resolutions and the discussion of global issues, a spark of innocent teenage charm blossomed between two delegates. This year's online conference taking place in a confined box screen may have considerably limited the physical contact between delegates, making it ever so difficult to bat your lashes at the dashing delegate sitting two seats to the left of you, but trust a blossoming friendship to always find a way to peek through.

A quickened heartbeat was picked up by the wind, and soon the news was carried all the way to the ears of a Head Admin. Seemingly, nearing the end of the debate in the Disarmament Committee, when the delegate of Italy sent her notes to

the delegate of Cyprus – two sophomore female delegates both from Shekou International School — the delegate from Italy decided to make an interesting addition to her notes: “you are preparing for a speech, right? May I know what clause you are going to focus on? Btw u r cute.” Whether the addition was simply meant to be a compliment or meant to be interpreted as something more, one can only speculate.

MUN note passing this year was done through a platform called MUN One, unlike previous BEI-MUN conferences where physical notes were used. Note passing is a crucial aspect of communication that helps delegates persuade other members in their committee, as well as to determine whether they want to go for or against a resolution. It has

now become a medium for delegate to have fun while still being productive and efficient when it comes to forming resolutions.

As serious as the issues discussed and debated in BEIMUN XXVIII are, and as disappointing as it is to be unable to experience the conference in-person where delegates can easily immerse themselves in the atmosphere of tension and excitement, the fact that delegates are making the most out of this conference - and maybe charm a few people along the way - shows that they possess resilience and confidence. These are exact qualities needed for future leaders to succeed and lead our society onwards for a brighter tomorrow. We hope to see BEI-MUN delegates continue being decision-makers, in addition to being charming, in the future.

BEIMUN EXECUTIVE PROFILES

By Sally Kim

Secretary General
Shawn Teh



I joined MUN in middle school to improve my public speaking skills and my understanding of the world around me. After years into the program, I discovered that MUN is not just about speech and debate; instead, MUN is about learning current events and the unique process of interacting with students from all over the world. Given the pandemic situation, we are incredibly fortunate to have this opportunity to virtually meet around 600 participants from ten countries across three continents.

Regardless of their experience and position, I encourage that all participants remain enthusiastic and collaborative, as progress cannot be made unless we engage in diplomacy. Through our discourse, we will work towards formulating and proposing solutions to the issues that our generation will ultimately face.

I hope that BEIMUN XXVIII will open its participants to new perspectives and challenge everyone to think critically.

Deputy Secretary General
Emma Liu



As a Deputy Secretary General, I have been tasked with managing BEIMUN's social media; producing important documents like the Student Officer and Delegate Handbooks; and supervising my committees of ENV1, ENV2, WHA1, and WHA2. I initially joined MUN because I found my speech and debate skills lacking. Over the 5 years that I have stayed in the club, however, I have become more invested in our tight-knit community and began to participate in leadership roles.

During my time in MUN, I have attended BEIMUN as a delegate, an ICJ advocate, a chair, and now a member of the secretariat team. For all the fun and stimulating debate I have had over the years, I hope that delegates attending can enjoy this conference like I am. BEIMUN XXVIII has opened MUN up to the possibility of a fully online conference. As we have been greeted with great success, I believe we may continue exploring the benefits of an online, truly borderless conference in BEIMUN's future.

Deputy Secretary General
Gina Yoo



I have been involved in the MUN Program for five years now, with this being my third BEIMUN conference, excluding BEIMUN XXVII which was unfortunately cancelled due to the Covid-19 outbreak. BEIMUN holds a special place in my heart as it fully encapsulates my growth throughout my time in high school: from my humble freshman beginnings as the delegate of the DPRK in the Environment Commission, to my role as the Assistant President in the Security Council, and finally to today, where I was given the honor to serve as a Deputy Secretary General.

My biggest hope is that people will fully pursue all of the opportunities that BEIMUN offers and take as much value from it as I have. I wish that every delegate will leave having accomplished their personal goals, whether that be a better understanding of global issues, development of their communication skills, or an exploration of diversity in thought. I have full confidence BEIMUN will continue to inspire its participants for the next decades to come.



BEIMUN EXECUTIVE PROFILES

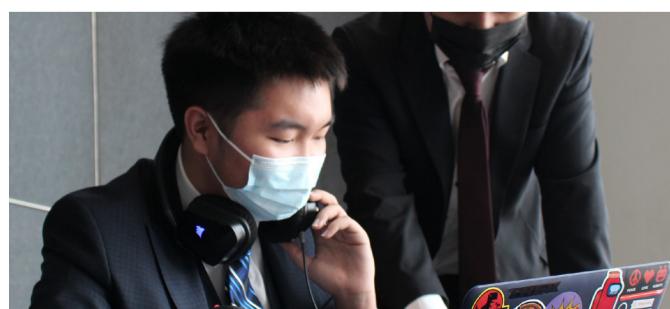
Deputy Secretary General
Eric Xie



My MUN journey began in middle school when one of our previous BEIMUN secretariats encouraged me to join the MUN program. Though I was horrible at public speaking and had absolutely no knowledge about global issues initially, I had a deep interest in international diplomacy which prompted me to join the club.

Five years later, I am now an avid MUN member that has attended multiple international conferences, eager to attend more conferences. BEIMUN has always had a special place in my heart. I have attended the conference since BEIMUN XXIV, having made many great memories and friends. Each year, the professionalism and preparedness of the BEIMUN secretariats left me in awe. As a result, I wanted to become a BEIMUN secretariat myself so that one day I could become the same individual that hundreds of participants look up to in an MUN conference.

One of my favorite things about MUN is the fact that it is a great opportunity to meet people of various backgrounds and make friends. Each BEIMUN, I not only get to meet new individuals, I also get to meet some of my MUN friends I met in previous MUN conferences which always brings me delight. I hope that all BEIMUN XXVIII participants will be able to engage in fruitful debate and make new friends, leaving this conference with cheerful memories.



Head Admin
Leighton DuYang

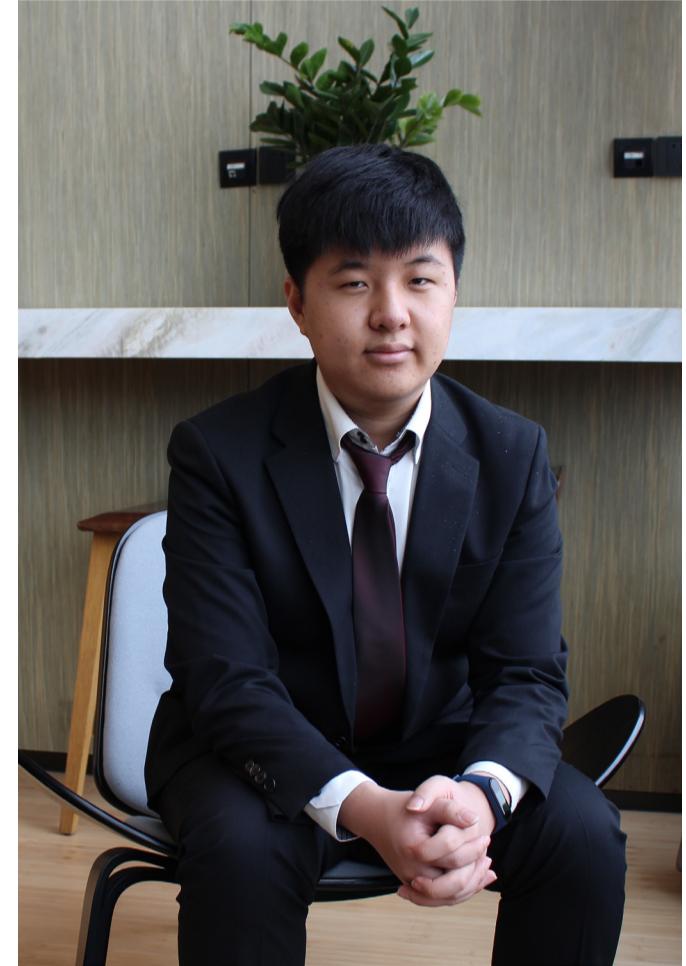


I joined MUN as a freshman hoping to hone my public speaking skills, but I have since gained much more than that. MUN is not just centered around giving public speeches but also research and teamwork. It is at these MUN conferences where I fully developed my speaking, research, and teamwork skills, and I look forward to seeing the delegates and chairs improving themselves the same way.

This year, our team aimed to create the best conference possible for all of its participants, and we believed that we have succeeded in providing the best possible experience that we could have. Between the meetings through Teams and the communication through MUN One, BEIMUN XXVIII has been a great success. Although there have been some hiccups and technical issues along the way, I am glad to say that most issues have been resolved after a brief visit to the helpdesk. With one day left, I hope everyone enjoys the rest of BEIMUN!



Head Admin
Shane Lim



With an avid interest in global issues and diplomacy, I first joined MUN in middle school. I also wanted to improve my public speaking skills through the program. After four years, and now in my fifth, I realized MUN, in fact, is a hub for interaction: where great minds - with different knowledge, perspectives, and experiences - come together to help resolve the issues threatening our global society ultimately. At the conference, I wish all participants will make significant efforts to have constructive debates and progress.

Over the five years, I have mostly participated as a delegate, so I have always wondered what exactly is going on behind the scenes. I have always revered the professionalism I could see in the BEIMUN executives over the years, hence wanted to become an executive member. With this in mind, I fortunately have the opportunity to become the Head Admin this year, and took the chance. Though the workload is challenging, I personally have been having a great time in BEIMUN XXVIII. I hope all participants are also enjoying the conference and will leave this conference with fond memories.



US CAPITOL RIOTS

By Asher Sevy



On January 6, 2021, a mob of Donald Trump supporters wielding Trump 2020 flags and weapons violently stormed, ransacked, and looted the U.S. Capitol Building. Five people died during the riots, and more than 140 were injured. This unrest was spurred by the loss of Trump's presidency after the 2020 presidential election, and members of Congress as well as other lawmakers had to be evacuated from the Capitol during the intrusion. As some of the insurrectionists searched for Congress members to capture, harm, and allegedly execute, others set

up makeshift gallows, hung a Confederate flag inside the Capitol, and even planted pipe bombs nearby and brought Molotov cocktails in an attempt to cause an explosion within the Capitol Building. Fortunately, the Federal Bureau of Investigations (more commonly known as the FBI) managed to disarm these explosives and restored order.

After losing the 2020 election, former President Trump as well as many of his supporters believed that the election results had been inaccurate, with a variety of false claims such as a

mail-in ballot miscount or human errors. Even while the Capitol was being destroyed and people were being beaten by the ferocious mobs, many witnessed Trump congratulating the insurrectionists and encouraging them to continue, and in a Twitter video, he even said to them, "We love you. You are very special." At the protest, many of the rioters were seen screaming and chanting demands such as "Where is Mike Pence?" and "Hang Mike Pence!" Meanwhile, the mobs were trying to locate and take many other government members hostage, such as House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

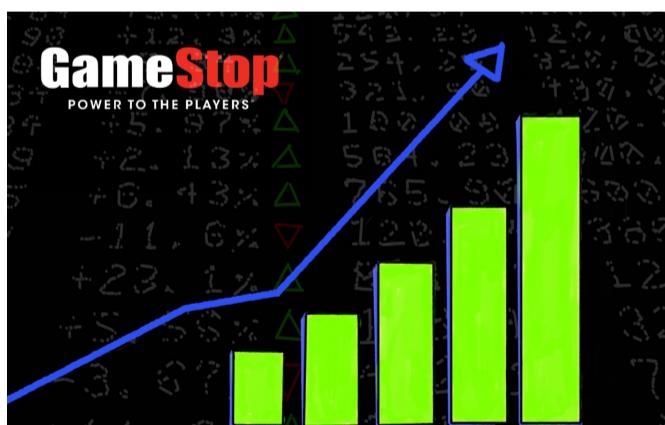
During and following the riots, over three hundred people were arrested, many of which belonged to many white supremacist, conspiracy, and neo-fascist extremist groups such as the Proud Boys, Oath Keepers, Three Percenters, Texas Freedom Force, and QAnon. Not surprisingly, many of these rioters' names were also already listed on the FBI's Terrorist Screening Database, or TSDB.

While many Americans disapproved of the attack on the Capitol, some Republicans still maintained an ambiguous or neutral stance regarding the event. The Capitol is in the process of reconstruction, but while the architecture's damage is prospective to be amended quickly, the hearts corrupted by prejudice and bigotry require a longer period of time to be enlightened.

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GAMESTOP STOCKS



By Sophie Bai

In a world surrounded by economics, stock markets are one of the most essential cores of the global financial system. Once one purchases a company's stock, they have the ownership of a miniature portion of that company, which is considered as a share. Stocks are also known as investments. For companies, distributing stock is a method to increase profit to enhance their business. Investors utilize stocks to generate rev-

enue and outpace inflation over time. Recently, a shocking new "superstar" soared from the bottom to the top of the data table, causing a tremendous sensation in the global stock market: GameStop. The GameStop's stock started only with little momentum, but unexpectedly, the stock escalated immensely to over 100% for short interest. With the unbelievable statistics, GameStop has left the world with wonders.

The tragic journey of GameStop began with users on a Reddit forum called "WallStreetBets" deciding to buy into GameStop shares. Originally, these users purchased the stock because it was undervalued, and to send messages to short sellers - sellers who profit from when the price of an asset falls. However, the share price rose to an excessive level, which initiated colossal losses for short-sellers. A war opened up between the hedge funds and other shares that have been betted against them. This conversely made the perfect opportunity for GameStop stocks to rise: the conflict between the investors and hedge fund

grew provision and popularity for the company on Reddit "WallStreetBets." By January 22nd, the stock erupted over 50% during the trading session, resulting in a starting share of \$42.59 to \$96.73 (USD) in the following weekend. The stock continued to gain recognition through Elon Musk's and Chamath Palihapitiya's investment and Twitter post. In fact, the value of the shares rose by approximately 140%, increasing the value of shares to \$354.83. Yet, this delighted scene did not last long, as the Melvin Capital reported that the hedge fund lost 53% of its total investments in January, falling around 90% from the top-notch.

As a whole, the process can be summarized as in a short squeeze - the progression of investors betting on the up and downs of the stock, placed by investors purchasing the shares themselves. The journey of GameStop's riotous stock market demonstrated that even individual users of social media can highly impact companies' stocks, and the floor is now open to anyone.

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COMMITTEE RECAPS

ENV

By Emily Parker



On the second day of this year's BEIMUN conference, the delegates of the Environmental Commission sub-commission one (ENV 1) convened to discuss pressing environmental issues. On Saturday, the delegates of the Environmental Commission sub-commission one (ENV 1) gathered to discuss foreign aid strategies to minimize the threats posed by extreme weather phenomena and natural disasters, measures to regulate the legal wildlife trade industry, and to address the global waste crisis.

When it comes to threats posed by extreme weather phenomena and natural disasters, Summer Tian, the delegate of Columbia, recognizes the deleterious impacts of extreme weathers, which affect income, education, employment, community safety, and a wide range of other activities that are a part of residents' daily life. Additionally, he expresses his concern for refugees' health and well-being, as they, who are homeless and have no reliable food, water and electricity source, are the most vulnerable population of these unpredictable incidents. Allegedly, this inflicted both mental and physical trauma to the refugees and dramatically increase "the number of mortality due to natural disasters." With the intention to combat climatic and natural destructions, Tian submitted a resolution, which survived through rounds of debates and became the final resolution, that included measure for "increas[ing] the efficiency of disaster management, availability of emergency protocol, and public education in order to ensure civilian's safety."

Another pressing problem mentioned by delegates was the global waste crisis. Considering the serious harms global waste on the environment and humanity, the surging increase in the amount of waste in recent years cannot be ignored. Thus, for the wellbeing of all, acts to "address the global waste crisis" is of unprecedented significance and urgency. Potential ideas delegates conjure regarding the global waste crisis include promoting the practice of up-cycling, increasing public awareness, and creating educational programs. In some countries like South Korea, there are already organizations that promote the practice of these ecological actions, such as "BuzzThePuzz," which delegates aim to apply to a wider range of nations.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ELLY KIM AND SUNNY ROH

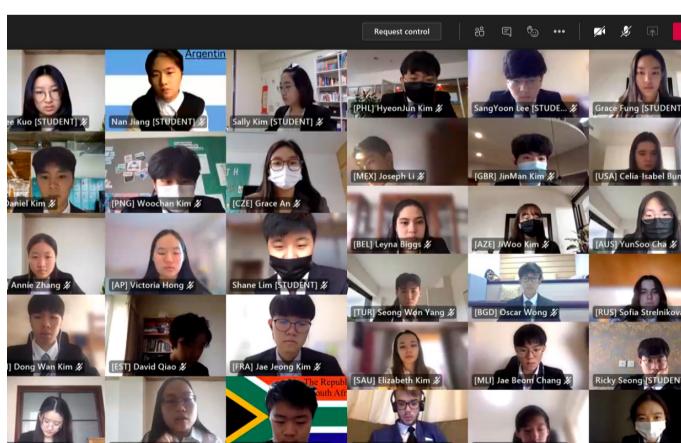
WHA

By Asher Sevy



During the second day of the BEIMUN XXVI-II Conference, the new World Health Assembly (WHA) Commission convened to continue their debate. In an interview with Sofia Strelnikova, the delegate of the Russian Federation, she elaborated on the topics the WHA have been debating about for the past day. The WHA have been passionately discussing the three topics regarding control of opioids, healthcare after the pandemic, and addressing the anti-vaccine movement. The WHA had successfully ended their debate from the previous day, which was on a resolution on post-pandemic healthcare. Although there were some technical issues, overall the WHA had conducted a fruitful debate. They had made more than three amendments which enhanced the resolution as a whole, and the committee as a whole worked hard to construct a thorough resolution for these issues at hand. Although some of the resolutions did not pass in the end, she still felt that this debate had added to her MUN experience.

During an open debate on anti-vaccination movements, the delegates discussed specific points on how to regulate social media corporations related to anti-vaccination posts, such as warnings for whether social media posts have been supported with reliable information. Sally Kim, the delegate of India, outlined some resolutions that the WHA had been discussing, including but not limited to "educating the citizens and helping the government to restrict [opioids]." Later in the debate, many delegates had the chance to request amendments to the resolution, such as a request on the improvement of regulation of vaccine monitoring systems specifically in medical and healthcare aspects. Each of the proposed amendments, such as this one, received both support and opposition by many delegates, and these delegates had the chance to speak their mind and present why they were either for or against each amendment.



ARTWORKS BY BERNICE CHAN, TRACY HO,
AND GIGI SHUM

DIS

By Emily Parker



Led by Chris Lim, the President, Emily Sun, the Assistant President, and Lokeshwar Gopikrishna, the Assistant President, delegates of the Disarmament Commission assembled together to discuss, dispute, and proactively contribute to form ideas as to how the world could effectively tackle significant issues about redefining the role of overseas military bases, addressing the militarization of outer space, and by exploring questions of foreign intervention in the Middle East. Delegates from a diverse group of schools debated extensively to reach a consensus on how to manage, or ideally, prevent the dangers that come with military forces and weapons. Delegates voiced their strong opinions concerning the security and safety of the world around us, their passion and determination both visible and palpable.

During the debate session, delegates discussed attainable resolutions beginning with pursuing a resolution submitted by the Czech Republic, in efforts to make foreign intervention more effective and safe. Recognizing the fact that over the past 4,000 years Middle Eastern nations have constantly been involved in feuds with each other, especially due to colonial rule, legacy, and religion, Aileen Chen, the delegate of the Czech Republic, plans on "increasing transparency and a nation's ability to make the most effective foreign intervention within a host nation." Chen also proposed implicating "international communication ports that would allow nations to make quicker and smarter internationally agreed upon decisions," willing to make drastic changes in ensuring this issue is solved.

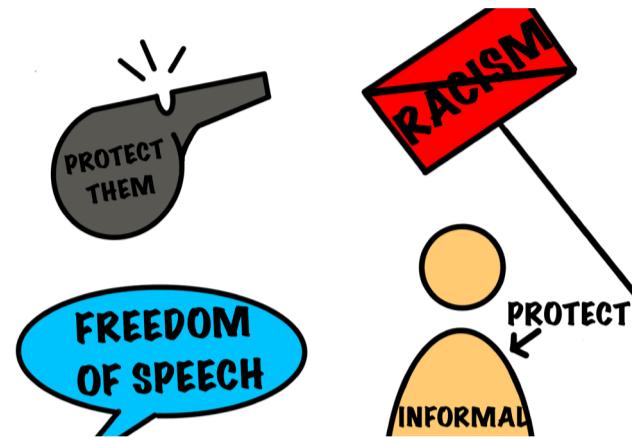


LAYOUT BY JESSICA PARK

COMMITTEE RECAP (CONTINUED)

HRC

By Dorothy Du



Humans today live more interdependently than ever before, our lives woven together tightly, bounded by visible and invisible laws that influence our every decision. The need to protect our rights and to abolish the inequality established in the past is now more urgent than ever. Delegates representing countries from all over the world gather on this significant Saturday in BEIMUN's XXVIII's Human Rights Council to discuss some of the following issues: protecting the right of whistleblowers,

addressing the issue of systematic racism in the workplace, and promoting measures to increase transparency and protect the rights of workers in the informal economy.

Following a morning of lobbying and passing resolutions, the HRC commences their second day of BEIMUN by hosting the open debate for four different resolutions. The delegate of Norway, Yeonjoon Kim, who focused especially on the issue of safeguarding the interest of whistleblowers, has drafted a resolution that "ranges from providing legislative policies that will protect these whistleblowers' rights, to creating boards that will investigate suspected of retaliation." Aside from a general approval investigative process is needed for all whistleblowing actions, the delegate of Norway has also mentioned a "re-compensation process in which [the whistleblowers] would be given a financial share for reporting on illegal and unethical crimes."

The open debate in the HRC committee started

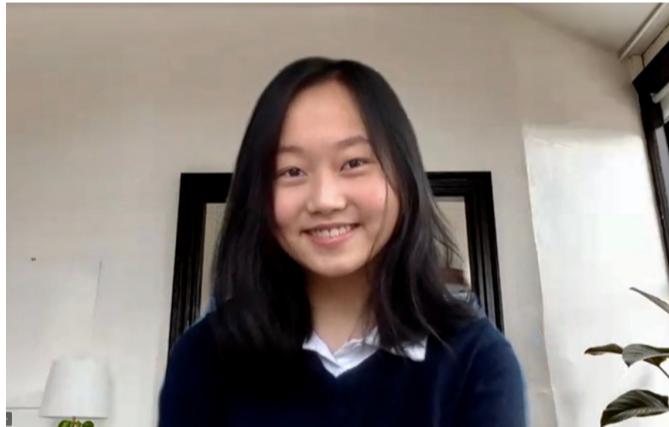
with the resolution submitted by Japan on addressing workplace systematic racism. Delegates were eager to actively participate, questioning how "equal access to all benefits will be ensured", and whether the resolution solved "the fundamental problem".

All committees have displayed incredible passion and in-depth knowledge throughout the debate. Yeonjoon was impressed by the level of details in resolutions, stating "I have not seen this caliber of resolutions in a long time."



An Insightful MUN Journey: Kate Yin

By Ivy Yang



The MUN experience is unique in itself and to all. This year, we have delegates from 36 schools and over 450 participants partaking in this BEIMUN conference. All delegates doubtlessly have their own story about why they decided to join MUN and carry their one-off stances and mindsets to this conference. Since the gavel has been struck and secretary-general Shawn Teh has announced the BEIMUN XXVIII conference's official commencement, delegates have been busily and intensively engaged in heated group discussions, lobbying sessions, and debates. Here, a personal story of struggle and growth from Kate Yin, 2021 BEIMUN's assistant president of the economic and social council (ECOSOC 1) from the International School of Beijing (ISB).

Yin joined MUN in 6th grade, and she admitted that she did not have a strong command of English, and she intended to improve her English proficien-

cy and public speaking skills in MUN conferences. In the SHASMUN conference, like many other junior delegates, she had difficulties at voicing her proposals confidently as she felt stressed and bewildered most of the times. Instead of being overwhelmed by despair and lost interest in MUN, she optimistically accepted this experience as "a Shanghai school trip" and was stimulated to prepare more thoroughly for her future conferences. Even though her first MUN involvement was limited, Yin shares, "I really enjoyed how professional and diplomatic everyone was. I liked the MUN environment and spirit, so I continued on my MUN journey."

Moreover, MUN means much more than conferences to Yin, but it served as a stepping stone that was crucial to Yin's academic pursuit and an indispensable part of her social life. Over the course of two years, in 2018 Yin eventually participated in TIANMUN, where she was the representative of France in ECOSOC, and, with her perseverance and eloquence, she was recognized as the most diplomatic delegate in the conference. Additionally, according to Yin, her best MUN experience is CIS-SMUN 2020 because it was where she encountered numerous congenial people who shared her interest for politics and her goal of resolving world current issues to create a brighter future for the globe.

Wanting to challenge herself and experience MUN from a different perspective, Yin applied for the position of a chair and was elected by the secretary to be a chair of the Economic and Social Coun-

cil committee in the 28th annual MEIMUN. As Yin honed her skills in multiple MUN conferences as a delegate, admin, and press team, she soon learned to be a qualified chair, leading the committee with her political acuteness and profound knowledge on global issues. To prospective delegates, Yin advises, "MUN may seem daunting with everyone using big words, but do not be afraid to speak; the more speeches and points you contribute, the more proficient and confident you will become. Just work hard, enjoy the process, and be ready to embrace the moment of highlight and belongs to you."

A last word from Kate Yin: "Do not be afraid, continue challenging yourself, force yourself out of your comfort zone. Trust me, all the miracles take place outside of your comfort zone."



Recognition of Admins



Leighton Duyang, the Head Admin of BEIMUN XXVIII



Shane Lim, the Head Admin of BEIMUN XXVIII

By Sophie Bai

BEIMUN XXVIII is held in a new manner this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Conferences proceed in Microsoft Teams online with general meeting rooms and breakout meeting rooms. Delegates convene in the meeting rooms to discuss and debate pressing world current issues in order to present possible diplomatic resolutions. So far, the online conference is impeded by limited technical issues, thanks to the admin team behind the scenes, as without their meticulous organization and comprehensive preparation, BEIMUN's conference complex procedures could not be executed as smoothly.

The major obligation of the admin team is to preclude any possible technical difficulties and

logistic issues so that the entire process remains an enjoyable and fruitful one. The alteration between the Microsoft Teams channels online might highly confuse delegates, losing track of where they should be going. Thankfully, the admin team is there to give directions to validate that every delegate knows where they are transitioning to.

Leighton Duyang, the head admin, noted that "note-passing, amendment submission, and resolution submission all worked as planned, and I am proud of delegates' impressive ability to adapt to this new mode of communication. 2020-2021 had been a chaotic year for us all, but the mission of BEIMUN is attempting to solve world problems, so ensuring the quality of this conference is vital". As

one of the head admin, Leighton's job is to manage the admin team and prepare them to tackle any unexpected situation that may occur. Leighton stated that he enjoys "communicating with the MUN One team, testing the software with them, and answering to any incident with his full effort. However, this role is challenging due to the countless unseen complications, and thus "requires patience to correct errors and repair defective systems.

BEIMUN XXVIII would not be as successful without the dedicated, skilled, and supportive admin team, who are undaunted by the various potential hardships and coordinating a memorable experience for us all.

“Modern problems require prehistoric solutions.”
- Eric Xie

Meeting now

Request control

Leave

Sally Kim [STUDENT] ...

Shane - Head Admin

@Daniel K - WHA, Pres @Victoria H - WHA, AP
@Renee - WHA, AP The delegate of India (Sally Kim) is having trouble setting her virtual background. When she raises her hand, she should be showing a paper that says "india" on her camera. Please keep note of this

Daniel K - WHA, Pres
Got it

Eric - Dep. Secretary General
modern problems require prehistoric solutions

8 ENTERTAINMENT

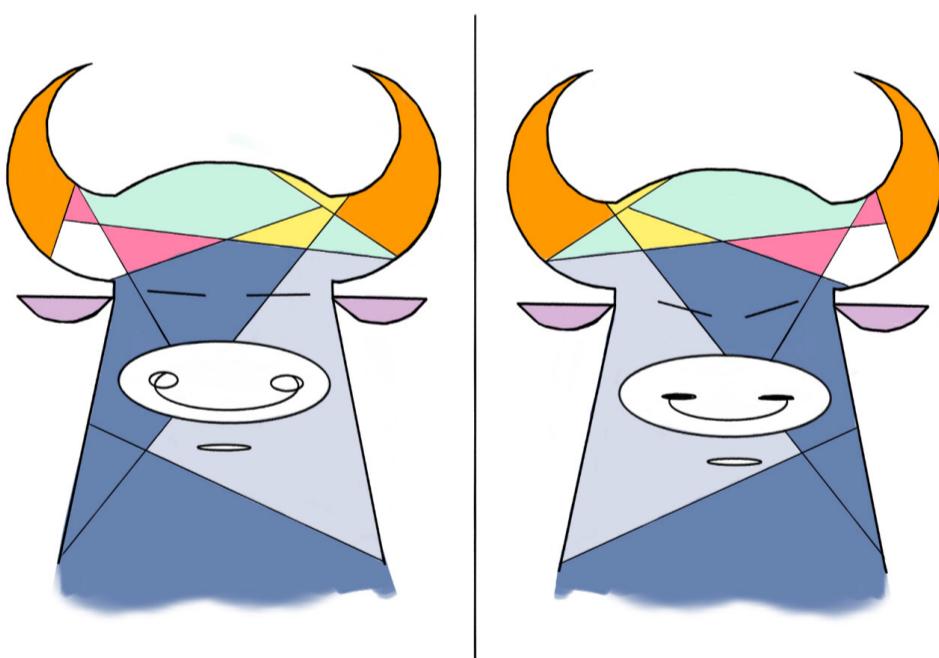
WORD SEARCH

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BEIWATCH TEAMS BEIJING COVID ZOOM NEWYEAR ISB MUN ELEARNING SCHOOL



Find 5 Differences



ARTWORKS BY GIGI SHUM, MIE KO, NAEN KWAK AND SUNNY ROH

LAYOUT BY MAXINE LIM

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