## WELCOME TO BEIMUN XXV



By Casper Suen

The long nights are growing shorter and the ice is starting to melt - winter is nearing its end and spring is peeking around the corner. Just as nature will soon be emerging from its long sleep and stretching its arms, so too will delegates rouse themselves from their inter-conference stupor to refresh their lexicons in anticipation of vigorous debate and other such oratory endeavors. Indeed, it will soon be time for students all around the world to gather in Beijing for the twenty-fifth annual BEIMUN conference. Over the course of three days, delegates will have the chance to engage in heated discussions regarding this year's theme of Justice and Equity in the Age of Globalization. Ji Won Choi of the International Court of Justice, a seasoned MUN veteran, is particularly interested in this year's theme and stresses its importance: "This topic is most fitting, I believe, simply due to the increasingly interconnected nature of the modern world... Especially with a growing nationalistic sentiment that has spread throughout Europe as well as the United States, it is important

to remember the role of international cooperation in the pursuit of justice and equity for all peoples." Of course, not all issues discussed in the conference will be immediately linked to the conference theme, but Evelyn Li of the Environment Commission notes that "[they] may be more relevant than some may realize. For example, the perpetrators of climate change and those most vulnerable to its effects are largely not the same group of people. I think this raises interesting questions about justice and equity."

In the process of building their resolutions, dele-

gates will have to demonstrate their abilities to effectively research, lobby, and debate. Communication and cooperation is key. In this process, they will be exposed to unique sets of views from a massive group of diverse individuals. This has many delegates excited with the prospect of making new friends in the international community. As BEIMUN 2018 will be the first major conference for many new delegates, they will have the chance to adjust to the MUN format, while veterans will continue to produce the high quality discourse for which they are known.

# HAPPY 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!

Artwork by HyoJin Kim

Layout by Annie Yang

### **INTRODUCING ISB**

By Anna Brenner

"ISB is more than a school, it's a way of life"

- Patrick Hurworth, Head of School



The International School of Beijing (ISB) was founded in 1980 as a non-profit, private, co-educational, Pre-K-through-12 institution. It is a culturally diverse school with a reputation as "one of China's top international schools." ISB boasts a balanced learning environment, as well as passionate, experienced, and qualified teachers who undoubtedly bring out the best in their students.

ISB and its community strive to embody global-mindedness, integrity, respect, balance, service, and creativity as core values. With a mission to collaboratively cultivate inspirational and creative opportunities by nurturing confidence and intellectual curiosity that experimental learning brings, ISB develops each student's unique potential. This collective vision ignites each student's passion for lifelong learning. ISB also emphasizes on the intellectual,

physical, social and emotional development of each student and promotes global understanding and respect within the amalgamation of cultures within the community.

As a student currently in her thirteenth and last year at ISB, I can assure you that all that was stated above is true. Although students face an incredibly competitive and stressful atmosphere, each and every mentor at ISB is genuinely supportive. We are constantly made to remember what it means to be a celebrated student-one that embodies the core values-at ISB, with monthly student of the month awards, and frequent guidance-based assembly speeches made by our principals and counselors. ISB is a place where students not only care about their learning, but everyone cares about everyone.

### INTRODUCING BEIJING

Beijing is an imposing city which boasts a population of 24.9 million and centuries of rich history. Located in Northern China, the city is split into 16 urban, suburban, and rural districts. Beijing's layout remains relatively intact to the design of the city during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) - a square inner city and a rectangular outer city. Beijing is also known for its series of ring roads circling out from the center of the city (around the Forbidden Palace and Tiananmen Square). Currently, there are six rings, with a seventh scheduled to be complete in June 2018.

Numerous tourist attractions, as well as leisure activities, await travelers coming to Beijing. For visitors wishing to learn more about Beijing's rich history, The Temple of Heaven, The Great Wall, as well as The Forbidden City are all famous historical landmarks that offer rich insight into the cities history, perfect for an excellent learning opportuni-

ty. For visitors wishing to explore modern Beijing, the city boasts a great collection of contemporary shopping malls and shopping areas, such as Indigo Shopping Mall and Solana.

Perhaps the most famous area among International Students is Sanlitun. The area is called Sanlitun to designate its location from Dongzhimen Gate (one of the old gates in the old Beijing city fortifications, now a commercial center), with tun meaning 'locality' and san li meaning 'three li' (a li is 0.5 km), so the name means "locality 1.5 km away (from Dongzhimen Gate)". It is a popular destination for dining, shopping, entertainment, and contains many bar streets as well as brand-name stores.

Visitors with a keen eye for artistic attractions should visit the 798 Art Zone, located in Lido. A world platform for art lovers, the 798 Art Zone (also known as 798 Art District) houses a wide variety of art galleries and is the site of disused Mao-era





factories. In the late 1990s, artists began to re-make the state-owned factories into the galleries that we have all come to know and love. Be careful; even the less enthusiastic visitor may find themselves unintentionally spending half a day wandering around the complex.

Regarding Beijing cuisine, the most famous would have to be Peking duck, but other prominent traditional Beijing foods include Zhajiang noodles, stir-fried tomato and scrambled eggs, and Peking dumplings. Renowned street foods include lamb kebabs, tanghulus (a snack of candied fruit), and deepfried dough cakes.



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## JUSTICE AND EQUITY IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION

Delegates from all over the world will gather to discuss this year's theme of Justice and Equity in the Age of Globalization. Just and equity is a huge concern when looking to maintain stability in our increasingly interconnected world. The rapid development of technology provides us with new platforms to disseminate information and to collaborate with people all over the world. However, this type of globalization has resulted in many issues; cyber warfare, validity of information and sustainability have recently become major problems. With the advancement of technology, there has been many benefits as well as numerous drawbacks. The ever-evolving Internet has enabled citizens around the world to connect to one another regardless of physical location, but in order to do so, there is the risk of exposing one's personal information. This gives rise to the dangerous threats of cyber warfare, which involves the deliberative action of a nation to disrupt another nation's computer system with the intention of creating significant damage. To attackers, cyber operation is the least risky method to gain access to protected information due to the widespread use of vulnerable commercial off-the-shelf technology, the difficulty of distinguishing a glitch from a malicious action, and the challenge of identifying the attacker. Due to these factors, cyber warfare has become the most preferred method of sabotage and espionage. Combined with pre-existing social issues such as human rights violations and social inequality, cyber warfare results in further complication. Unauthorized cyber surveillance violates conventional laws on personal privacy and basic human rights as trusting citizens are subject to possible leakage of private information. Furthermore, less economically developed countries (LEDC) are vulnerable to hackers because they lack the skill and funds to develop the country's security. This puts them at a disadvantage because countries that are more secured are able to counterattack but the LEDCs do not have the skill or power to defend such attacks.

Building upon this, it can be seen that cyber warfare is a great threat to all societies because it exposes



confidential government and military information the number one source of national security threat. It that can negatively influence national and international security. The opposing nation could utilize this sensitive information in declaring real war leading to violence and chaos.

One incident in Washington D.C. has led to the exposure of records of up to fourteen million current and former U.S. government employees which included social security numbers, job assignments, and performance evaluations. The federal government has suffered over 61,000 cyber-security breaches in just the past year. Not only can this impact the government, but it can also impact private companies. Twenty-six percent of U.S. organizations have lost a lot more than fifty-thousand dollars in the year 2013.

The United Nations has gone through great measures to reduce cyber warfare due to it being

has called upon delegations from all over the world to assemble in the General Assembly to discuss the dilemmas of cyber warfare. The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research has made several attempts to strengthen the power of technologies to solve the issue of warfare such as developing informational technology programs and establishing an educational agency to raise awareness of the threats of cyber warfare.

All of these issues combined with the aforementioned pre-existing social issues means that our generation will face challenges that are more complex than ever before. Delegates from around the world will gather for the annual BEIMUN conference to discuss this matter and form possible solutions whilst considering the protection of justice and eq-

Artwork by Heewon Lee Layout by Sonia Zhang

# Tips for MUN Success

By Mina Kang

First time in BEIMUN? Never been to an MUN 3. BE PREPARED TO USE FACTS conference? Well, there's nothing to worry with five short and sweet tips to keep in mind throughout the conference and during the debates.

### 1. GOOD LISTENER = GOOD DEBATER

Despite how boring the speaker may be, listen carefully! You may find a contradiction in another delegate's speech that you can "agree, then refute" to bolster your argument. First agree with a minor point, concept, or goal that has been raised by the speaker, then refute!

### 2. CAPTURE THE AUDIENCE'S ATTENTION

Never be that boring delegate speaking in a monotonous voice. Although it is the responsibility of the delegates to listen and give their full attention, it is also up to you to make them understand how important your speech is. Use body language, manipulate the tone of your voice, make eve contacts, and maybe do something dramatic at the beginning of your speech. Surprise them with your confidence!

Always refer back to facts in your speeches because no one can argue with facts. They are the most crucial weapons that strengthen your stance by providing credibility. They make your speeches almost indestructible.

### 4. GET YOUR HEAD IN THE GAME

Do not digress with insignificant details. Arguing over a sub-topic will have no influence over the operative clauses of the resolution. The conference time is limited, so use your time wisely and never lose sight of the main topic!

### 5. APPEAL TO EMOTIONS

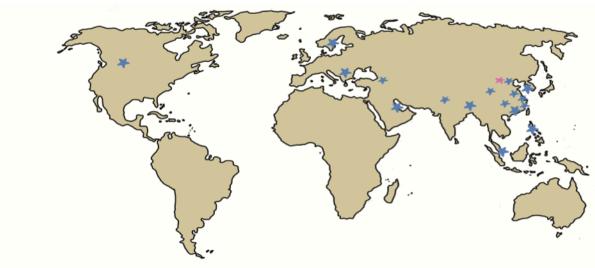
You would have learned that emotions are powerful when convincing your argument. Best speakers use this to underscore the human aspect of their cases. Make use of the longest and most powerful adjectives to strengthen your speech and to distract other delegates from your potentially flawed arguments!





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## Schools Coming to BEIMUN



American International School Dhaka Beijing City International School Beijing Huijia Private School Beijing National Day School Beijing World Youth Academy Brent International School Manila British School of Beijing Cebu International School Coalition of Youth Organizations SEGA Dulwich College Beijing Edmonton Islamic Academy International School of Beijing International School of Dongguan International School of Tianjin Internationella Kunskapsgymnasiet (Stockholm) Kelly Yang Project Korea International School

Bangladesh China China China China China Philippines China Philippines Macedonia China Canada China China

Hong Kong South Korea

### SCHOOL

Lahore American School Mapleleaf International School Tianjin Nanjing International School Ningbo Yinzhou Lanqing School Ningbo Yinzhou Lanqing School
Qatar Academy
School Year Abroad China
Seoul International School
Sha Tin College
Shanghai American School Pudong
Shanghai American School Pudong
Shekou International School
Stamford American International School
Taejon Christian International School
Taejon Christian International School Teda International School The International School of Azerbaijian Western Academy of Beijing Xiamen International School Xian Hi-Tech International School

### COUNTRY Pakistan

China China China Qatar China South Korea Hong Kong China China China Azerbaijian China

### Sitting Down with The Secretariat

By Casper Suen and Hyoree Kim

As BEIMUN XXV looms ever closer, delegates are hard at work preparing themselves for the three days of intensive lobbying and debate. However, four individuals stand out amongst the rest – the executive council – and we had the chance to sit down with two of them and hear their part.

Yoonho Cha, the Secretary General of the BEIMUN Conference 2018

- Q: How have the preparations been going?
- A: We have been preparing a lot for BEIMUN XXV.

  The Secretariat met twice a week to brainstorm ideas, plan events, and resolve any conflicts. With the four of us, so far, there were no conflicts or hindrances we could not find a solution for. I hope the participants enjoy BEIMUN XXV as much as we did preparing for it.
- Q: Considering that this is your last year of BEI-MUN, what are you most looking forward to?
- A: I'm looking forward to a successfully coordinated BEIMUN conference. This is my fourth and last BEIMUN conference, after having participated as a delegate of Bhutan in Special Conference, a judge in the International Court of Justice, and a panelist of France in the Advisory Panel. I also look forward to identifying future leaders in the ISB MUN team so that they can serve as chairs and executives next year to carry my team's torch.
- Q: Do you have anything to say to the delegates?
- A: It is my sincerest hope that you will keep up your passion for MUN. Never settle for what you are, you can always become more. Delegate, Chair, ICJ, APQ, Secretariat. I promise that the diversity of roles, commissions, and conferences around the world will keep you interested in MUN,



(Left to Right) Deputy Secretary General Laurina Ye, Deputy Secretary General Eden Liu, Deputy Secretary General Terry Zhao, Secretary

should you choose to continue. Even after 6 years of MUN, I still have uncharted waters I wish to explore in MUN. BEIMUN is the manifestation of 25 years of skill and passion in the MUN club at ISB. So if you're already in MUN, stand proud and keep up the passion. If you're not in MUN yet, you're missing out on something that truly represents the respected history of ISB.

Eden Liu, one of the Deputy Secretary Generals of the BEIMUN Conference 2018

- Q: What about MUN has had the biggest impact on you personally?
- A: One of the defining qualities of MUN in comparison to other public speaking platforms is that it builds and encourages diplomacy. MUN conferences go on for days because students have view

points that they are passionate about sharing and improving upon with other conference goers.

MUN conferences simulate a professional environment that is not easy to come across in our high school years. As such, I believe that the experience of an MUN conference can help many students have a more fluid transition into University and beyond.

I know that participating in previous conferences has certainly influenced how critically I view the world. MUN has shown me the importance of empathy, teamwork, and diplomacy. As an international school student and third culture kid, I almost feel like it is my duty to be globally aware, and I feel like MUN has given me many opportunities to be so.

# Introducing BEIWATCH

By Anna Brenner



(Left to Right) Advisor Mr. John Miller, Chief Editor Sunny Lee, Managing Editor Austin Kwok, Text Editor Ellie Lee, Photography Coordinator Chrstina Choi, Layout Coordinator Jenny Cha

You've probably wondered at least once: "Where do new issues of these papers constantly appear from? Who are the people behind all of this? Why do they keep taking my money? Where did they learn all those marketing techniques?" Do not worry! We are here to proudly introduce ourselves, how we function, and why we are so determined to distribute our work.

BEIWATCH is a resident newspaper team for the BEIMUN conference. Our goal is to keep delegates, chairs, and supervisors updated on debate progress in addition to answering questions and introducing important people pertinent to the conference. Our team is supervised by Mr. John Miller and is led by five executive members—however, pumping out new editions every day is not achievable without every reporter, artist, photographer, layout designer, and editor.

The process of completing a single article begins by assigning a reporter, artist, and photographer to a particular topic. Then, the reporter either investigates the issue or conducts extensive Internet re-

search to write up a draft, which is sent to an editor for polishing. Lastly, the artwork, photograph, and a finalized version of the article is sent to the layout artist for compilation. The room is often quite busy as one issue is published every day, meaning reporters, artists, photographers, and layout designers work on several articles simultaneously and repeatedly go through this process.

While this task could get tedious, all of our members work actively to publish the best content for all. Each BEIWATCH newspaper represents our team's hard work. Walking around hallways every morning in effort to distribute our work, we not only hope to receive support but also aim to help ones involved in the conference stay updated and relieve stress by taking a glance at our entertaining articles, photographs, and artworks. Why not purchase a copy every day and take these home as a meaningful souvenir?

### PYEONGCHANG

## WINTER OLYMPICS



The journey toward the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics began on Oct. 24, 2017, when the Olympic Torch was lit in Greece. As 7,500 torch-bearers covered a distance of 2,017 kilometers, Korean figure skater Yuna Kim lit the last torch during the opening ceremony.

With 92 nations and 2,922 athletes present, Korean president, Moon Jae-In officially opened the games. In a battle for country pride and self-honor on the world's biggest stage, the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics has been nothing short of amaz-

However, among all of the events, no doubt has any event been more popular than the freestyle snowboarding events and the ice dancing event. Team USA dominated the snowboarding competitions as youngsters Red Gerard and Chloe Kim, both 17, took home gold in their respective events, Men's Slopestyle and Women's Halfpipe. Alongside Team USA's impressive youngsters, Olympic veteran Shaun White was also able to win Gold in the Men's half-pipe event making this his third gold medal at the winter Olympics.

The ice dancing event was also one to remember. With electrifying performances from each of the top three pairs, Canada's Gold medal duo of Tessa Virtue and Scott Moire narrowly beat out France by a margin of fewer than two points. Achieved through a record-breaking performance, Tessa and Scott set a new record for the most points ever received in the short program.

Taking the spotlight away from the gold medal winners, the Olympics are also home to many athletes making history in their own way. Exemplifying the will and dedication needed to become an Olym-

pian, Jamaica's Women's bobsled team overcame the loss of their head coach days before the event to become Jamaica's first ever Women's bobsled team. Although not winning the event, the team is revered among fans as a cornerstone of Olympic history and an inspiration for a generation of women around the

Looking past all of the points, performances, and even medals, what makes the Olympics truly awe-inspiring is the camaraderie shared between athletes in the face of competition and the success stories birthed from it.



### PROMISE AND PITFALLS OF **BITCOINS**

By Lu'An Fortier Situ

Some of the issues that will be addressed will regard more than just the bitcoin cryptocurrency, and may apply to other cryptocurrencies, or blockchain technology as a whole; however, in order to keep this available to non-experts, these will simply be mentioned in regards to bitcoin.

Bitcoin (BTC) is being viewed in a very one-sided manner, as it has been seen as a revolutionary, de-centralized form of currency that provides anonymity. While most of that is true, it also has immense flaws that have been ignored, in the apotheosis of its reputation and glory.

The most widely regarded drawback of bitcoin is that the currency is extremely volatile, and can depreciate or appreciate by hundreds of dollars overnight. The volatility of bitcoin is an intrinsic drawback, however can also be seen as potential profit. Bitcoin has built in deflation, by being capped at a set amount of bitcoins in existence, therefore favoring older users of the currency. So while volatile and

rency's volatility and deflation may be seen as "potential" for older users.

As mentioned previously, this is a "revolutionary" technology, and while that part is non-disputable, it also implies that nothing like this has come before hand (which can be disputed as the fundamental technologies were known before the creator of bitcoin released version 0.1 in February 2009 ("v0.1")). As such, it would be vulnerable to many zero-day exploits, and unexploited flaws in the bitcoin system. Exploiters could damage the bitcoin economy by using these exploits, and could potentially accrue immense wealth, as bitcoin is being valued at ~10,000 USD at the time of writing this article ("Bitcoin Block Explorer"). While bitcoin has a very impressive track record over its 10 years of existence (for bitcoin itself, however common vulnerabilities and exploits/exposures can be found), the exploit used in block 74638 on August 15, 2010, which produced 92.2 billion BTC for two addresses is an event which detrimental to new users, the potential of the cur- shows that bitcoin is, like everything else, not imper-

vious to exploitation ("Strange block 74638.").

On the subject of the anonymity of the currency, the blockchain is open and free for the scrutiny and view of all. With this in mind, it tells us that there is not any real anonymity, as all transactions of a certain wallet can be tracked. This could range from past transactions, to even updates on expenditure. The anonymity that exists with bitcoin is only applicable when referring to the separation of the user and the wallet.



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Artwork by Sharon Noh

By Austin Kwok and Zhuan Ee Yau

### Blade Runner 2049: The Crowd Favorite

Directed by Ridley Scott, the first Blade Runner movie, released in 1982, was an instant classic among fans around the world. Director Denis Villneuve's 2017 sequel to the movie not only reached the standards set by its predecessor but raised the bar and expectation for future science fiction films sky high. Coupled with the legendary cinematographer Roger Deakins, Villneuve produces ravishing visuals of an expansive futuristic world to constantly challenge our ideas and beliefs on the meaning of humanity. Blade Runner 2049 is a shoe-in for a number of Oscar nominations, and we may finally see Roger Deakins with an Oscar in his hand. If you haven't seen this movie yet... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?





### Lady Bird: The Underrated Masterpiece

Perhaps the most underrated movie of 2017 that was buried under all the big-named blockbusters this year, *Lady Bird* was the most heartwarming films I watched in 2017. Boasting a 99% rating on rotten tomatoes, *Lady Bird* is an unusual coming of age story that follows the turbulent bond between a mother and her teenage daughter. Unlike other coming of age stories, the story and dialogue in *Lady Bird* is truly genuine and perfectly captures the bittersweet transition between adolescence and adulthood. It's hard to find such a relatable and "real" feeling film nowadays, but *Lady Bird* gives us hope that there are still directors who care more about the art of storytelling rather than big spectacles.

### A Silent Voice: Best Animation of 2017

After the release of the box office hit Your Name in 2016 it seem as though the public wanted more Japanese animated films. So I was surprised that A Silent Voice fell under everybody's radar. It follows the story of a school bully, Shoya Ishida, and Shoko Nishimiya, a young girl with a hearing disability. After constantly being abused by Shoya, Shoko leaves the school, and in turn, Shoya becomes the victim of bullying himself from other students. At times, this film is incredibly hard to watch. A Silent Voice grapples with topics of bullying and depression in ways no other film does. Unlike a lot of other animated films, A Silent Voice avoids the stereotypical melodrama and chooses to focus on the intimate relationships between characters. From the opening scene to the final credits, you will find yourself deeply invested into the two protagonists as they embark on an emotional journey of redemption and forgiveness. This is not a film for the light-hearted.



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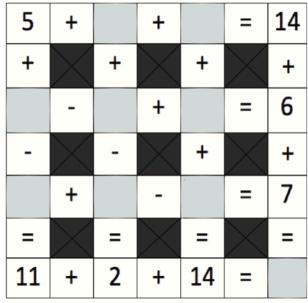
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Images by Zhuan Ee Yau Layout by Sabrina Chen





Fill in the blanks with numbers from 1 to 9



\* Answers will be in the next issue!

Artworks by Sharon Noh, Sonia Zhang and Heewon Lee

THE RACAT



Layout by Jenny Cha

### BEIWATCH PRESS TEAM

BEIWATCH is your one-stop shop for all things MUN! Here, a group of talented writers, photographers, artists, layout designers and editors work tirelessly to bring you the very best, up-to-date news about MUN conferences in Beijing.

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