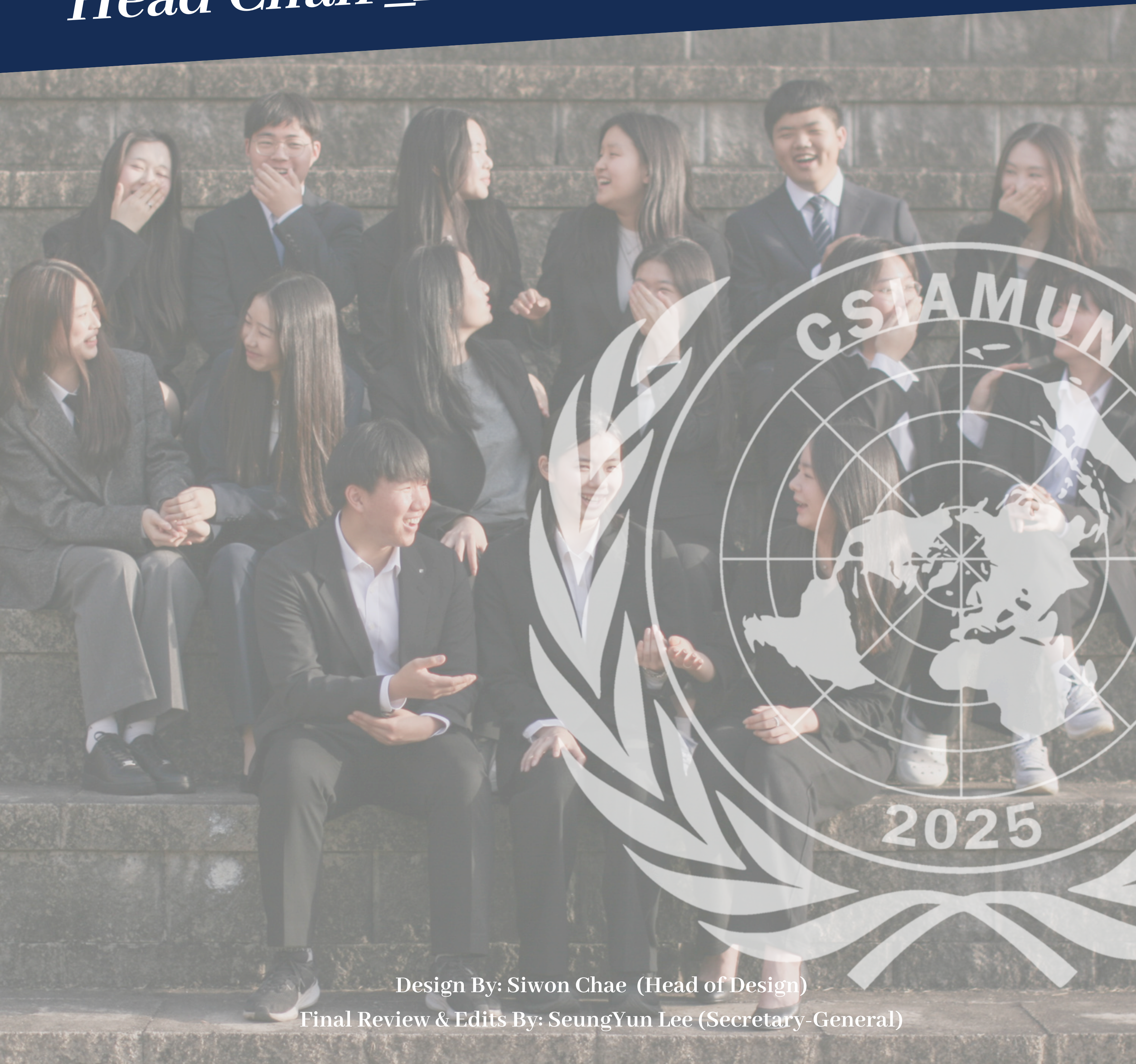


CSIAMUN XVII

The CSIA Journal

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A background image showing a group of students in a classroom, sitting at desks and looking towards the front. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

Can Power Five Compromises Lead to Lasting Peace?

On October 7, 2024, HAMAS launched a deadly surprise attack on Israel, resulting in more than 1,300 deaths and 3,000 injuries. This strike significantly escalated the Israel-Palestine conflict, leading to widespread regional instability across the Middle East. As of January 2025, 1.9 million Gaza residents have been displaced and 46,000 have lost their lives.⁽¹⁾ The CSIAMUN XVII Security Council is working to address this humanitarian crisis through peace-building resolutions.

There is growing skepticism surrounding the United Nations Security Council's effectiveness in the face of such conflict. The primary reason? The veto power wielded by the five permanent members—known as the Power Five. Their ability to block resolutions has severely hampered the body's capacity to promote collective security and peace.⁽²⁾ This imbalance of power becomes particularly complex when permanent members have direct involvement or strategic interests in a conflict, affecting the council's capacity to broker meaningful solutions.

(1) Center for Preventative Action Authors. "Israeli-Palestinian Conflict." Global Conflict Tracker, Council on Foreign Relations, 22 Jan. 2025, www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/israeli-palestinian-conflict.

(2) Hathaway, Oona, and Stewart Patrick. "Can the UN Security Council Still Help Keep the Peace?" Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2 July 2024, carnegieendowment.org/posts/2024/07/can-un-security-council-still-help-keep-the-peace?lang=en.

Understanding the P5 and Their Positions

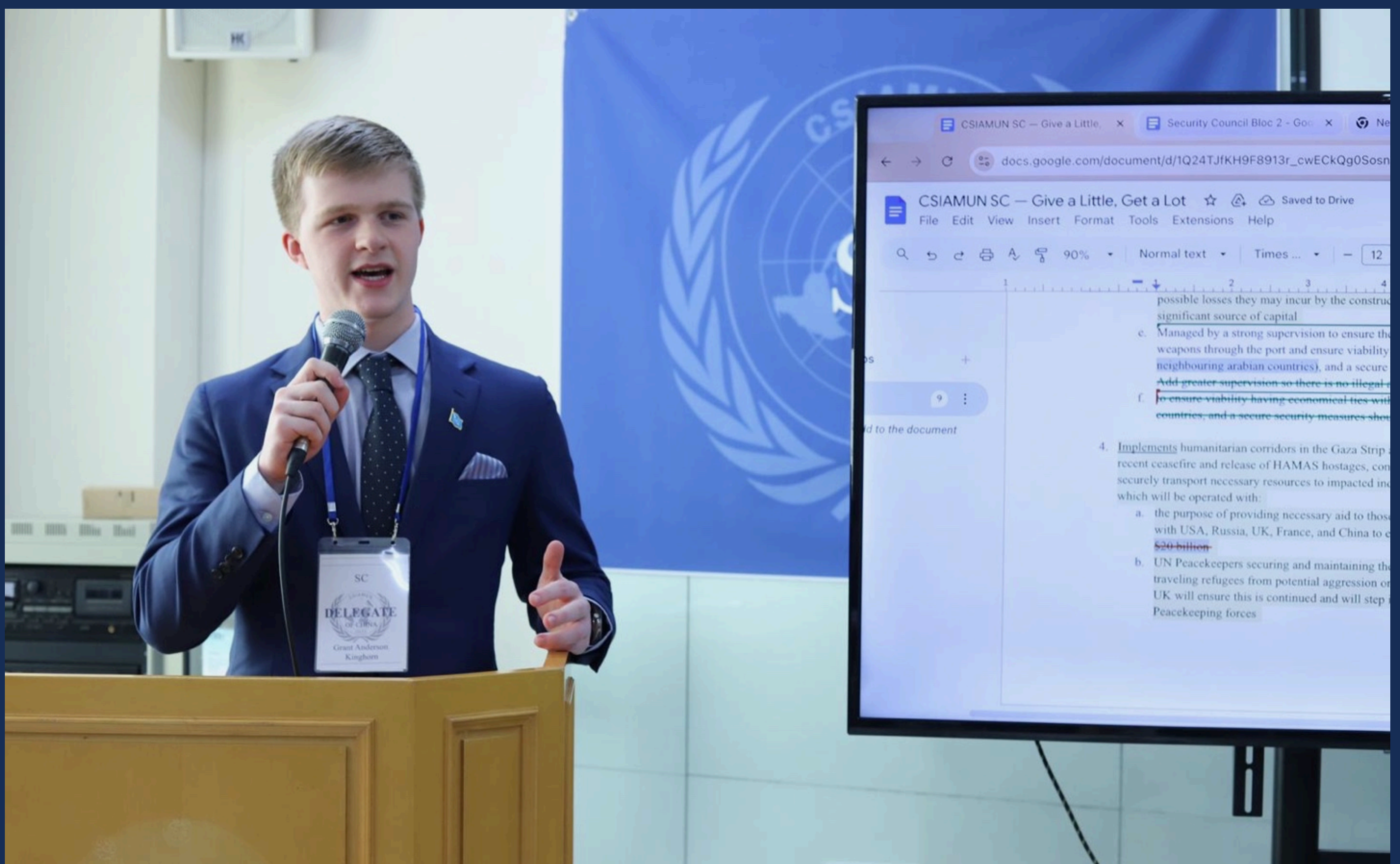
The People's Republic of China, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and the Russian Federation—collectively known as the P5—hold significant power in the United Nations Security Council. These five permanent members have the authority to veto any amendment, a privilege that often leads to criticism. Many argue that this power diminished the influence of the ten elected, non-permanent members of the council. But do the positions of the delegates representing the P5 differ significantly on key issues?

According to the delegate of Russia, Nicholas Smith, the country sees itself as a “mediator on the world stage, and so it looks favorable upon a two state solution.” He emphasized that Russia is dedicated to understanding all perspectives involved in the conflict. However, Russia reiterated its strong support for the Palestinian people and their leaders, who it believes have been “marginalized by the West.” Additionally, Smith expressed concerns over the past involvement of the U.S. and the U.K. in the conflict, criticizing their efforts as “largely ineffective and inefficient.”

France's representative, Julia Danile, emphasized the country's call for an “urgent and comprehensive” approach to resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, advocating for a “two-state solution as the foundation for peace.” She outlined France's commitment to providing humanitarian aid, enforcing ceasefire agreements, supporting inclusive negotiations, and promoting long-term post-conflict recovery. With its status as a global superpower, France prioritizes “facilitating meaningful dialogue, ensuring that both Israeli and Palestinian voices are heard.” The country also stressed the importance of cooperating with international partners to achieve a fair resolution. In closing, France urged all nations to “unite in the pursuit of peace, emphasizing that the time for action is now.”

On the other hand, Grant Kinghorn, representing the People's Republic of China, advocates for a solution where both sides “give a little, but get a lot.” This principle has served as the foundation of China's resolution and approach seen throughout the conference. Similar to the delegate of Russia, Kinghorn has expressed a desire to “eliminate western bias” and “see a two state solution.”

Ultimately, the P5 nations share a common stance: a two-state solution is essential. However, the underlying tension and mistrust directed among these five countries is evident, creating obstacles to genuine cooperation and agreement on various issues.



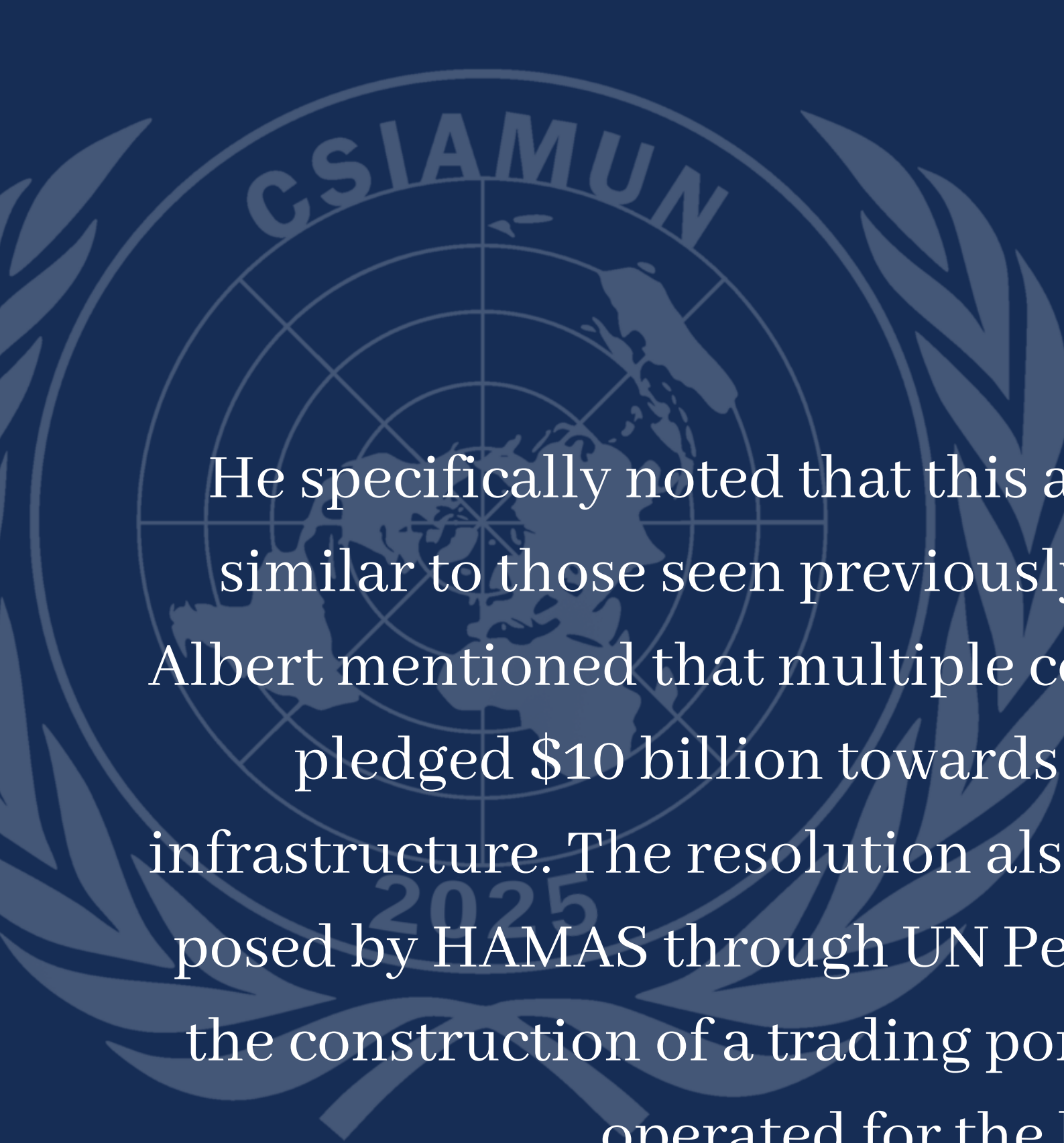


The Breakdown of Consensus

After sharing their views through delivering opening speeches, the delegates collectively agreed on concluding the conflict with a two-state solution. They also agreed that reducing violence through the United Nations could promote peace. However, divisions emerged as they debated whether the UN's involvement should be permanent.

The United States of America led the first bloc, which included France, Japan, and Korea, in drafting a resolution. Their resolution emphasized a commitment to de-escalating military operations by limiting the supply of offensive weapons to the region. It also called for collaboration with independent international organizations, such as the UNRWA (United Nations Relief and Works Agency) and the ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) to provide humanitarian aid. A key distinction in this group's proposal was the recommendation that the UN temporarily oversee Gaza, drawing parallels to the transitional administrations established in Cambodia and Western New Guinea.

The block led by the People's Republic of China, in collaboration with Russia and the U.K., wrote the resolution "Give a Little, Get a Lot." This approach calls for declaring the West Bank an independent Palestine state, while Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip would fall under United Nations administration. The governing body would consist of the P5 nations (without veto power) alongside 10 non-permanent members, forming UN-GAGAJ: the United Nations Governing Authority of Gaza. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland delegate, Evan Albert, asserted that UN control would establish a collaborative, impartial authority to manage peace and prevent further violence.

The logo for CSIAMUN 2025 is a circular emblem. It features a globe in the center with latitude and longitude lines. The globe is surrounded by a laurel wreath. The text 'CSIAMUN' is arched over the top of the globe, and '2025' is at the bottom. The entire logo is in a light blue color.

He specifically noted that this approach aims to avoid failures similar to those seen previously in Afghanistan. Additionally, Albert mentioned that multiple countries, including the U.K., have pledged \$10 billion towards rebuilding Gaza's damaged infrastructure. The resolution also calls for neutralizing the threat posed by HAMAS through UN Peacekeeping forces and proposes the construction of a trading port along Al-Mawasi's coast, to be operated for the benefit of Israel.



Give and Take

As the first resolution “*Give a Little, Get a Lot*” entered the amending process, delegates began to embrace the art of compromise. They meticulously examined each operative clause, with representatives from various nations providing nuanced insights. During his authorship speech, the delegate from the People's Republic of China asserted that "real change requires sacrifice and mutual benefits."

While reviewing the first operative clause—declaring the Gaza Strip and Jerusalem as territories administered by the United Nations and the West Bank an independent Palestinian state—the U.S. representative raised a critique: shouldn't the Gaza Strip eventually reclaim sovereignty? He argued that every nation has the right to self-governance, and prolonged United Nations control would strip Gaza of this fundamental right. In response, Slovenia acknowledged that while the UN oversight is crucial given the destruction and violence plaguing Gaza, the possibility of reinducing independence should not be ruled out.

This sparked a series of compromises that enabled cooperation among vastly different nations. The People's Republic of China cautioned against setting a fixed timeframe for UN administration, leading the U.S. and France to propose a process of humanitarian benchmarks aimed at gradually returning power to Gaza's people. Guyana further refined this proposal by suggesting that the United Nations review these benchmarks in 28 to 56 years. These amendments passed, clearing the way for the acceptance of the first operative clause.

The Decay of Decorum

After the authorship speech presenting the second operative clause—calling for the replacement of Israeli military forces with UN peacekeeping troops to eliminate HAMAS—the fragile atmosphere of cooperation began to unravel. The U.S. rejected the removal of Israeli troops, arguing that their involvement was essential. Despite opposition from other delegates, the



U.S. remained firm, stating that if they include this subclause “*the operative clause won’t pass.*” China urged against the use of the veto, pointing out that HAMAS is Israel’s biggest threat and that this operative clause supports its elimination. In China’s view, it would be unwise for the U.S. to strike down the entire operative clause. Similarly, Denmark reiterated that the removal of Israeli troops would help reduce bias in the operations against HAMAS. However, the delegate of the U.S. stood firm, asserting that the country has witnessed the “*travesties that have happened to Israel over the years...in order to keep the state, the United States believes the Israeli military must be involved.*” This position was rooted in the belief that removing Israeli troops would destabilize the Israeli government, undermining efforts to maintain peace. In response, the delegate of China confronted the U.S., asking if the country was willing to “*sacrifice the lives of its allies to prevent possible political controversy?*” The U.S. did not accept China’s yielded time.

Despite the warning, the representatives voted down the U.S.’s strike amendment and motioned to vote on the operative clause.

At this point, the U.S. exercises its veto power. In an attempt to resolve their disagreements, the countries called for a Power Five Caucus.

Once in a separate room to discuss, the delegate of China accused the U.S. of fostering prolonged violence. However, the U.S. claimed that the resolution needs to involve Israeli troops, combining both forces to launch coordinated offensives against HAMAS. China then offered a compromise, suggesting that the operation be jointly controlled by Israel. The delegate of The United States refused, insisting that Israeli troops must be on the ground to fight for their country's justice.

After tense negotiations, the delegate of Russia announced that the primary goal of the operative clause—ensuring the eradication of HAMAS—should take precedence over the specific sub clause calling for the removal of Israeli troops. This proposal led all P5 nations to agree to strike that particular sub clause in exchange for the U.S. rescinding its veto. Once they returned to the larger committee, the operative clause was put to a vote and passed.

Having overcome this obstacle, the council proceeded through the rest of the resolution's remaining operative clauses. Although various amendments and changes were suggested, the subsequent operative clauses eventually approved as well. In the end, when all amendments were reviewed and accepted, the resolution "*Give a little, Get a Lot*" was passed with a two-thirds majority vote.

The Veto: An Abuse of Power?

A point of contention during the Security Council proceedings is the use of the veto. Many argue that it leads to deadlock between countries, hindering meaningful consensus and preventing actionable recommendations from being implemented. Others, however, contend that the veto is an essential, foundational element of Security Council operations. Just as scholars dispute its legitimacy, delegates at CSIAMUN also find themselves divided on the issue.

China

Grant Kinghorn, representing China, shared his experience with the veto. As the author of the subclause that was vetoed, he claims that the veto “has become a weapon in the U.S.’s arsenal.” He described the presence of the veto as an “underlying threat” that forces compromises. Despite the agreement of most delegates, including the four other permanent members, to remove Israeli forces from Gaza, the U.S.’s opposition caused all countries to reconsider their positions. When asked if the veto makes negotiations in the security council difficult and tense, he responded with a firm “absolutely.”

Denmark

Hudson Calvin, the delegate of Denmark, offers a different perspective. He believes that the veto is critical and “actively beneficial.” In his view, the veto and the P5 caucuses provide an opportunity for countries to “give second reconsiderations on important topics.” While he acknowledges that some may perceive this power as unbalanced—given that the ten elected members of the Security Council lack similar authority—he argues that it is only natural that the most powerful nations, who bear significant stakes and fund most of the resolutions, have the ability to reject clauses they oppose. Despite this, he contends that these five superpowers should be subject to more frequent reconsideration to ensure their relevance remains aligned with current global realities.

The question remains:

Does the P5 veto grant excessive power to a few countries?
Does it unnecessarily stagnate effective cooperation and the passage of resolutions? While delegates hold differing opinions, they all agree that the veto is what makes the Security Council a unique and distinct committee.



Learning Culture at CSIAMUN: Accepting the Unexpected



Liza Grimes

From Culture Shocks to Generalizations

Alongside participation in a competitive, prestigious Model United Nations Conference, the cultural interaction offered by CSIAMUN is another attractive aspect. Delegates have come to Cheongshim International Academy from all around the world to involve themselves in this unparalleled educational experience that combines geopolitical discourse with cultural immersion. Alongside domestic Korean delegates, the 17th annual session sees participants from areas including Australia, Hong Kong, the United States, Japan, Pakistan, and China. As these foreign delegates live in South Korea for the duration of the conference, they have experienced new tastes, sounds, and sights—some of which have surprised them. As our 164 delegates interact with their roommates, fellow delegates, and newfound friends, they have challenged their cultural perspectives and personal biases.

Generalizations

The Intercultural Development Research Institution defines cultural generalizations as “a statement about a group of people.”(3)

Generalizations are distinctly different from stereotypes, which refers to the rigid application of a generalization to specific individuals inside a cultural group. Generalizations may not be necessarily incorrect descriptions of a culture. However, they can become dangerous when aimed at specific people. Due to human nature, most people instinctively hold intrinsic perceptions of different groups of people. For example, consider the commonly held idea that Americans are loud. This statement, when applied to the group of Americans present at the 17th CSIAMUN conference, is correct. Despite this, some Americans speak very quietly and softly.

Culture Shocks

As the foreign delegates spent three days in Gapyeong, they naturally came into contact with cultural elements and customs they haven't previously experienced. Some delegates were surprised by these aspects and experienced culture shocks, a phenomenon known as “a feeling of confusion felt by someone visiting a country or place that they do not know.”(4) The delegates spent the nights on traditional yo (요), thick floor mats, and ate traditional Korean foods for their meals, including multiple types of kimchi (김치).

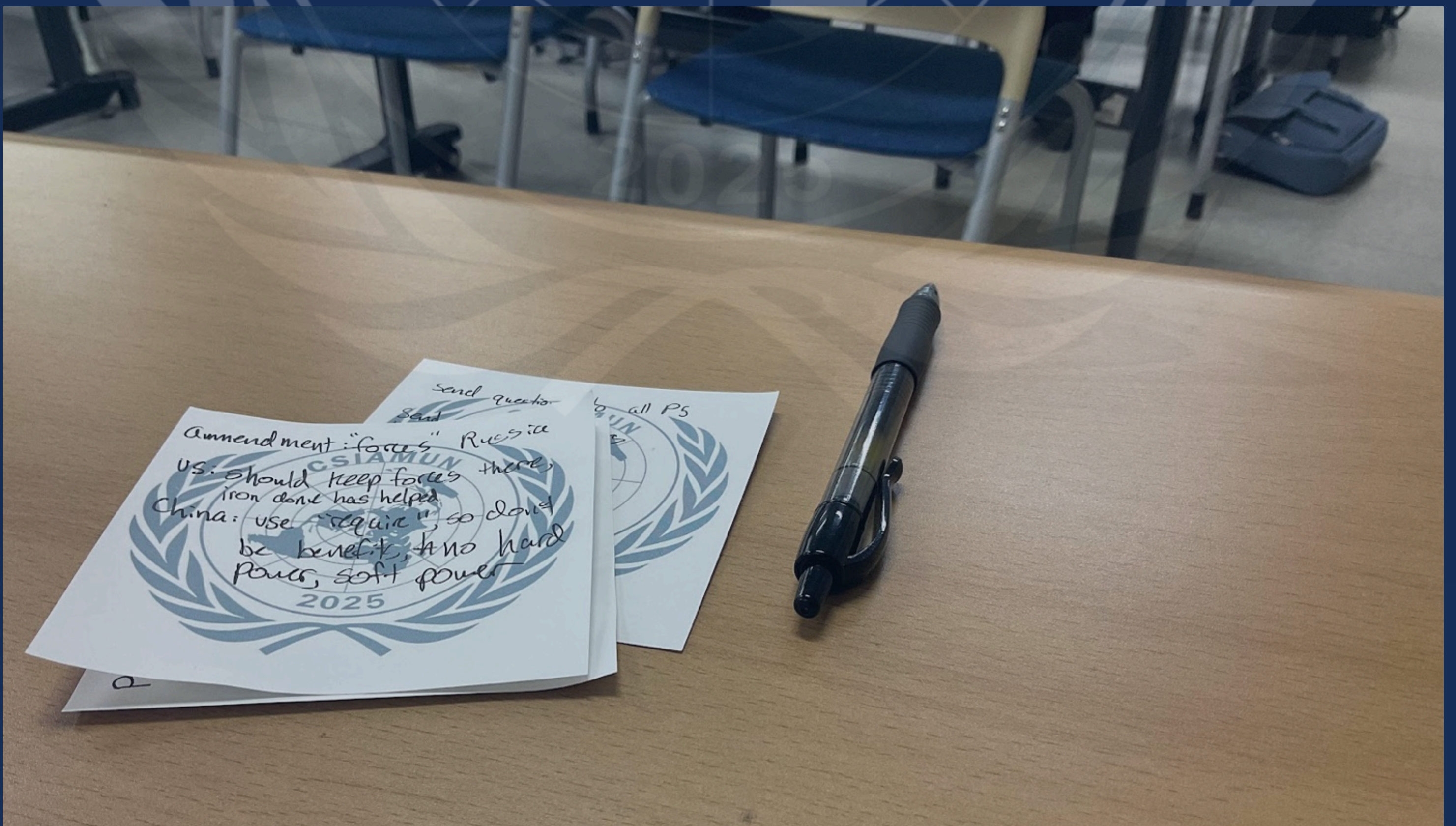
(3) Bennett, Milton J. “Stereotypes/Generalizations.” IDRInstitute, IDRInstitute , 31 Dec. 2020, www.idrinstitute.org/resources/stereotypes-generalizations/.

(4) “Culture Shock.” Cambridge Dictionary, Cambridge University Press and Assessment , dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/culture-shock. Accessed 6 Feb. 2025.

Anish Vedantham: United States

As Anish has participated in the Model United Nations conference, he has noticed distinct differences compared to conferences in the states. He found that respect was crucial throughout the CSIAMUN committees, and no “power delegates” emerged. Delegates take the time to speak but also to listen, and it’s more compromise heavy. While in the states, conferences focus heavily on debate, he said here a larger emphasis is placed on “what can we do?” Likewise, after competing in the Culture Night games, he noted that Americans are much more competitive, and they take all games very seriously. Other cultures still work with the highest effort, but they compete while demonstrating respect.

As a member of the journalism committee, Anish has spent a large amount of time listening to various committees, and he found that all the staff members were incredibly welcoming. They made an effort to find him a chair and ensure he was comfortable. Even those he had never interacted with before would bow or greet him. As a result of his experiences, Anish concluded that respect is of huge importance in South Korea.



Austin Skeete: United States



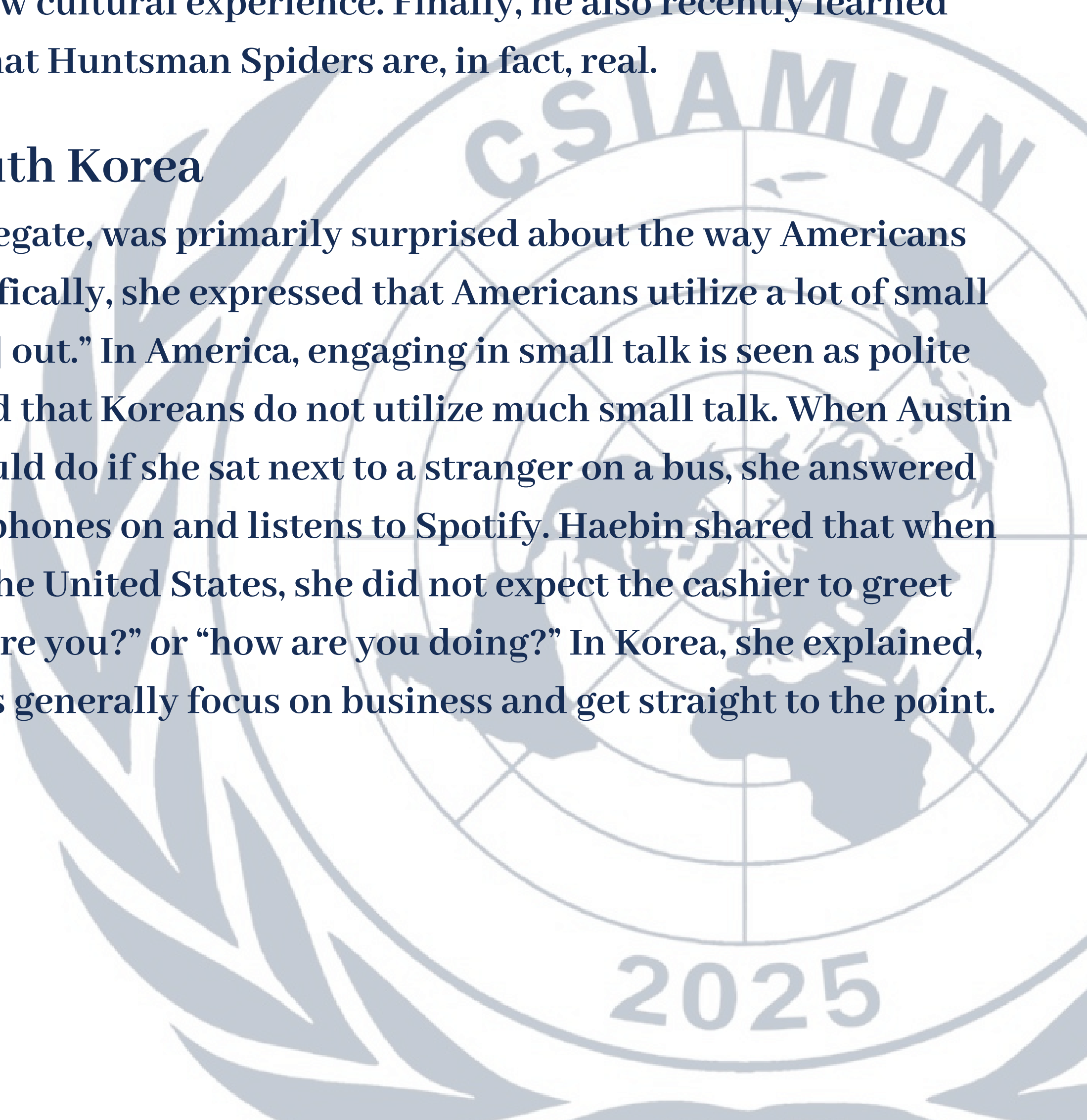
Austin, when he first arrived in Korea, was surprised that it's customary for Koreans to bow when greeting others, especially those who are respected. As he was used to shaking hands when being greeted by or introduced to people, he was initially shocked.

He also noticed how loud his American peers are compared to the other foreign delegates. He remembers that in the American lunchroom, there's constant noise from loud chatter. In the dining room at Cheongshim International

Academy, however, the sounds from discussions are much softer. Austin noted that one can still hear the Americans talking loudly. He also commented that he's never been the only American in a room before, so his experience at CSIAMUN has been an entirely new cultural experience. Finally, he also recently learned from the Australians that Huntsman Spiders are, in fact, real.

Haebin Chon: South Korea

Haebin, a domestic delegate, was primarily surprised about the way Americans approach others. Specifically, she expressed that Americans utilize a lot of small talk and it "freaks [her] out." In America, engaging in small talk is seen as polite and friendly. She added that Koreans do not utilize much small talk. When Austin asked her what she would do if she sat next to a stranger on a bus, she answered that she puts her headphones on and listens to Spotify. Haebin shared that when she entered a store in the United States, she did not expect the cashier to greet her with a "hello, how are you?" or "how are you doing?" In Korea, she explained, cashiers and customers generally focus on business and get straight to the point.



Irene Alyra and Saanvi Khanna: Australia

This bubbly duo was both surprised and surprising as they arrived at CSIAMUN. First, Irene was surprised by the meals. She specifically cited her astonishment that the Venue offers rice with every meal. She also mentioned that the cold startled her. While it's snowing in Gapyeong, in Australia the average temperature is 29 degrees celsius (84 degrees fahrenheit). In fact, many Australians and Americans have expressed joy at the change in climate. On the other hand, Saanvi Khanna was surprised that she didn't see many bins on the streets. In Australia, there are generally trash cans along the sides of roads for pedestrians. She also mentioned that the Americans have very thick accents, and this caught her off guard. However, these two girls and their fellow classmates shocked Mia Davis—a Korean American delegate—who answered that she didn't previously know that Australians had so much national pride.

Yeso Shin: South Korea

As a citizen of South Korea, Yeso believed that the biggest culture shock to the foreign delegates would be the use of chopsticks. As most delegates are used to using forks or spoons rather than chopsticks, some have struggled. She also said she used to believe that Americans were scary—until she met a lot in her committee. Yeso says that she learned that Americans are “very chill,” and she appreciates that Americans “act freely.”

Zach Kahn: United States

Zach Kahn, as he has interacted with the Korean staff and delegates, has learned about the lifestyles of those from different countries. While he attends school for seven hours each day, those he spoke to study for around 13 hours—until deep into the evening. Zack spends a lot of this time on his extracurriculars, including sports and theater—hobbies he really enjoys. He notes that they “basically have school from 8am-9pm.” He says these lifestyle differences demonstrate that Korean culture places a strong emphasis on education and hard work.

In addition, he also acknowledged the dietary differences. He noticed that although Americans include some breads or pastries in their meals, the Korean foods in the cafeteria are based around rice and soup.

Although many delegates have been surprised, confused, or uncomfortable at certain points, they all agree that spending their time at Cheongshim International Academy has been both eye-opening and enlightening. Learning about different cultures can be overwhelming, but students gain the most benefits when they are immediately in-contact with people from other nations. Through their discussions and shared experiences, they have learned so much about how distinct their lives are as well as their commonalities. They have shared fierce debates during Model United Nations and amusing performances at Culture Night, but overall, they have created unforgettable memories and forged unbreakable bonds. Although they may generally be separated by oceans, mountains, and forests, CSIAMUN has brought us all closer together.



Preserving Heritage, Shaping the Future: Key Debates in the UNESCO Committee

Austin Skeete

When I first walked into the UNESCO I quickly realized that this was going to be a polarized committee. Despite it being a junior committee, these youngsters caught on quickly — almost immediately two blocks had formed based on the first topic.

But let's hold up for a second, what is UNESCO and why does it matter? UNESCO or the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization is a specialized agency of the UN. Its mission, according to its website is to “mobilize education to transform lives”, “reconcile with the living”, “foster science & technology in the service of humanity”, and “promote inclusion & mutual understanding.” With a significant number of achievements under its belt (improving literacy, press freedom, advancing education etc...) this committee is no joke.

BIODIVERSITY

Anyways— back to the resolutions. For the first topic — biodiversity — they had divided up into two self-named blocks, Block A and Block B. Not super creative, I know, but what they lacked in naming prowess they made up for in their resolutions.

Bloc B was primarily focused on international cooperation and increasing clean energy production. According to one delegate, Bloc A's solution sought to “develop our sustainable energy to stop the exploitation of resources in biodiversity hotspots.” They felt that by investing in sustainable energy, people would stop exploiting biodiversity hotspots for energy resources.

Bloc A focused on expanding protected areas, changing the laws to further protect hotspots, and increasing awareness of the importance of biodiversity through education and new environmental programs. Their resolution clearly sought to attack the problem at its head. One example of a proposed program was a tree planting campaign where tourists can visit a country and plant seeds to increase biodiversity.

Bloc A presented first— nobody wished to speak for or against, a clear sign of nerves but not wholly unexpected as it was a junior committee. Eventually, India took initiative and offered two amendments — mostly rephrasing the language to softer less forceful words. China and Italy, however, had different words to describe Block A's resolution. In two separate fiery speeches they called the resolution “unfeasible and bad” arguing that the resolution had no mention of how its numerous programs would be funded and that the plan quite simply “lacked specific details and examples.” Supporters of block A seemed unable to respond until Brazil took the dais. Brazil argued that most fundamental aspects of the resolution such as increasing awareness of the importance of biodiversity and expanding environmental education opportunities in schools were extremely important and, although some of the language of the resolution may be confusing, it still should be passed.

Only one amendment was offered — India wished to remove some forceful language from the resolution. This was passed unanimously by everybody in the committee and Block A's resolution was passed 12 for, 4 against. Unfortunately for China and Italy, their protests had amounted to naught.

Bloc B went next with China giving the primary speech. The delegates had clearly warmed up a bit with both Italy and India immediately volunteering to speak for Bloc B's resolution. They argued that it offered practical solutions and contained actual descriptions of how its programs would be funded — something some felt that Bloc A's resolution lacked. Despite this initial praise, some delegates raised issues on the feasibility of specific clauses, especially a clause about using drones to fight wildfires, arguing that the drones may “scare the animals.” Delegates from Mexico and Chile argued that the resolutions techongal ambitions were far too costly and that they remained infeasible for developing countries. Furthermore, others turned China and Italy's criticism back on them mentioning that the resolution felt unspecific and bland.

Some amendments were introduced including one by Egypt that aimed to scale back an AI drone powered firefighting initiative and instead replace it with increased funding for wilderness fire stations. This was viciously opposed by China as they argued that building fire stations would create “greenhouse gas emissions” and that drones are able to respond to fires much faster and more effectively than firemen. This amendment — unfortunately for Egypt — failed to pass.

Bloc B's resolution passed with 11 for and 6 either voting no or abstaining. The passing of both of these resolutions was a clear indicator of their somewhat joint nature.

LITERACY RATES

After passing both resolutions delegates moved onto the second topic — improving literacy rates.

This late in the committee some tensions started to show. One delegate speaking on the condition of anonymity revealed her concerns. “The other delegates should speak more, as our chairs are forcing us to do the for and against speeches”, — “We are the only ones actively doing the speeches, the others are being forced.”

Just as with the other topic, two blocks had quickly formed, again named “Bloc A ” and “Bloc B ” —step up the creativity CSIAMUN, I expect better next year.

Bloc A's plan primarily focused on providing education to teachers in developing countries, and creating programs that support gender equality, all backed up by a new agency to monitor the funds as a way of preventing corruption called the MIC (Monitoring and Implementation Committee). One delegate described it as “a new organization to make sure that the initiatives we plan out will be implemented and that the funds and research that the more developed countries use are used properly.”

Bloc B declined my request for comment on their resolution. However, after reading the document their resolution focused primarily on promoting gender equality, providing funds for new textbooks, and promoting international cooperation on improving literacy.

Bloc B presented first with India giving the primary speech. India emphasized the need for gender equality in early childhood education which they argued that their resolution addresses. Just as with the first topic — China and Italy had a lot to say. They spoke up against the resolution calling it “Unfeasible and Illogical” especially raising an issue with a clause that advocated for collaborating with the social media site “YouTube Shorts” as a way to reach young people and get them interested in literacy. Brazil and Chile spoke up in support of the resolution, speaking up for its ideas on teacher training and its emphasis on international cooperation.

One amendment was raised — striking clause 3-B-III. This removed the YouTube shorts collaboration from the resolution and was passed. Despite this however, the resolution failed to reach a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority and failed to pass.

Block A presented second with Italy giving the primary speech, emphasizing cooperation with international NGOs and technological advances. Immediately afterward, India praised one aspect of the resolution, praising clause 4-a about the creation of the proposed Monitoring and Implementation Committee (MIC). They praised the clause calling it “very feasible” and “a good idea.” However this was debated by one delegate who argued that the MIC needed more specificity. Later however both Egypt and India spoke against the resolution, raising issues with the cost of certain programs, bringing up concerns with the languages of donated textbooks, calling parts of the resolution “unclear” and “not well thought out” and saying that it didn’t do enough to support women entering school for the first time. They also raised issues with a proposed “Wordle” plan to introduce Wordle to developing countries as a way to improve literacy rates.

Two amendments were raised, one wanting to specify what types of educational books that would be sent to developing countries (passed unanimously) and another involving adding audible pronunciation of words to a proposed literacy app (also passed). The voting on the resolution was split down the middle with 8 for 8 against and subsequently did not reach $\frac{2}{3}$ majority needed and failed to pass.

CONCLUSION

Truthfully, it’s been a pleasure reporting on this committee, going in I was a little bit nervous. Beyond Model UN being different here, I’ve never been to Korea / East Asia before and was unsure of what to expect.

Despite this, many things remain the same between worlds. Just like in the US, here in Korea I was able to watch a group of motivated young people, gain confidence in their abilities, become better public speakers, and dream up solutions for the world's important problems. I saw drama, I saw fiery speeches, I saw passion, yet most importantly I saw cooperation between people from vastly different backgrounds. Although in 2025, it's easy to focus on how scary the world is, watching the delegates tackle such complex issues fills me — and anybody else who reads this —with hope for the future.

UNEA: Protecting Arctic and Antarctic Regions, Reducing Aerosol Emissions & Implementing Measures to Mitigate Sea Level Rise

Xia Renyi

The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) serves as a beacon of hope in our collective efforts to protect and preserve our planet. Established in 2012, this pioneering body brings together nations from across the globe to address pressing environmental challenges with vision and determination. Through thoughtful dialogue and decisive action, UNEA champions innovative solutions that pave the way for a sustainable future, touching every aspect of environmental protection.

Agenda 1: Protecting the Arctic and Antarctic Regions by Reducing Aerosol Emissions

In today's world, excessive carbon dioxide emissions from industries and other human activities have led to a thickening of the atmosphere. The Earth's atmosphere plays a crucial role in maintaining a stable temperature. When the Sun emits infrared radiation, some rays are absorbed by the Earth, while others are reflected back into space. However, the increasing concentration of carbon dioxide traps more heat, preventing infrared radiation from escaping. This results in rising global temperatures and contributes to climate change.

All representatives acknowledged that glacier melting is driven by global warming, with greenhouse gases being the primary cause. However, due to differing viewpoints, the delegates formed two factions.

The first group proposed drafting an agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and implement policies to limit their release. They identified fossil fuel consumption as a major contributor and advocated for alternative energy sources such as wind power. Additionally, they emphasized the need to combat deforestation, as trees absorb carbon dioxide and mitigate greenhouse gas buildup.

The second group also signed an agreement, committing to ensuring that global temperature increases do not exceed two degrees Celsius per year. They aimed to protect the densest central regions of glaciers from melting. Furthermore, they sought to impose restrictions on industries that emit high levels of greenhouse gases as a means to curb global warming.

The first group introduced an additional initiative, advocating for stricter deforestation controls to enhance carbon absorption by trees. They proposed a "Zero Program," encouraging reduced carbon emissions while promoting oxygen production through afforestation. Delegates highlighted renewable energy as a crucial tool for technological advancement and carbon reduction. Their draft passed successfully.

Meanwhile, the second group added further details to their proposal, suggesting the establishment of international organizations to coordinate global carbon emission reductions. However, the UK delegate raised concerns about the logistics of forming such an organization, and the question remained unanswered. Similarly, the USA delegate inquired about the financial implications of industrial restrictions, which were not addressed. Consequently, their draft failed.



Agenda 2: Implementing Measures to Alleviate Sea Level Rise in Vulnerable Countries and Islands

The effects of climate change have become increasingly evident in recent years, with more extreme seasonal patterns and accelerated glacier melting. But what happens when glaciers melt into seawater? The resulting sea level rise poses serious challenges for human civilization. Coastal areas face the threat of submersion, forcing communities to relocate and endangering critical ecosystems. The loss of these habitats threatens biodiversity and disrupts delicate ecological balances. Without intervention, the unchecked melting of glaciers could have catastrophic consequences for both the environment and human societies.

During the conference, all delegates unanimously agreed on the urgency of addressing rising sea levels. They collaborated on a single draft, focusing on the root causes of the crisis. To combat sea level rise, the delegates proposed policies aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the use of sustainable energy sources as alternatives to fossil fuels. Recognizing that some developing countries may lack access to sustainable resources, developed nations pledged to provide necessary facilities and technological support.

By tackling climate change and its impact on rising sea levels, the proposed draft presented multiple solutions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, ultimately helping to stabilize sea levels. The draft was successfully adopted.



CCPCJ: Fostering Public-Private Partnerships for Enhanced Personal Data Security

Yeso Shin

The CSIAMUN's Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) is discussing the urgent issue of Public-Private Partnerships and personal data security. The CCPCJ is a vital United Nations body that addresses global issues related to crime prevention and criminal justice, playing a crucial role in constructing international policies and strategies to combat various crimes, such as human trafficking, cybercrime, terrorism, and corruption.

The committee comprises 24 delegates, including nine international representatives, with members serving as envoys for both sovereign nations and corporate entities. Given the committee's focus on Public-Private Partnerships (P.P.P.)—long-term contractual arrangements between governmental bodies and private enterprises for the delivery of public services—the synergy between national and corporate interests proves essential. The central challenge lies in orchestrating agreements that harmonize the distinct priorities of both public and private sectors, fostering partnerships that serve the collective good while maintaining commercial viability.

Can Companies and Countries Work Together?

CCPCJ was the only committee in CSIAMUN where delegates represented both countries and companies. However, these two groups have differing priorities: companies prioritize financial benefits and reputation, while countries focus on national security. The delegates faced challenges in finding a balanced approach that meets companies' needs while persuading them to cooperate.

Andy Jung, the delegate representing Booking.com and an 8th-grade student, stated, "Companies have limited authority as we cannot make new laws or restrict elements around us. So, our company decided to build infrastructure on cybersecurity and systems."

Taeheon Kim, representing India, suggested that "urging companies to cooperate with nations by offering financial benefits" is a viable strategy.

Hokyeong Kwon, representing Norway, emphasized the importance of "supporting companies that struggle to comply with legal restrictions rather than punishing them." He added, "Companies would not simply fail to receive benefits but would instead strive

to achieve better goals, knowing that their reputation would suffer if they required external support due to compliance failures.”

Throughout the proceedings, delegates demonstrated remarkable receptivity to collaborative approaches in addressing the complexities of Public-Private Partnerships. This spirit of cooperation manifested in thoughtful exchanges during both formal debates and informal consultations. The delegates' willingness to comprehend diverse national and corporate perspectives created an environment conducive to substantive dialogue. Through carefully structured interviews and dynamic debate sessions, representatives worked to bridge divergent viewpoints, fostering a deeper understanding of each stakeholder's unique challenges and aspirations. This comprehensive approach to diplomatic engagement enhanced the quality of discourse and laid the groundwork for meaningful policy solutions.

Lobbying and Bloc Formation

On the first day of CSIAMUN, delegates shared their respective countries' stances through opening speeches. Delegates then formed blocs based on shared solutions, seeking cooperation with other nations.

During the lobbying session, three blocs emerged:

- **Bloc 1:** **Grab (SGP)**, Brazil, Denmark, Israel, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sony (JPN).
- **Bloc 2:** Norway, Afghanistan, Booking.com, Nigeria, Spain, United Arab Emirates.
- **Bloc 3:** Egypt, Japan, Australia, Bangladesh, Netherlands, Google (USA), India, Cambodia, Russian Federation.

The nations in bold were the main submitters of each bloc's resolution.

Voices of the Delegates

Jiho Kim, a junior at Cheongshim International Academy and delegate of Grab (SGP), was the main submitter of Bloc 1. She emphasized that “international cooperation is crucial in this issue, and the participation of diverse countries is essential.” She acknowledged that differences in country and company stances presented a challenge, but this could be overcome by involving third-party organizations that could regulate and encourage compliance. She explained that financial and reputational incentives would drive cooperation.

Sumire and Sota, sophomores from Japan representing Australia and Afghanistan, respectively, shared their experiences at CSIAMUN.

Sumire stated, “The opening speeches were smooth and informative.” Sota, representing Afghanistan, admitted that he initially felt disconnected due to Afghanistan’s numerous national issues but eventually found support from other delegates and participated actively.

Overall, they described the conference as engaging, supportive, and full of valuable interactions. By the end of Day 1, Bloc 1 had nearly finalized its resolution, while Blocs 2 and 3 were working on strengthening their operative clauses.

Drafting and Refining Resolutions

By Session 3, blocs were finalizing their resolutions by incorporating new ideas and refining details. Each bloc’s resolution contained 7-8 operative clauses, exceeding the conference average of 5.8 across other committees (HRC, ECOSOC, SC, UNCSTD, UNESCO). The additional clauses ensured more detailed and sustainable solutions for the agenda, as the CCPCJ committee had only one agenda to discuss over the three-day period.

An impressive achievement was Bloc 2’s ability to merge eight overlapping operative clauses into five. The main submitter, Norway’s delegate, explained, “We merged the clauses to focus on the overarching themes of cooperation, world peace, and financial support. This consolidation created a more concise and comprehensible resolution.”

Moving from Words to Action

As the conference entered its second day, the committee's work intensified with delegates initiating formal motions to present resolutions and amendments. The chamber's energy transformed as representatives engaged in vigorous discourse, working meticulously to refine proposals and forge diplomatic compromises.

The fourth session marked a pivotal moment with Bloc 1's introduction of the initial resolution. What followed was a sophisticated exchange of ideas, during which delegates conducted a thorough analysis of the proposal, highlighting crucial considerations—particularly regarding provisions for Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs).
How Would LEDCs Be Supported?

Several delegates, including those from Spain, Norway, and the Russian Federation, pointed out that the strategy for supporting LEDCs was unclear. They raised concerns about the lack of global standards for education and disparities in access to electronic devices.

The main submitter of Bloc 1, Grab (SGP), argued that investing in education would contribute to long-term national development. However, this justification was deemed

insufficient to address the immediate challenges LEDCs face. An amendment proposed by Egypt, suggesting the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as a funding source, failed to secure a supermajority vote and was rejected. Ultimately, the question of LEDC support remained unresolved, though delegates agreed on the necessity of financial and technological aid.

After extensive deliberations, the resolution proposed by Bloc 3 achieved passage, marking a significant diplomatic achievement. Delegates celebrated this milestone, acknowledging how their collaborative efforts and careful negotiations had culminated in this successful outcome.

Reflections from the Delegates

Sunu Jang, a sophomore at CSIA and delegate of Spain, reflected on the experience: “The conference was enjoyable and fascinating. It was interesting to cooperate with both Korean and international delegates.” When asked about the most challenging aspect, he stated, “The hardest part was listening to opposing opinions, understanding them, and finding a balance. However, this was also the most enjoyable aspect—I got to experience diverse perspectives and cultures.” Minsung Kim and Taeheon Kim, 8th graders representing the UAE and India, respectively, added, “The schedule was tiring and sometimes challenging, but we learned more about MUN rules and resolution writing.” They also noted that heated disagreements during debates fostered deeper engagement, leading to more substantive and enriching discussions.

The CCPCJ committee at CSIAMUN provided delegates with invaluable experience in rigorous debate, collaboration, and diplomacy, preparing them for future leadership roles in global governance.



Colonization and AfCPTA:

Devising ways to reverse nations' past faults

Yubeen Ji

A sight introduction to the CSIAMUN 2025

Mankind has done a lot of faults to their own environment, animals, and even to the same human being. Those faults' traces aren't removed in a short period. Moving forward, especially, during World War II, Germany oppressed Jewish based on antisemitism. About 6 millions of jewishes died in the internment. The faults of humankind committed are uncountable. Delegates gathered at this Model United Nations to resolve the effects of colonization and triangular trade, which are irreparable mistakes committed by mankind. From February 5th to 7th, the delegates of ECOSOC had discussed how to promote the creation of a better world to live in.

Going through Agenda 1

Agenda 1 is Examining the Global Impacts of Colonialism and Implementing Measures for Restorative Justice and Reconciliation. After Columbus's Spanish-based voyages across the Atlantic Ocean, colonization of the Americas started. European great powers colonized a number of countries so as to facilitate mercantilism. Following the great powers, countries from other continents occupied the weak countries. From the late 15th century to the early 19th century, a lot of colonizations took place. Even though most countries became independent, there are still everlasting impacts. The countries which used to be colonies experience difficulties in diverse aspects — economic, political, social, and environmental.

The process of the debate

On the Day 1, the delegates started opening speeches after the MUN 101 Session which helped the delegates to icebreak. After listening to each delegates' opinion, they gathered the delegates who they wanted to cooperate with, and created three blocs. For hours, the delegates discussed and shared their opinions to produce ideal resolutions.

Bloc A included the submitter, Croatia, and co-submitters, Czech Republic, Liechtenstein, Nepal, Oman, Slovakia, Slovenia. Bloc A suggested five resolutions. They claimed there is a need to Call for the establishment of an open forum including past-colony states, former colonial powers, and nations with little to no colonial ties under the UN designated for addressing concerns. Another resolution was Feasible objectives aimed at implementing restorative justice and reconciliation on nations affected by colonization by the year 2040. The last resolution of Bloc A was Requesting for the establishment of an international organization to ensure the provision of unbiased historical education in the curricula of educational institutions worldwide focusing on the various aspects of colonialism. The delegates in Bloc A said that the establishment of an international organization would contribute to the accurate education of colonization.

Bloc B was consisted of a main submitter, Republic of Kenya, and co-submitters, Islamic Emirates of Afghanistan, Federative Republic of Brazil, Republic of Cameroon, Republic of Chile, Republic of India, Republic of Madagascar, Republic of Paraguay, State of Qatar, United Republic of Tanzania. Bloc B's first resolution was 'Calling for the establishment of a Global Commission for Colonial and Economic Reparations (GCCER) and operating in collaboration with the United Nations and other related bodies to facilitate restorative justice.' Investigating the historical and cultural damages through cooperating with UNESCO and other research institutions was suggested as one of the ways to actualize the resolutions. Another resolution was 'Promoting cultures that were lost for future generations through events and institutions.' The traditional public celebrations and national holidays that monumentalize colonization will help the resolution to come true.

The United Kingdom was the submitter of Bloc C. There were Spain, United States of America, Denmark, Belgium, Japan, France, Germany as co-submitters of Bloc C. Bloc C had a creative resolution, committing to creating an international fund for local business. The delegate of Spain said of this resolution that keeping funding to the local business will help them economically stand up. Also, she mentioned that the respective country's

government commits to providing funds for apt healthcare is needed. Apologies formally by political leaders of coloniser countries including ceremonial leaders was one of the resolutions of Bloc C. Also, returning artifacts illegally obtained as a direct or indirect result of colonialism in order to provide corresponding assistance for cultural revival was mentioned by Bloc C.

Amendments

On the Day 2, each bloc presented their own resolutions. After the presentation of a bloc's resolution, the delegates began to raise their amendments which is one of strike, edit, and add. Nations like India, Uk, Madagascar raised their amendments and had speeches to persuade other delegates. Other delegates asked questions of the raised amendments. When questions are all answered, the delegates voted for, against the amendments or abstained. In the debate of the Agenda1, there were 10 amendments raised by the passionate delegates. Finally, through several votes and amendments, Bloc B and C's resolutions were passed. The delegate of Slovakia and the delegate of Tanzania choosed the delegate of Nepal's amendments as the most impressive amendment. He proposed changing the resolution that workers in the southern hemisphere receive at least half the wages of workers in the northern hemisphere to the requirement that workers in colonized countries receive half the wages of workers in the countries that implemented imperialism and colonized other nations. His assertiveness was so persuasive that the amendment eventually passed.

Going through Agenda 2

Agenda2 is Addressing global responses to the limitations and challenges of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Although AfCFTA was created to enhance African countries' economic power, some issues disrupt the advance of the African economy. The economic disparity between countries, further exacerbating existing gaps, limited industrial capacity, governance challenges, and big regional distance are the representative issues. Agenda 2 was discussed from Day 2 to the end of the 17th CSIAMUN. In the debate of the issue, there were only two blocs, which was mainly

distinguished between the Delegates of Madagascar and Denmark.

Madagascar was the main submitter of Bloc A. Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, India, Kenya, Nepal, Slovenia, Spain, Tanzania, and the United Kingdom participated as co-submitters of Bloc A. One of the bloc A's resolutions was Calling for the establishment of an Intra-African Fund to ensure stability and financial stability and economic growth across the African Nations. Through the support of EU nations and employment of the World Bank and IMF, the economical challenges of Africa can shrink. Furthermore, the fund to the LECDs can lead to their better economical power, and their increased participation in regional trade. In the result, Bloc A's resolution finally passed.

In Bloc B, Denmark was the submitter, and Afghanistan, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Japan, Lichtenstein, Oman, Paraguay, Qatar, Slovakia, and the United States of America were the co-submitters. One of the Bloc B's resolutions for AfCPTA was Encouraging member states and international partners to provide funding for infrastructure development projects targeting transportation. Since most African nations lack infrastructures that facilitate the supplies' transport, the construction and expansion of modernized means of transportation are necessary. During the debate, an opinion that economical support cannot solve the fundamental issue and another that without the support, African nations cannot attain economic development both suggested. As a result, due to the delegates' opposite opinions, Bloc B's resolutions failed.

What could the delegates learn from participating in CSIAMUN

Bok Yan Brian Suen was the delegate of the Republic of India. He said, "Through the research, I could understand more about other countries and their histories. It was a good opportunity to find ways to promote a better future. However, I experienced some hardships in coming up with solutions. It was tough to choose between ethical answers and feasible answers."

Mia Davis, who was the delegate of Republic of Madagascar, showed her opinion about what she could learn from participating CSIAMUN. She said “I could learn a lot through research and expand my knowledge. Because we stand for other nations and meet friends from different countries, it was a good opportunity to enrich cultural diversity.” During the 3 days of ECOSOC activity, she participated in the debates passionately and showed her strong intention to solve global issues ideally.

Seraphina Sun was the delegate of the Republic of Cameroon. It was her first MUN, and she expressed her thoughts that “I could understand how UN councils work and what they have to do through preparing for CSIAMUN



and standing for the Republic of Cameroon. Participating in MUN for the first time, I could get the opportunity to interact with others.” Although it was her first experience, she successfully finished her opening speeches and cooperated with other delegates.

Minjae Kim was the delegate of the Republic of Nepal. He has participated in CSIAMUN before. In the last MUN, he dealt with military issues. “Participating in ECOSOC, I realized that there are still a lot of social and economic problems to deal with. Also, because those problems’ range is too wide, I thought that more engagement and interest are needed.” he said.



Diago Yu, the delegate of the United Kingdom, said, “This MUN was my first international conference. So I couldn’t expect how it would go. In the ECOSOC committee, there are so many diverse human races that help the delegates understand diversity. Also, the way the MUN works in Korea is different from Hong Kong, so I could learn a lot here.

Defending Human Rights: How HRC tackled xenophobia in member nations

Imagine having to flee from your mother country, away from war, pain, and persecution, seeking a safe place, only to face another country full of discrimination, suspicion, and even violence. Sadly, this is true for over 100 million people that have been forcibly displaced all over the world. This year's Human Rights Council at CSIAMUN seeks to change this scenario.

Protecting Rights, Upholding Dignity:

The Mission of the Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Council (HRC) is the UN's main intergovernmental body that focuses on promoting and protecting all human rights across the globe. It comprises 47 member states and annually meets in the UN Office in Geneva, Switzerland. Seats are distributed based on regional representation, as the HRC allocates according to regions. (i.e. 13 from Africa, 13 from Asia-Pacific, etc)

As the committee focuses on human rights, it strongly monitors human rights violations. This actively extends to member states as well, as there is a Universal Periodic Review where every UN member state's human rights record is reviewed. It also specializes in emergency sessions as well. When there are urgent situations in place such as war crimes, genocide, or major humanitarian crises, the council can hold special sessions in order to address them properly. HRC is also involved in passing resolutions such as recommending actions for governments and proposing new international laws or treaties.

Addressing Xenophobia in the Human Rights Council

Agenda A, which was 'Ensuring the human rights of those who experienced xenophobia within member nations', became the beginning for countless amendments and active participation. In Session I, II, and III, the HRC committee tackled the topic of xenophobia. Xenophobia is often described as

the irrational fear, hatred, or distrust of foreigners or people from different cultural backgrounds. It often leads to discrimination, exclusion, and even violence against migrants, refugees, and ethnic minorities. This can be seen in cases ranging from the Holocaust to modern day refugee crises. Xenophobia is in close connection with prejudice, which is defined as opinions or attitudes held to certain groups of people that are not based on reason or experience.

Another important key aspect of xenophobia is nationalism. Nationalism is defined as an ideology based on the argument that the individual's loyalty and devotion to the nation-state surpass other group interests. Nationalism fuels xenophobia in the sense that it leads individuals to think that their nation is superior to others, which can lead to the exclusion of outsiders and justify discrimination. Closely related to this is ethnocentrism, the belief that one's own ethnic, racial, or social group as the center of things. This mindset often leads individuals to believe that because their culture is superior, all other cultures are inferior or wrong. Ethnocentrism creates a mindset where cultural differences are seen as threats, often leading to violence in the modern world. While xenophobia is the term for the rejection of foreign cultures, xenocentrism is the opposite. Xenocentrism refers to the need to engage in the elements of other cultures rather than one's own. Although this might seem healthier than xenophobia and ethnocentrism, xenocentrism is also harmful because it can still create social divides by devaluing national identity.

Xenophobia might be seen as a problem that is far away from us, like the Nazi Germany and the Holocaust in 1933-1945. However, there have been many modern examples of xenophobia as well. One example is the rise of anti-immigrant policies in the US and Europe. The current president of the US, Donald Trump, is famous for implementing anti-immigrant and often xenophobic laws. He has pushed a new immigration ban that scapegoats immigrants, denied asylum seekers their legal rights at the US-Mexico Border, and enforced stricter border controls. The Covid 19 pandemic had an effect on xenophobia as well, as Asians all over the world faced discrimination and even full on hate crimes for who they are. These issues and more highlight the existing xenophobia in the status quo, thus influencing CSIAMUN's HRC to set their agenda to the topic of xenophobia.

From Debate to Resolution: Addressing Xenophobia Through Policies

The procedure was as follows. First the committee had the lobbying and merging session, where delegates started off with the roll call and held their placards high. Then after the necessary announcements and introductions, they had the motion to set the agenda, on which it was successfully set on agenda a. Then, each 17 delegates had their own opening speech, which became the basis for making blocs. After the blocs crafted their resolution papers, the main submitter of each of the 3 blocs announced their resolutions. Then the chair opened the debate on the resolution, where the main submitters (Argentina, Peru, and the Russian federation respectively) delivered their authorship speeches. After the authorship speeches, delegates engaged in thoughtful discussion and diplomatic debates. In the open debate, there were a total of 5 amendments raised with 3 passing and 2 failing. As for the resolutions, Bloc 1's resolution passed while Bloc 2 and Bloc 3's resolution failed.

Bloc 1 focused on policies to ensure that no individual has to go through racial discrimination and regarding education that raises awareness and attention towards preventing and deterring against xenophobia. They also focused on helping a lot of stakeholders regarding those foreigners, multicultural families and communities, and those who hold the citizenship of a nation, refugees and asylum seekers and those who are religiously and racially marginalized.

Lauren Kim, the delegate of Argentina, was the main submitter for Bloc 1. "I think the biggest reason why our resolution was able to pass is because we engaged a lot more than the other blocs." she admitted in her interview. In the open debate, the young delegate consistently urged



other delegates to further explain and often pointed out flaws in others' speeches. One of the biggest things that she mentioned was the lack of exclusivity. She pointed out that while Bloc 2 and 3 had decent points, many of them had been included in her resolution as well. While the delegate of the Russian Federation has initially tried to differentiate their resolution from Bloc 1's, it was unsuccessful as the delegate of Argentina defended their stance well.

Bloc 2 urged member states to allocate a fixed percentage of GDP (supported by global organizations and NGOs) for xenophobia victim protection and mandatory educational initiatives that promote the rights and cultural integration of foreigners. It also focuses on legal measures, including monitoring systems and accessible legal frameworks, alongside social media platforms to exchange information about jobs and also socialize with other immigrants. —the delegate of Peru, was the main submitter for Bloc 2. When asked about the most important part of her resolution, she mentioned the campaigns that would educate students and individuals on the matter of xenophobia. "I think education is a crucial aspect of solving the problem," she mentioned.

Bloc 3 focused on the point of legal framework. They tried to enforce stronger punishments on criminals and compensate victims for their pain. Another unique point Bloc 3 had was the sharing of legal framework for all countries. The resolution of Bloc 3 required countries to share their legal framework such as laws or punishments.

Byeongyun Lee, the delegate of the Russian Federation, was the main submitter of Bloc 3. "What we're essentially trying to do is to prevent these xenophobic actions as much as possible by enforcing stricter laws and policies. We're also going to compensate victims of xenophobia as well" he said.



Controversial Amendments of the Process

While the 17 delegates focused on making their resolutions pass, they also pondered how to improve it. Whether it be your own Bloc or another delegates', the delegates of the HRC debated a total of 5 amendments and decided on three. Let's hear from one of the most debated amendments about the removal of social media platforms for vulnerable stakeholders.

The delegate of the Russian Federation raised an amendment in Session II seeking to remove a sub clause in Bloc 2 regarding the creation of a social media site for immigrants and similar stakeholders. "I think social media is a very vulnerable type of platform where pretty much every individual can have significant access to it and express their ideas freely. But given the freedom, since many people are xenophobic, I thought it would be likely for these vulnerable individuals to have to go through even more hateful comments on these platforms." He expressed. But not every delegate agreed with him. "Even if we concede to the delegates' point about hate comments, isn't it the governments' responsibility to punish these individuals?" The delegate of Argentina stated. Another delegate, the delegate of Italy, asked "Wouldn't the benefits outweigh the costs, as comments are especially useful in the aspect that these immigrants can share their personal experiences or provide information of the culture of these countries?" The amendment also faced criticism regarding the restriction of freedom of speech. "By removing social media platforms for these vulnerable individuals, isn't the delegate of the Russian Federation removing the right to speak freely?" The delegate of Austria, Alisha Lim pointed out. The amendment didn't go down without a



fight, though. The delegate of the Russian Federation criticized the excessive use of legal power that will potentially be used to fight xenophobic comments. There were also problems regarding the point that social media are owned by companies, which indicate that these platforms are profit oriented and might overlook punishing these individuals due to profit.

He also suggested other alternatives with less harm such as meeting in person or creating a site without the social aspect included. Although the amendment failed with 5 for and 12 against, the delegate of the Russian Federation mentioned that he had learned and gained experience with this. “The next time I want to pass an amendment, I will try to elaborate more or explain the concept in another way so that all delegates can understand.” He concluded.

A Call To Action: Ensuring Human Rights for the Vulnerable

In conclusion, the Human Rights Council session at CSIAMUN created a space to tackle the growing issue of xenophobia head-on. The debates and resolutions didn't just highlight the serious consequences of discrimination against migrants and refugees, they also emphasized the urgent need for action. By looking at both historical and modern examples, delegates showed how deeply rooted prejudices can lead to major human rights violations. Fighting xenophobia isn't just the right thing to do—it's necessary for global peace and stability.

The session was full of diverse perspectives, with different blocs focusing on various solutions. Bloc 1 pushed for education and public awareness, which helped their resolution pass, while Bloc 2 focused on legal frameworks and Bloc 3 on education. The intense debates, especially over controversial amendments like the role of social media, proved that addressing xenophobia requires a well-rounded approach. More importantly, the collaboration between delegates reinforced that real change comes from open dialogue, compromise, and a shared commitment to human dignity. Beyond just passing resolutions, the session was about learning from one another. Diving into the roots of xenophobia—whether through nationalism, ethnocentrism, or xenocentrism—helped expose the complexities of creating global solutions. The back-and-forth over amendments, especially those tackling social media, showed the challenge of balancing freedom of speech with protecting vulnerable communities. This reminded everyone that combating xenophobia isn't about quick fixes; it requires constant discussion, adaptation, and long-term strategies.

At its core, the HRC session at CSIAMUN was both a call to action and a sign of hope. The passionate efforts of the delegates proved that even though xenophobia remains a global challenge, there are real solutions within reach. Through education, legal reforms, and community engagement, the groundwork has been laid for future progress. Now, it's up to member nations to take these ideas and turn them into action—ensuring that every individual, no matter where they come from, is treated with dignity and respect.

UNCSTD Debates Global Strategies to Combat Cyberterrorism

Anish Vedantham

The United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) convened to address the escalating threat of cyberterrorism, emphasizing the need for international cooperation and enhanced cyber protection measures. Cyberterrorism has evolved into a global crisis, causing \$12.5 billion in financial damages worldwide in 2023. As digital threats grow in sophistication and scope, the commission worked to outline effective policies to combat cyberattacks targeting critical infrastructure, financial systems, and personal data.

Despite general consensus on the need for greater international cooperation, UNCSTD members diverged in their focuses and plans for addressing this pressing issue. Each of the two working groups presented distinct approaches, reflecting a divide in global cybersecurity strategies.

Finding out more

The first working paper, spearheaded by Argentina, with support from Australia, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Italy, and South Korea, focused on international research collaboration and private sector involvement in cyber protection. This group emphasized technological innovation as the primary means to combat cyberterrorism, advocating for stronger cross-border collaboration among research institutions and private tech companies.

Their working paper presented strategies including the establishment of a new commission, the Cybersecurity Technology Advance Research Organization (CTARO) that would encourage international cooperation on cyber issues. CTARO would encourage international cooperation for nations that share similar cybersecurity problems and collect data on previous cyber attacks. The organization would also be empowered to prevent citizens from using unidentified websites and programs by creating a system that could block unsecured websites.



Focusing on those left behind



Led by the Philippines, the second working group, supported by China, Russia, India, and Mexico, focused on helping Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) strengthen their cybersecurity defenses. The group stressed that LEDCs remain highly vulnerable due to weaker cybersecurity systems, making them easy targets for cyberterrorists, with the representative of India highlighting the fact that “most countries that don’t have very good cyber security are LEDCs.”

When asked why they prioritized LEDCs, the Filipino representative said, “to stop cyberattacks, all the nations have to work together to stop it. We need LEDCs help to stop cyberattacks. It isn’t enough for just wealthy countries.”

In their working paper, the bloc proposed a variety of strategies to help reduce the issue. They suggested cyber education initiatives to train LEDC students and professionals in digital security and an elite UN-funded hacking team to help the UN to stop cyberterrorism.

When asked about the importance of equity in sharing technology, the representative of Argentina, said that CTARO would be “an agency for all of the nations together, like the UN, so that even countries that don’t have access to [advanced technology] can still have access to cybersecurity.”

Fierce debate

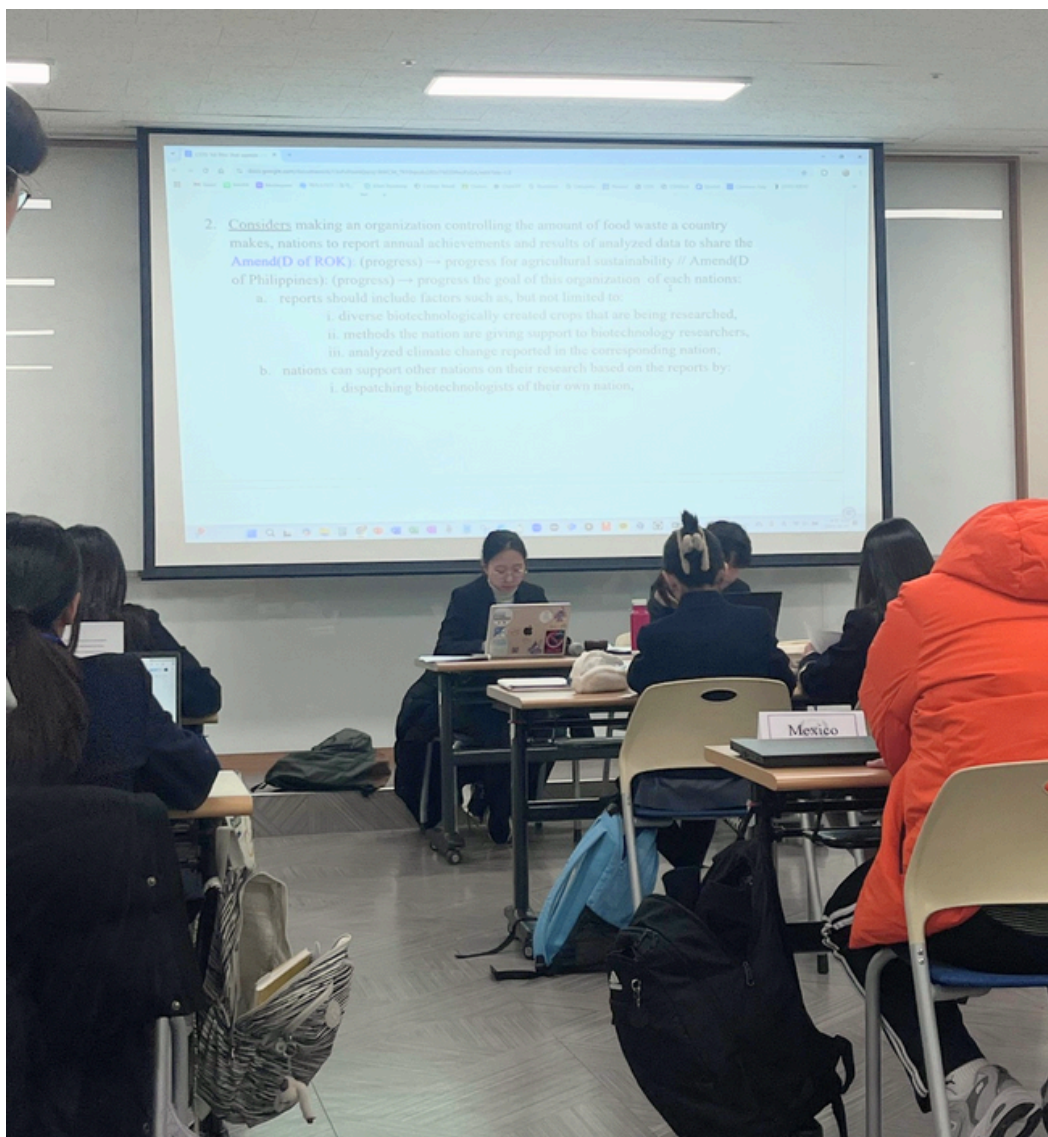
In the authorship speeches, representatives of the Philippines and Argentina expressed their arguments in support of their resolutions.

Argentina, in its authorship speech, presented its 7-point plan that involved strengthening the UNCSTD’s capabilities to fight cyberattacks through CTARO. Speaking on why immediate action was necessary, the representative said, “Over 53 million people were affected by cyberattacks, who suffered from data damages, financial losses and theft of personal data.”

The Philippines, delivering an impassioned speech on the importance of including LEDCs in the conversation on cyberterrorism, presented their plan for targeted measures to help all countries help fight cyberterrorism. In closing, the representative argued in favor of its resolution, saying “Delegates, cyberterrorism has no borders. If we fail to act now, no nation will be safe from its consequences.”

Not satisfied yet...

Many delegates sought to update and amend the resolution concerning CTARO and the 7-point plan.

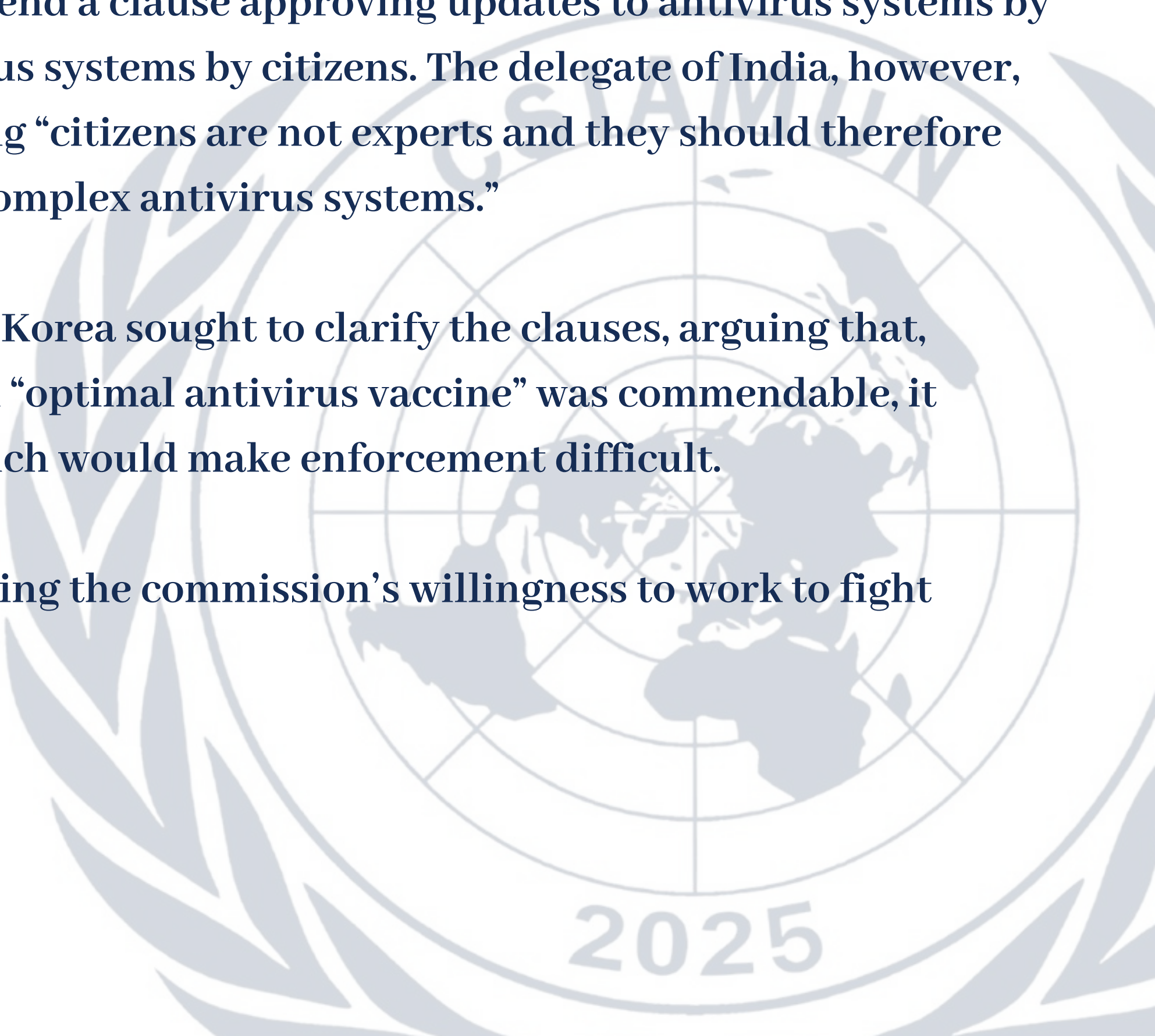


The delegate of the Philippines moved to strike a clause in the first working paper that would allow CTARO to “eradicat[e] the initial possibility of entering harmful internet [spaces for civilians],” citing concerns over redundancy in the resolution. The representative of India shared concerns over this clause. The Philippines instead proposed an amendment that would promote education initiatives for citizens to avoid dangerous websites, which the United Kingdom opposed.

Citing concerns over lack of enforcement capabilities and overall unspecificity, the Republic of Korea moved to amend a clause approving updates to antivirus systems by encouraging updates to antivirus systems by citizens. The delegate of India, however, opposed this amendment, saying “citizens are not experts and they should therefore not be allowed to touch these complex antivirus systems.”

The delegate of the Republic of Korea sought to clarify the clauses, arguing that, although the clause creating an “optimal antivirus vaccine” was commendable, it lacked significant specifics, which would make enforcement difficult.

All amendments passed, reflecting the commission’s willingness to work to fight against this grave threat.



LEDCs not spared

The resolution concerning cybersecurity in LEDCs was also met with a variety of amendments. The DPRK wanted to make sure that the resolution was specific by ensuring that experts were being sent to universities to teach students about cybersecurity in LEDCs.

The Philippines proposed a slew of amendments, including one to strike a clause that would require white hackers or ethical security hackers to track and manage criminal records, arguing that was not necessary. The DPRK and India both opposed this amendment, arguing that it was important

The representative of the Philippines also argued that, rather than notifying companies to upgrade their cyberdefense systems, the commission should collaborate with governments for law enforcement in order to be more effective. This amendment failed to draw the requisite support, voting against the resolution.

A notable amendment was allowing LEDCs to both refuse and request the funding and assistance provided by countries with more resources. In a passionate speech, the Philippines issued a warning against the centuries of colonialism endured by Asia. “Strong countries forced weak countries to buy unwanted items. History might repeat itself,” the representative said. “The LEDCs might not need or want this financial support and might have to repay the funds they didn't want.”

Success (for some)

The resolution creating CTARO passed unanimously with all 14 countries present supporting the resolution. On the other hand, the resolution in support of LEDCs failed with a vote of 9 in favor and 5 abstaining, meaning the commission did not achieve the requisite two thirds majority. Those abstaining included the United Kingdom, the Republic of Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Russia, and Italy.

When asked why the Republic of Korea voted for the first resolution and abstained from the other, the representative said, “For the first vote, I thought the plan was very specific and it can accomplish the goal to combat cybercrimes, but the second vote was not as specific and I thought that it’s only beneficial to the specific countries.”

The representative does believe that CTARO will help LEDCs as well. “We are going to cultivate the competitors in diverse countries so we are going to help all countries,” she said.

Job’s not done yet

The UNCSTD’s debate underscored the urgent need for enhanced cybersecurity collaboration to counter cyberterrorism. While LEDC-focused assistance and research-driven solutions were both proposed, the overarching consensus was that no single country can tackle cyberterrorism alone. Moving forward, UNCSTD is expected to refine these proposals into actionable policies, ensuring a more secure and resilient digital world.



Behind the Gavel: Why Chairs Chose Their Agenda Topics

Anish Vedantham

Every Model UN conference is built around the ideas and dilemmas that shape global politics. But behind every draft resolution and amendment is a chair who meticulously selected the topic their committee would debate. Why did they choose the issues they did? What challenges did they hope to explore? And have the delegates stepped up to the challenge? The Journal sat down with five chairs from CSIAMUN XVII to find out.

Soomin Lee – United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Colonialism has left a lasting impact on societies worldwide, shaping economic, social, and political structures. ECOSOC examines its enduring effects and the importance of restorative justice and reconciliation. The topic, examining the global impacts of colonialism and implementing measures for restorative justice and reconciliation, focuses on addressing historical injustices, advocating for cultural restitution, and promoting fair international relationships.



“ECOSOC brings people and issues together to promote collective action for a sustainable world,” according to its website. This topic of decolonization and reconciliation is fundamentally a topic that involves bringing together both people—those impacted by colonialism—and issues—questions over property and justifications. “In our committee, we have a lot of countries that were under colonization,” Soomin explained. That’s why it was critically important that the topic selected involved both those countries and the colonial powers. “Because we’re in ECOSOC, we tried our best to know the trending topics.”

Yeonsu Ahn and Yuki Ikeda

– United Nations Security Council

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has resulted in the loss of tens of thousands of lives and displaced many millions of people. Though the current conflict began only on October 7, 2023, the claims of both Jews and Arab Muslims date back to more than a century ago. The UNSC discussed enhancing rights and participation in peacebuilding and recovery in war zones of Israel and Palestine.

Yeonsu and Yuki, the chairs for UNSC, were very passionate about the topic of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. “It’s a hot topic,” Yeonsu said, while Yuki expressed how “it’s an ongoing crisis and something that’s been going on for a long time.”



When asked why they chose the topic, Yeonsu said, “We have limited views [on the conflict] in South Korea. Delegates around the world—from Australia, the US, and Japan—all brought different perspectives and I think that’s what makes a great conference.”

For Yuki, she was drawn to the topic because of the human impact. “I have a friend in Afghanistan,” she said. “She can’t go to school because of the Taliban, because they’re restricting education for girls. In a similar sense, [the conflict between] Hamas and Israel is something that is actually affecting the people that live there.”



Yeonsu was incredibly impressed with the delegates trying to work together, specifically those in the Power 5 (P5), which has veto power in the UNSC. She said, “They are trying to make something, rather than using their P5 power, they’re trying to work together with both blocs and trying to understand both the Israeli and Palestinian perspectives on the issue.”

Adding on, Yuki expressed how impressed she was with the delegate’s enthusiasm. “I’ve never seen delegates this enthusiastic about everything, from the snacks to the clauses. It’s really exciting to be in this energy with enthusiasm.”

Jiwoo Kim – United Nations Environmental Assembly

Climate change is one of the gravest threats to the world. The UNEA is one of the UN's many committees designed to protect the environment by limiting the effects of climate change. The UNEA's two topics were protecting Arctic and Antarctic regions concerning the reduction of aerosol emission & implementing measures to alleviate the rise in sea level for countries or islands in danger of floods or other natural disasters.

When asked why they chose the two topics, Jiwoo explained that they wanted their topics to be connected. "If the arctic ice melts, the rising sea levels is the next biggest problem," she said. "We tried to adapt the biggest problems to discuss global warming broadly."



The goal of the UNEA, as a whole, is to address the issue of climate change, drafting policy responses to environmental threats. Jiwoo's specific goal, however, stems from the fact that not every issue can be settled by committee.

"There are a lot of projects and committees working hard for limiting the pace of global warming but there's still some countries who do not cooperate in those committees that were chartered," she said. "I want the delegates to find a way that all countries could agree by considering all countries' stances"

The delegates did just that with their first resolution, considering the differential effects of natural disasters—which humans can't control—and other climate-related problems—which they can. "They tried to mitigate those inevitable effects, [while] they tried to limit the negative effects coming from things that humans can control," she said.

When asked about her favorite part of the committee, Jiwoo knew her answer immediately: "I like this committee because it's a junior committee. I like middle schoolers because I have a younger brother," she said, making clear her appreciation for these talented young students.

Danah Kim – Journal

The power to control the media is the power to control knowledge. And the power to control knowledge is the power to shape reality itself. In today's day and age, the media exerts a significant control over our opinions and our perception of reality. That's why the CSIAMUN Journal focused extensively on media ethics, concentrating on balancing free speech and accountability for journalists reporting minor misinformation.



Danah's draw to media ethics comes from the fact that nowadays, misinformation and disinformation are at an all time high. Danah said, "I recognized the critical importance of understanding these matters and ensuring transparent reporting procedures."

She talked about the power of words and how "small sayings could change [the public's] mind, whether positive or negative." She said, these issues are ones "that we were experiencing firsthand, which led me to explore the fundamental principles of media ethics."

Danah was a delegate in the Journal last year and felt as if the committee was very cold and hesitant. She explained how she wanted to discuss media ethics, but very few other delegates were willing.

Recognizing an opportunity, Danah volunteered and interviewed to be the chair for the committee, deciding that, if selected, the delegates would have a debate on media ethics before starting their primary task of writing articles. Essentially, she said "I wanted to change things I wanted to experience but couldn't."

Reflecting on the delegates and her expectations, Danah expressed how much she appreciated the energy of the delegates. She said, "I've only experienced one and a half days, but I'm very excited about the fact that they don't hesitate to talk about their opinions. It was a profound privilege to chair a committee with the delegates that have so much passion."

Sejoon Kim – Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Cyberterrorism has evolved into a global crisis, causing \$12.5 billion in financial damages worldwide in 2023. UNCSTD's agenda focused on addressing cyberterrorism through strengthening international cooperation and cyber protection.



Sejoon, the Deputy Chair for CSTD, explained the relevance of cybersecurity in today's hyperdigital age. He said, "There are huge advancements of AI and related technologies and right now, there are many cybersecurity and cyberattack issues always emerging. As we live our contemporary lives, knowledge and information about IT are incredibly important."

Expressing how impressed he was with the delegates addressing this issue, he explained the importance of governmental intervention and a multinational commission to study and prevent cyberattacks. He was incredibly impressed with the delegates for addressing this issue with their own resolution.

He also talked about his hope that this committee would foster an intersectional examination of science and the humanities, saying this committee "would be a great opportunity to connect communication and debating sessions along with science and technology which can seem kind of far away."

The chairs at CSIAMUN XVII didn't just pick their topics at random—they chose issues they believe will challenge delegates, spark new perspectives, and ultimately, leave them thinking long after the committee ends. So the next time you're researching your position paper or spending hours lobbying in committee, remember: there's a reason you're discussing this issue. And the person behind the gavel can't wait to see what you do with it.

2025

Hungry No More: UNCSTD Debates Biotechnology to Promote Food Security

Anish Vedantham

As the UNCSTD gathered to address food insecurity, nations revealed diverse and contrasting strategies for leveraging biotechnology in agriculture. With the twin pressures of climate change and a growing global population, delegates of the commission are charting paths that range from full-scale adoption and innovation to cautious regulation and outright rejection.

The Outright Acceptors

Many countries view GMOs as a transformative solution to food insecurity. Their strategy centers on aggressive investment in research and development to build resilient, high-yield agricultural systems.

Russia frames biotechnology as essential to national stability by developing crops capable of withstanding extreme environmental stresses, such as drought and severe temperatures, while Sweden champions modern genetic tools like CRISPR gene editing technology to create resilient crops that can thrive in adverse conditions.

With limited arable land and massive population, China views GMO technology as a necessary tool for food security. However, concerns over food safety and public skepticism have led to significant investments in research, government oversight, and policy initiatives designed to bolster public confidence and ensure that GMO commercialization is accompanied by strict safety protocols. The country is thus at a crossroad when it comes to the use of biotechnology.

The Republic of Korea is also in a transitional phase. Facing declining food self-sufficiency, Korean policymakers are working to institutionalize biotechnology within their agricultural sector. Their focus is on developing sustainable systems and coordinated research initiatives to strengthen the nation's food production capabilities without compromising safety or public trust. They further look to international institutions to prove the stability of the GMO industry and improve the technology associated with alleviating food storages.

One country presented a fundamentally novel solution: undersea farming. Though Italy did not outrightly reject biotechnology, the representative focused on rising sea levels which threaten traditional farming land. To alleviate this, Italy is exploring the use of underwater agricultural systems that operate without pesticides and minimize microbial hazards. This innovative approach highlights the country's willingness to think beyond conventional land-based agriculture to address food security challenges.

This is similar to Brazil and Argentina, both of which were early adopters of genetically modified organisms. Brazil's success with genetically modified soybeans and Argentina's increased production of GMOs illustrate how biotechnology can drive productivity and global competitiveness. Their strategies combine extensive research & development, government investment, and international technology sharing to secure food supplies and stimulate economic growth.

The Skeptics

Other countries advocate for biotechnology while remaining acutely aware of the safety, environmental, and public perception challenges it poses. These nations seek a balanced approach that encourages innovation while rigorously managing risks, while others are vehemently opposed.

The United Kingdom is addressing food shortages exacerbated by climate change by adopting gene editing technologies under the Genetic Technology (Precision Breeding) Act of 2023. The UK's proposal for an International Biotechnology Research Hub underscores its commitment to transparent, collaborative efforts aimed at aligning regulatory frameworks and boosting public understanding.

Mexico stood out from the voices of agreement as the lone dissenter against GMOs. Delivering an impassioned speech about their opposition, the delegate pointed to risks such as increased herbicide usage, the potential emergence of herbicide-resistant weeds, and various health concerns. For Mexico, the disadvantages of GMOs overshadow any potential benefits, prompting plans to completely ban genetically modified crops in order to safeguard environmental and public health for future generations.

India is making significant strides by establishing research bodies, like the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), which funds and guides projects aimed at overcoming persistent food shortages through innovative crop technologies.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, like Italy, didn't outright reject biotechnology. However, they expressed immense concern over foreign agriculture control. The representative emphasized self-sufficient farming, while focusing on independent food production and self-reliance.

Australia and Afghanistan both expressed similar views on biotechnology and its uses. They emphasized how there are many regions suffering from food insecurity, including Afghanistan. Australia emphasized the importance of safety and regulating the research of GMOs to ensure that they are used responsibly. The Australian representative concluded their speech with a passionate plea: "Let's work together to ensure a healthier, more food-secure future for all."

Resolution submitter, The Philippines, sought to bridge the gap between the varied positions of the group. Recognizing the transformative power of biotechnology in addressing the global challenges of agriculture and acknowledging the challenges posed by climate change—including pests and diseases—the representative advocated for the use of GMOs and ensuring food security for vulnerable populations. However, it also advocated the importance of responsible and sustainable use and international cooperation to share the benefits of biotechnology.

Diverging Working Papers

In response to the growing global challenge of food insecurity, two working papers submitted to the commission propose biotechnology-driven solutions to ensure agricultural sustainability. The first working paper, submitted by Argentina, focuses on institutionalizing the development of these technologies through a newly proposed Institution of Global Agricultural Sustainability. This institution would establish dedicated departments for GMOs, alternative food sources (such as lab-grown meat and plant-based substitutes), and agricultural bioenergy. The proposal also highlights biotechnology commercialization, biofuel production, and international cooperation as essential components in mitigating food shortages. Encouraging public trust in GMOs, expanding educational initiatives, and leveraging enterprise cooperation to accelerate research were additional recommendations outlined in this working paper.

The second working paper, led by the Philippines, emphasizes the development of GMOs, gene-editing technologies, and innovative food preservation techniques. Key proposals include the creation of an international organization to regulate food waste, investment in CRISPR and Cas9 gene-editing research, and the expansion of biotechnology education. The document also suggests governmental policies such as laws limiting food waste, funding for GMO research, and international collaboration to support nations struggling with food shortages.



Both proposals stress the significance of biotechnology in enhancing food production, but they diverge in approach. The Argentine plan is more focused on structural changes, including the formation of new international institutions and large-scale commercialization of biotechnological advancements, given their passionate support for the technology. The Filipino proposal, on the other hand, prioritizes immediate policy reforms, research funding, and educational expansion, reflecting the bloc's general unease over GMO usage. Despite these differences, both working papers underscore the necessity of global collaboration in addressing food security through science and innovation.

The Commission failed to pass the Filipino resolution with a vote of 7 in favor and 7 abstaining, eliciting a comment from the President and Deputy President about the hard work wasted due to unnecessary abstentions. Those abstaining included China, Argentina, and the United Kingdom.

Contentious Issues

The second resolution drew significant attention, with numerous amendments. In fact, the Commission moved to divide the question, separating the various amendments into their constituent provisions. Notable amendments that passed included an amendment by Brazil to educate students about biotechnology and an amendment by the ROK to modify a clause to promote self-sufficiency with a target increase of 2 percent. The most significant change was an amendment proposed by Australia and Sweden removing a large majority of a clause promoting ethanol and biofuel production, highlighting the importance of protecting the environment. The Commission, however, failed this amendment with a resounding thirteen against and only one in favor.

An amendment proposed by the Philippines to strike an advertising provision in the resolution drew ire from the delegate of India, who spoke out passionately against the amendment, claiming that “not all advertising causes anger.” This amendment also failed, with only two delegates—the DPRK and the Philippines—voting for it.

During the first round of voting on the Argentine resolution, 9 votes were cast in favor, 4 votes were cast in opposition—the Philippines, the DPRK, Russia, and Sweden. The total number of votes being 13, one less than the total number of countries present in the Commission, the Commission devolved into laughter as they realized the fact that Mexico had not been voting. As UNCSTD President said before she dismissed the Commission into a two minute recess to caucus over the vote, “Please vote, please vote guys!”

Ultimately, on the question of the Argentine resolution, the votes cast in favor numbered 12, the votes cast against numbered 2. Mexico, in the end, voted for the resolution and the DPRK and Philippines maintained their opposition to the resolution. Having reached the requisite number of votes, the resolution passed and the committee erupted into cheers and applause.

Looking to the future

Moving forward, the UNCSTD must work toward bridging the gaps between these proposals, ensuring both immediate action and long-term institutional support for biotechnology in agriculture. Future discussions should center on equitable access to these technologies, strategies for overcoming public skepticism about GMOs, and sustainable funding mechanisms for research. By taking further action, UNCSTD can take significant strides toward leveraging biotechnology as a tool to combat food insecurity on a global scale.



Meet the Diverse Group of People at CSIAMUN XVII

Zachary Kahn

Sujin Kim: The Talented Hometown 7th Grader

Among the passionate young minds at CSIAMUN XVII, Sujin Kim stands out as a remarkable example of the conference's diverse talent pool. A 13-year-old seventh grader at Cheongshim International Academy (CSIA), Kim brings fresh perspectives to her role as a delegate from Chile in the UNESCO committee. Despite being relatively new to Model UN, with just two semesters of experience, Kim's enthusiasm for debate shines. When asked why she wanted to participate in CSIAMUN XVII, she replied, "I like to debate. I think it's fun to hear other people's opinions about different things... I think when you prepare for a debate, you can spend more time with your friends, and I think it is the best way to build friendships and cooperation with others."

What makes Kim's story particularly interesting is her career aspirations. Interestingly, Sujin does not want to pursue any communication or social science majors in the future. Instead, she wants to become a biologist. Fortunately for her, Agenda A in her UNESCO committee is all about maintaining biodiversity, allowing her to bridge her scientific interests with global diplomacy.

Life at CSIA is demanding for this young diplomat. Kim described her daily schedule on a school day at CSIA by saying, "School is from 8:00 AM - 4:45 PM." She mentioned that every weekday from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, she practices night study. This rigorous academic environment is shaping the resilient leaders of tomorrow. Unfortunately, the pressures of school can get very stressful for her sometimes, and she has seen her friends turning into her competitors recently. She recalls numerous instances of her classmates crying after tests, as she balances a rigorous academic schedule on top of her participation in Model UN.



Through it all, Kim, an enthusiastic and sagacious delegate, transforms CSIAMUN XVII into a breeding ground for future leaders who can navigate a plethora of fields.

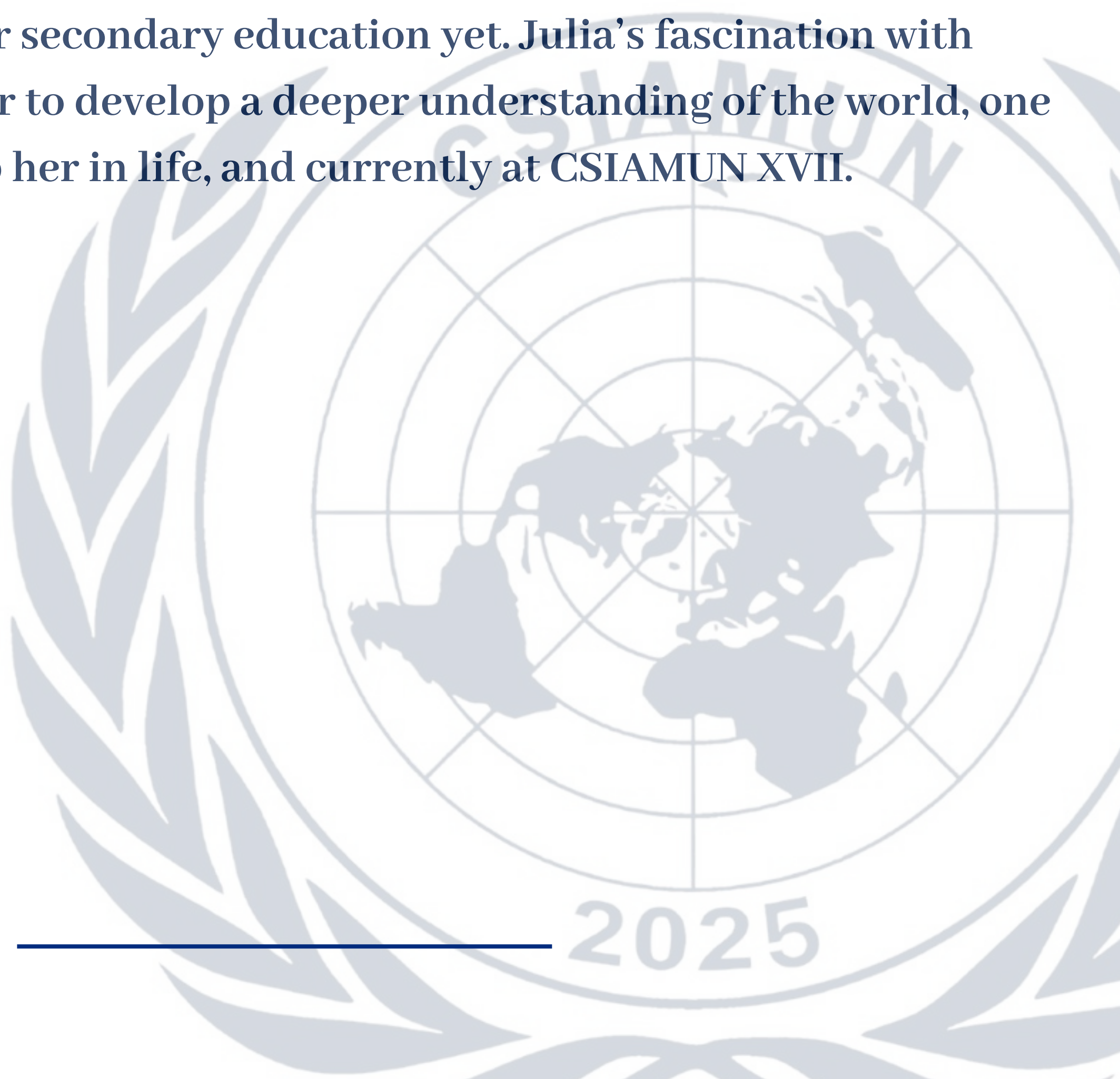
Julia Ng: Hong Kong’s Young Polyglot

A cogent example of CSIAMUN XVII’s cosmopolitan participants is Julia Ng. She is a 10th grader from Hong Kong representing Brazil in CCPCJ. She attends St. Paul’s Co-Educational College in her home country.

She participated in her first Model UN conference last summer and quickly became fascinated with the club. She believes that MUN trains speaking skills, and writing skills, and teaches one to become a better communicator. After primary school, she would love to pursue a field related to education and social science. She said, “[Model UN] is a platform for me to express my own opinions on global issues,” and that she primarily participates in MUN because “we are the people who will be handling these global issues in 10 years’ time.” Model UN provides an opportunity to “understand what [we] lack or what [we] can do better for the world,” which is vital for personal growth and development as a leader and global citizen.



Julia's cosmopolitan attitude extends outside of Model UN in a remarkable and impressive way, as she is a multilingual student. She speaks a whopping five languages: Cantonese, English, Mandarin, Japanese, and Spanish—and she hasn't even completed her secondary education yet. Julia's fascination with languages has enabled her to develop a deeper understanding of the world, one that she believes will help her in life, and currently at CSIAMUN XVII.



Shakti Reddy: The First-Time Delegate

At every Model UN conference, there is always someone participating for the first time.

Shakti Reddy is an 11th grader from the Wilderness School in Australia, and she is CSIAMUN's most enthusiastic first-time delegate by a wide margin. In the Economic and Social Council, she is representing Afghanistan with superb enthusiasm and determination despite her inexperience.

Reddy initially became interested in attending CSIAMUN XVII after receiving an application from her teacher last fall and reading that the conference was held in South Korea. As a student learning Korean herself, she couldn't resist applying for a chance to learn diplomacy and enhance her Korean language proficiency in February of 2025.

When she found out she had been accepted to embark on this diplomatic and linguistic journey, she was thrilled. This conference was going to be her first time ever attending a Model UN event, but she refused to let her inexperience weigh down her confidence. Over the course of the conference, she has learned a great deal about Afghanistan's involvement with the UN's Economic and Social Council: "I think economically [Afghanistan] has a lot of raw materials and resources, but socially, they have done badly." Overall, she has been an enthusiastic participant throughout the novice parliamentary procedure at CSIAMUN.



Barrett George: For the People

As one of the few delegates from the United States, 10th grader Barrett George sought out a trip to South Korea and CSIAMUN XVII to represent his own school, Providence Day School, represent Denmark in ECOSOC, and most importantly, meet new people from all across the world.

Barrett's passion for meeting new people fuels his love for Model UN. He enthusiastically told The Journal, "I just think it's fun. It's fun meeting new people. It's fun talking to each other. In the States, they usually do crisis committees, which are way more hectic."

George's desire to meet diverse groups of people is further strengthened when looking at his career goals. Interestingly, George does not intend to pursue diplomacy in the future— instead, he would like to be an agricultural engineer. Despite this, he enjoys Model UN because it allows him to hear new perspectives and engage with students he has never met before.

Even outside of Model UN, Barrett loves to participate in extracurriculars that promote team building and cooperation. He wrestles for his school, runs a robotics team, and enjoys baking pastries such as tarts filled with cream or fruit with his family.

George represents his home country of the United States well—a country famously described by former President Abraham Lincoln as one that is "by the people" and "for the people."



Delegates' Thoughts on CSIAMUN

The Exemplary Señorita

Sunu Jang from South Korea is the delegate of Spain in the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ). He joined CSIAMUN because he thought it would be a great experience and beneficial for his future. It's captivating that this delegate has the ability to think not only about the present but also about the future.

Q. What do you think is your role in your bloc?

A. I think my role in my bloc is to find information online and share it with other delegates. I also try to communicate with my bloc members a lot since teamwork is one of the key aspects of debating.

Q. What are some pros and cons of CSIAMUN so far?

A. I think it's amazing to be able to communicate with a variety of people from all over the world and share each other's cultures. Debating and working on resolutions with my bloc will also help me in the future. However, although the Ondol system was amazing, sleeping on the floor was very tough for me.



Q. What does CSIAMUN mean to you?

A. CSIAMUN is a debate tournament that has helped me grow in many ways. Three years ago, I had my first debate experience—it was exciting yet nerve-wracking. As years passed, I adapted to the atmosphere and saw things I hadn't noticed before. It is the best place to make friends from all over the world and share my ideas with new people. This delegate's efforts to constantly improve himself and form new friendships worldwide are astonishing. He is a remarkable individual, always striving for personal growth. His dedication to self-improvement is truly inspiring, as he continuously seeks new ways to evolve and expand his horizons. What sets him apart is his genuine ability to connect with people from all walks of life, forming friendships across the globe. His openness to new experiences and diverse perspectives enriches not only his own life but also the lives of those fortunate enough to meet him.

The Passionate Journalist

Zachary Kahn from the United States is a delegate in the Journalism Committee. He decided to join CSIAMUN after receiving an email from his school's Model UN club. When he found out some of his friends were also attending CSIAMUN in Korea, he knew he had to join them.

Q. What do you think is your role as a journalist in the Journalism Committee?

A. I think my role is to be honest, transparent, and report only the truth. In my opinion, journalists should take risks for the benefit of their readers and allow them to interpret situations independently.

Q. What are some pros and cons of CSIAMUN so far?

A. Starting with the pros, I really enjoyed the 101 session because it helped us get to know each other well. I also enjoyed the debates, and being able to walk around the committees and interview people is amazing. Furthermore, everyone here—including the chairs and staff members—is so kind and open. For example, yesterday, one of the staff members grabbed my jacket for me, which I found really considerate. In America, some people don't even hold doors for each other. As for the cons, I got really sick on the plane due to the long flight, which isn't surprising considering it lasted about 14 hours. Sometimes, the rooms can also get really hot with the Ondol system, so I think we should be allowed to adjust the temperature.

Q. What does CSIAMUN mean to you?

A. First of all, I think it's an opportunity to meet new people and learn about different cultures. For instance, Korea's Hagwon culture is something we don't have in America. Also, while walking around outside with just my socks on, a staff member told me that it's considered rude in Korea, so I quickly apologized. Overall, CSIAMUN is a great opportunity to meet people from all over the world and learn about their cultures.

This delegate's commitment to understanding and respecting other cultures exemplifies an essential mindset that all members of the global community should embrace. With an open mind and unwavering curiosity, he actively seeks to learn from and appreciate the traditions, values, and perspectives of others. His dedication to fostering cross-cultural understanding serves as an inspiring example of how empathy and openness can bridge gaps and build stronger, more inclusive communities. His efforts remind us all of the importance of embracing diversity and celebrating the richness of the world's many cultures.

The Rational Dane

Barret from North Carolina, United States, is the delegate of Denmark in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). He decided to join CSIAMUN after receiving an email from his school's Model UN club. When he saw that CSIAMUN would be held in Korea, he found it very interesting and decided to join. Seeing his sparkling eyes and knowing he flew 14 hours for this conference, the journalist could clearly see his passion and enthusiasm.

Q. What do you think is your role in your bloc?

A. My role in my bloc is to be the rational one. For example, when we propose a resolution, I ask, "Will this country actually apply this resolution?" and "Is this policy feasible?"

Q. What are some pros and cons of CSIAMUN so far?

A. First, for the pros, I got to meet a lot of new people from all around the world. Everyone is so energetic and fun. However, compared to America, the time it takes for a resolution to pass in Korea is very long. There are many processes we need to go through and a lot of debate before a resolution can be approved.

Q. What does CSIAMUN mean to you?

A. I think it's an opportunity to explore and learn about new cultures and people. For example, I found out that in Korea, you need to be at least 21 to fully complete your driver's license. By attending CSIAMUN, I got to experience different cultures and make new friends.

This delegate's adventurous spirit and ability to seize meaningful opportunities demonstrate remarkable initiative and determination. He has shown an incredible ability to embrace challenges fearlessly, always seizing every opportunity that comes his way. His determination and drive are truly inspiring. It is amazing to see how he turns every challenge into a stepping stone toward success. His resilience and ability to thrive under any circumstance set him apart and make him a force to be reckoned with.







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