

THE GLOBAL COLLEGIATE

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US Holds its own as Climate Debate Heats Up

By Spencer McGrath, Press Delegate

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Committee had a heated third committee meeting over dealing with climate refugees. Afghanistan addressed the US directly demanding they take in climate refugees, saying the US was hypocritical for keeping Yemen on the travel ban list but telling other nations to take in Yemen climate refugees. The delegate of Yemen acknowledged the delegate of Afghanistan's words, and further implored developed nations who can afford to take in people to accept Yemen refugees. This sentiment of aiding climate refugees was common throughout the meeting.

The US raised an interesting point saying there needs to be a clarification if climate refugees are considered the same as war refugees. France state, "refugees from climate change differ from those from warring countries," as those fleeing the effects of climate change were often suffering due to a developed nation's high level of carbon emissions. The UK demanded the US help climate refugees as they are a major contributor to climate change. Despite the fingers being pointed as to who should take in refugees, Canada pointed out, "taking in refugees does not deal with carbon emissions."

The US delegate was clearly frustrated with delegates lack of clarity over the Climate Change committees' jurisdiction; they reminded the delegates that "the UN has a special committee for refugees."

The US was also quick to clarify that their issue was not with accepting refugees but the legal status of refugees. That is to say if 'climate refugees' truly hold the status of refugees they are welcome to enter the nation so long as they go follow the legal procedure.

As the committee continued, fiercer attacks were made on many of the developed nations, largely targeted at the United States. Australia stated that the US holds a serious responsibility to take action to combat climate change as the nation is a major contributor to carbon emissions.

Zimbabwe went even furthering, "developed nations who have the largest carbon footprints are unwilling to take actions to help those who are suffering from their impact." The delegate of Zimbabwe elaborated that the smaller and less developed nations are already feeling serious repercussions beyond just environmental issues; less developed nations experience a lack of education, fewer opportunities, and difficulties with economic growth. They are unable to deal effectively with these issues, on top of the environmental problems, due to the lack of support and funding.

The US delegate reminded other delegates (again) that while the world issues should be taken seriously, the committee has limited jurisdiction. They requested the committee focus back on proposals put forward, many by developed nations, "instead of attacking the developed nations for not doing enough."

The fourth committee meeting was largely nations presenting and passing (or failing) resolutions. Resolution 2.0 and resolution 2.1 were largely dependent on each other to fully address climate change through both the business and environmental perspectives. They called on nations to encourage economic growth through giving business incentives to use renewable energy and allocate funds to create and reorganize infrastructure. They also asked nations to seriously implement methods to deal with current climate change effects and for developed nations to give aid to less developed nations and island nations.

Interview with Pastor Alape, Secretariat of the FAC

Reporter: Who are you, and what is your role in this revolution?

Pastor Alape: I am a former member of the FARC, now the Forward Action Committee, the new political party of Colombia. We are fighting for the rights of all Colombians, and creating positive change in the nation.

Reporter: What do you think about the decriminalization of cocaine? Is it in the cards?

Pastor Alape: Seeing that the U.S. has unjustly cut off funding for us, so we need to find sources for revenue. It is a highly profitable export, and it needs to be reviewed looking forward.

Reporter: How is the current stance between the FAC and the previous government?

Pastor Alape: We are currently working closely with the previous administration to help provide for all Colombians, and to achieve our lofty goals. Former President Santos has been a big help in the peaceful transfer of power.

Reporter: Thank you for your time.

(Pastor Alape was named Secretary of the Military during a press release following the interview)

Jae Publicover, Press Delegate

Effects of DAB Deal

As a follow-up to the article on the DAB Deal, here is a bit about its outcome. Unfortunately, its name was changed to the International Trade Agreement (ITA); however the DAB Deal was still passed. We saw how fundamental this deal was to the committee when, during a break, the delegate from Canada asked for proper respect to be paid to this deal, and for all the delegates to simultaneously dab. They did so, and it was captured on video. This was a lovely showing of unity, and it was described as 'lit'.

Philly Brainin, Press Delegate

Cocaine the New Cash Crop?

The delegation of the Colombian FARC Peace Deal is deliberating upon the legalization of cocaine within Columbia. The topic is polarizing; with many advocating for it as a source of revenue in the agricultural department due to cut of funding from the United States. Some members such as Carlos Antonio Lozada warned the group of the "pitfall of this decision," and the threat it could pose on Colombian society.

Jae Publicover, Press Delegate



Pictured Left:
The Delegate Dance-
The Delegates getting down....

A SPECPOL CRISIS: CRIMEA RIVER

By Philly Brainin, Press Delegate

Breaking News:

Word has just come through that President Donald J. Trump has backed out of his opposition to lifting sanctions on Russia, levied on them for their invasion of the Crimea, part of Ukraine.

After the delegates got word of this, heated debate broke out over what to do about ending this conflict. Many delegates voiced opinions about a vote in Crimea, but as delegates pointed out, there was already an election in Crimea, and the results were heavily in favor of Russian rule.

Most delegates think that this election was tampered with, and steps are being taken to ensure that if there is another vote, it will be fair and unbiased. This is where resolution 9.0 comes in. Titled "Crimea River", it is sponsored by the US, Philippines, Netherlands, China, India, Russia, and Brazil, and works to ensure that the Crimean people have a voice and that they are able to decide their fate for themselves. This resolution proposes a vote is held and overseen by the UN Security Council to make sure that it is free of outside influence.

All military forces will be removed from Crimea during the election and a cyber police force will be established to prevent tampering from this election. Since SPECPOL has delegates from both Russia and Ukraine this debate had an added level of tension and delegates had to choose their words carefully.

Some delegates, however, were unwavering in their opinions. The delegate from DPRK said, in no uncertain terms, that the committee should compromise and give both sides what they want and that "Russia should be given Crimea, and Ukraine shouldn't get it." When the delegates from Russia and Ukraine voiced their opinions it was clear that no matter the outcome there would be a struggle.

The delegate from Ukraine, in response to comments from the delegate of Brazil that Crimea may be better off under Russian rule, said that she found the proposition that Crimean be declared independence "disturbing" and that if it was anywhere else in the world, there would be adamant support for the country that was invaded.

The 2017 SPECPOL Awards:

Best Dressed: New Zealand

Most Likely To Become A Dictator: DPRK

Most Manipulative: Russmir

Most Likely To Become A Professional Dabber: Canada

Most Likely To Be Assassinated: DPRK

Angriest Speech: Portugal

Most Likely To Be The Next DJ Lit: China

Kindest Delegate: 6 delegates

Most Conservative: Canada

Most Likely To Be The Legend_27: Chair and Vice Chair

Most Passive-Aggressive: Philippines

So ends SPECPOL.

The Russian delegate then stated that he was in full support of a vote. The Ukrainian delegate however, stated that a vote would violate national sovereignty, and that Ukraine was the voice of Crimea, and should be able to decide their fate.

Recently the delegate from Russia has taken ill, and the focus of SPECPOL has shifted first to Prexit, then to a new crisis involving an Indian invasion of Kashmir, or 'Kashmir Outside.' Many delegates have handled this similarly to the Crimea incident, and most delegates also want a vote for the people of Kashmir.

In another twist, Kim Jong Un has invaded South Korea, and wants to unite the Korean Peninsula. However the debate on this motion was suspended as the committee voted on a list for superlatives.

Final Days of the Nixon Cabinet

By Leif Maynard, Press Delegate

One of the most exhilarating aspects of MUN is the opportunity for delegates to radically change the course of history for at least a moment in the microcosm of their committee rooms. The last sessions of Nixon's cabinet meeting were fraught with scandal, assassinations, and one last ironic twist as the Administration struggled to juggle an impending election and the ongoing catastrophe in Vietnam.

This dramatic chain of events began with an assassination attempt on Vice President Spiro Agnew early in the evening by a member of the Communist Party who was able to infiltrate the White House.

The attempt was unsuccessful, yet before the man was shot down, he named Nixon's Labor Secretary, Mr. Shultz, calling him a comrade and naming him as a spy in the White House.

This put many cabinet members in a panicked state, and the directive "Bugspray" was drafted to fire Secretary Shultz on charges of "aiding the Red cause" as well as ineffective leadership. This directive was ultimately passed by a small margin with Kissinger breaking the tie.

Yet that was not the last of Ex-Secretary Shultz. The cabinet was too late in uncovering Schultz's communist loyalties, and in one last meeting between Vice President Agnew and the outgoing Shultz, a Russian agent in cooperation with the Ex-Labor Secretary successfully assassinated Agnew, further shocking and weakening the Administration with only months to go before the 1972 election.

From this point on, the debate became mostly political, which would prove to be a fatal misstep. Who would be the new VP to run with Nixon in the rapidly approaching election? The cabinet quickly rallied around Secretary of Defense Laird, who then received confirmation from Nixon and the RNC.

However, until the election it was decided that the Democratic Speaker of the House Carl Albert would become acting Vice President. With that crisis resolved, focus shifted to the fact that polls, at one month out from the election, showed George McGovern, the Democratic candidate, in the lead. Scrambling to boost approval ratings and organize massive add-buys in the Rustbelt, the cabinet lost sight of what the American people really wanted: an end to the war in Vietnam.

Surprisingly, it was Secretary of Agriculture Hardin who, through a directive focused on (you guessed it) corn, actually secured the passage of an initiative to decrease U.S. presence in Vietnam.

The directive "Feed South Vietnam" provided subsidies to U.S. farmers who sent excess corn and grains crops to the South Vietnamese people. In theory the money this would save South Vietnam would be funneled into strengthening their own military, allowing the withdrawal of some American forces in the region.

This initiative at least pertained to the war, but clearly could not offer the solution American citizens were begging for. Such a solution, proposed by Secretary Stans and Mr. Kissinger, was tantalizingly close to being passed.

The directive established a strategy to win the war by obliterating the

Chinese and North Vietnamese economies through severe carpet bombing, forcing them to cooperate with the U.S. in return for trading rights to the American market. The vote was a nail-biter, it was excruciatingly close. The importance of the moment was apparent in all delegates faces. Yet the initiative failed due to the grave miscalculation that the American people would look unfavorably on it. This ultimately cost Nixon the election.

This was the ultimate irony. As election results poured in, exit poll after exit poll showed frustration with the Nixon Administration for lack of decisive action in Vietnam. In a shocking upset, McGovern, with 286 electoral votes to Nixon's 239, was propelled to the presidency, winning the election of 1972.

The cabinet reeled with shock. In an interview with the committee chair Jake Kelsey after the committee session ended Kelsey told a Collegiate reporter, with a smile on his lips, that he had decided before that the vote on the last directive to bomb Vietnam would be the deciding factor in the outcome of the election. "It would have ended the war," Kelsey said. If only the delegates had known.



Reclaiming the Rubble: EU aftermath

By Matt Crisp, Press Delegate



The Delegate from Denmark proposes his idea for a solid gold statue of himself.

In the wake of passing directive "Eurocide", which allows willing European countries to destroy their own land and installations, an extremely pressing issue arose from the discussions. What to do with the rubble of Berlin? Two main propositions have been presented, one by the soon-to-be former German Republic and one by presented by the Denmark-Netherlands alliance.

The joint proposition involves building statues of delegations from Denmark and delegations from the Netherlands high-fiving. Constructed out pure gold, the two figures would stand "as high as the statue of liberty." But why should these two delegations be enshrined in a monument to bureaucratic failure? They lead in aggression, the delegations argued, they should be allowed to boast their "victory."

The German proposition is slightly different. Their ideal statue would depict a Jesus-like Angela Merkel suspended on an ivory cross. Around her head would be a crown of stars; one for each on the EU flag. While the 30ft cross would be made from ivory, the former chancellor herself would be constructed from rubble recovered from the Brandenburg Gate. Finally, underneath the white and grey colossus, an inscription in German will read "Eine Aufgabe gut gemacht" (a job well done).

While both propositions are very appealing, it is unlikely that either will be put into action, seeing that Europe has fallen into utter chaos. With any luck one of the wandering post-apocalyptic tribes people will find the documents detailing their construction. Only time will tell.

A Transfer of Power

Currently the FARC has won the election (now the FAC), moving its status from a rebel group to representing the Colombian people. The power was peacefully transferred from the previous failing government, and there are high hopes from the Colombian people. Their first course of action is to redistribute former FARC land back to the government. The previous government is continuing to work closely with the new political party in order to implement the new agenda.

Jae Publicover, Press Delegate

The Fourth-Wave

By Emily Walsh, Press Delegate

The definition of "women's rights" has varied through time and across cultures. Even today there is some disagreement about what constitute women's rights. Does a woman have a right to control family size? To equality of treatment in the workplace? To equality of access to military assignments?

Usually the term "women's rights" refers to women having equal rights with men (in situations where men and women's capacities are the same). But sometimes "women's rights" includes protection of women where women are subject to special circumstances (such as maternity leave for child-bearing) or more susceptible to mistreatment (traffic in women, rape etc).

In 1981 the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, signed by many United Nations member states, defined discrimination in a way that implies that women's rights are relevant in "political, economic, social, cultural, civil" and other spheres.

At this convention, discrimination against girls and women was specifically defined as "any distinction,

exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field." This declaration specifically addressed eliminating prejudice in public education, full political rights for women to vote and to run for and to serve in public office, and employment rights (including non-discrimination in access to jobs, equal pay, and paid maternity leave).



But this weekend, 36 years after the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSS) is taking a more modern approach in order to deal with the issues that are currently facing women and girls across the globe.

Like all movements feminist ideals and goals come in waves. The first wave fought for and gained the right for women to vote, the second wave fought for the right for women to have access to and equal opportunity in the workforce, as well as the end of legal sex discrimination. This third wave deals directly will all the modern issues facing women today.

The 1990's mark the beginning of third-wave feminism with many legal and institutional rights that were extended to women in this time. In addition to these institutional gains, third-wave feminists believed there needed to be changes in the stereotypes of, media portrayals of, and language used to define women.

The purpose was to celebrate diverse identities and abandon the "victim" ideology, which was enforced in second wave feminism. This third-wave ideology focuses on a more post-structuralist interpretation of gender and sexuality and deals with issues which are perceived to limit or oppress women, as well as other marginalized identities. With their introduction of working papers pertaining to modernized sexual education, easy access to feminine hygiene products, the gradual integration of women's empowerment into world cultures, and economic sanctions to reduce violence against women it is clear that the CSS is definitely riding this wave.

In passing three resolutions to send doctors to educate women in all aspects of sexual education, create mental health resources available to all women and girls, make access to equal education, begin the implementation of pro-female ad campaigns into modern culture, and establish local intermediaries, the CSS definitely took a united approach to solving women's issues.

Unity is the most important step in advocating for women's rights. If unity does not exist, nothing will get done. With a very nuanced and diverse topic, the CSS definitely fully implemented Millennium Goal #5. "Women's rights are human rights, and human rights are women's rights." **Welcome to the beginning of the fourth-wave.**



In Exile

Jorge Enrique Mora has been put on administrative leave. There is a bounty of 6 million Colombian pesos on his head. The United States does not want him harmed or killed, and is granting him amnesty.

Pictured Left: Jorge Enrique Mora appears unfazed as he breakdances surrounded by a crowd of cheering American students.

Creative Solutions for Penguin Protection

By Spencer McGrath, Press Delegate

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Committee was hit with a crisis: penguins are disappearing from Antarctica at a dramatic rate. Shaw Ferry, known as 'bird man', has been studying this species for the last 43 years and reports the population has declined by about 85%. Nations were highly concerned over the decline in penguin population.



Pictured Above: Delegate from France in Climate Chang Convention Makes a spirited motion.

When the forum was open to debate Bangladesh pointed out their nation is currently "full of water due to the effects of climate change," and that they are willing to ship water to Antarctica that will freeze to create more ice for the penguins. The delegate of Haiti declared, "where would humanity be without the existence of penguins," a sentiment echoed by many other delegates.

Solutions to the crisis included the idea of launching space junk in mass quantities to block out the sun (via delegate of Mali), which was amended by the US delegate to launching solar panels into space to absorb the solar energy and transmit said energy to the US via laser beams which is "incredibly inefficient but extremely cool."

The delegate from Australia suggested mass breeding programs to increase penguin population numbers before sending them back to their habitats, while the delegate from the Philippines declared a mass exodus would be the best idea so that penguins could be moved to Madagascar and learn to be Madagascar penguins.

Bangladesh voiced the ideas of moving solar panels in space to completely surround the entirety of the sun and expand breeding programs in the US due to their available resources.

Potentially the oddest suggestion was from the delegate of Japan which to "remove the cold hearts from people and use them for refrigeration purposes to freeze water in the ocean." Perhaps a more feasible solution from the delegate of France is to educate the public on penguins as well as implement the breeding programs.

The many ideas bouncing around were turned into draft resolutions. Happy Feet Protocol's aim was "seeking to improve the happiness of said [penguin] feet" by creating public penguin appreciation sites with cuddling stations. They demanded Shaw Ferry, 'bird man' be the chair for a new committee to deal with the penguin's well being.

The resolution asks for the creation of a fund to deal with breeding and caring for the penguins and bans the movie Happy Feet in any countries that do not comply to all demands. They also declared November 17th as Penguin Awareness Day and strongly suggest nations create a penguin channel that is solely devoted to showing penguin videos.



Pictured Above: A flock of newly converted penguins.

Resolution Christoph called upon philanthropists and nations to donate funds to sponsor breeding programs and experts to derive further solutions to address this problem of disappearing penguins.

A resolution 'Sponsored by the US, Australia, Zimbabwe, Nauru' asked all penguins convert to Catholicism to discourage the use of birth control and homosexuality in order to increase population size.

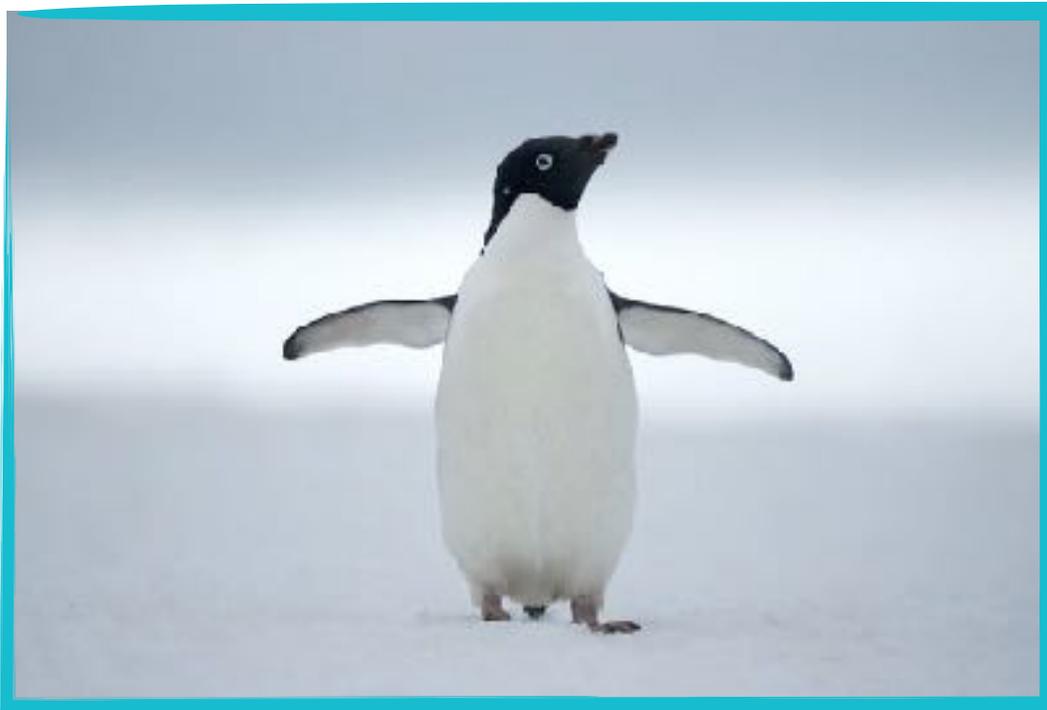
The Bishop of Antarctica would be 'Bird Man' and the Antarctic Sea would

would be blessed as a baptismal body of water so that 'Bird Man' can baptize penguins before "chucking them into the water." They also declared December 25th Penguin Protection Day and asked nations to build penguin hospitals for penguins in distress as well as habitats under cooling domes powered by solar panels.

The last resolution was STP (Save the Penguins) which asked nations to donate funds to build a massive freezer fan to cool Antarctica. They requested help funding for the 16 million pool floats required to keep the cooling fan afloat but Israel said they could provide the extension cords necessary to run power to the fan.

The inclusion of the 'T' in the title of the resolution, despite 'the' often being excluded in acronyms was because 'STP' resembles stop so every time a person saw a stop sign they would think of the STP Resolution.

All resolutions automatically passed so hopefully the crisis will be averted and penguins can live happily without threat of extinction.



Closing Ceremonies: Celebration of a Successful Conference

Model UN 2017 was a towering success for delegates, staffers, and advisors alike. The closing ceremonies were no exception as all the members of Umass MUN came together to honor and acknowledge the incredible work that had been displayed this year. Awards were given out to the delegates and all the Chairs had nothing but positive things to say about the proceedings in their various commission, committees and assemblies. The Secretary General closed the ceremonies officially with a motion, and the auditorium erupted into applause as a final celebration of the overwhelming success of this years Model UN conference.

Many thanks to all students, staffers, advisors and of course to the dedicated Secretariat. See you all next year!

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