

# The IASIMUN OBSERVER



**page 8** **Raise your placards for peace and liberty!**  
*"Diplomacy reaffirms our humanity"* said David Pi

**POLITICAL**

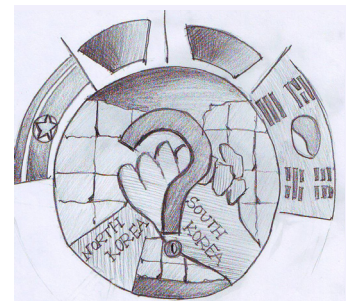
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**page 6** **Remember Iasi forever**  
 Create your own world within ours.

**FEATURE**

## The Grand Opening

**page 3** Encouraging students to find solutions for the upcoming worlds issues, Victoria Sechelea has unfasten the seatbelts for the second MUN conference, held in Iasi, at the "Emil Racovita" National College.



**Do you think that the war between North Korea and South Korea will come to an end?**

**YES**  77%  
**NO**  23%

48 delegates answered the poll



### Fine attitude, patience and great passion, the keywords for a perfect SG

**page 10** *"I'm impressed of how all the delegates prepared, having done consistent research. They all look extremely promising!"*

# A new beginning for everybody

written by  
CRISTINA ROIBU  
ELENA CREANGĂ

**M**UN is back in Iasi! With new young people who plan to change the world, who believe that everything is possible, the second edition of IASIMUN begun yesterday. During the next two days there will be debates about international problems like poverty, hunger, discrimination, child marriage, ecosystem destruction, or the recent events that happened in Korea. Participants already proved implication, as teenagers really believe that they can bring a change wherever they are. This is a new constructive attitude which really means something for

all the countries' delegates. They will try to prove that nothing is a dream anymore if they put it into practice.

This is the mentality that Romania needs! Despite all our political and economical issues, the delegates believe that we have solutions. Belief...is something that Romania still doesn't have. Still, here it is, rising from its own ash...the new generation that, if it is motivated, can rule the world!

Once upon a time, there were citizens who fought for their rights; there were citizens who wanted salaries and freedom and because they were together, they succeeded. What about us? Where is our confidence that we can change the world? Where is our will to be powerful as a country? Where are our teens that can do that?! Abroad! Soon, there will not be any turning

back because ABROAD means new chances, means money, means good living!

IASIMUN is here to solve problems, "to offer an opportunity for everybody involved, to pursue their vision in the fields they have chosen," as George Oprea, the Chairperson of the Political Committee declared.

Journalism is the 4th power in an estate. A journalist is powerful. I believe that each of us, Press or any other member will think about what means Romania now, what meant and what will be in the future.

Stop blaming others! Let's do something!

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PHOTO: Denisa Stocan



PHOTO: Otilia Dobos

# The Grand Opening

written by

ANDREEA OLTEAN

...

After taking the floor, Mr. Seryl Talpalaru, the headmaster of the college where the conference is taking place, congratulated everyone for having the courage to speak up and for searching for answers to the most important of the problems around us. Nevertheless, he remembered David Pi, the former IASIMUN advisor from 2009 as being the one who gave an impulse to students to get involve into volunteering and for finding their potential and to bloom it; David Pi was the one who made a tradition from taking part into debating competitions and more important, he is responsible for making English language one of the most loved subjects in school. Being proud of his students, as well of his colleagues, Mr. Talpalaru congratulated Ms. Sechelea for do-

ing such an amazing job in coordinating this national conference. "Do it, good luck", this is the way the headmaster of the school ended his opening speech.

After catching everybody's attention with his speech, the organizers made everyone a lovely surprise, by broadcasting a short movie in which David Pi said "Hello" to all the teachers, students and organizers, all the way from Chicago. Being "absolutely impressed and blown away" by the large number of students who got involved into this conference, he made his point about the idea of diplomacy. Giving North Korea as a bad example for the lack of diplomacy, and stimulated delegates to improve the condition of life by applying one of the finest activities of all, that is diplomacy.

"Be the change you want to see in the world" said Maria Cotofan, the Secretary General in her opening speech. As the Chair of Human Rights Committee, she reminded some of the problems the delegates in her committee must find solutions to: excessive fishing, food crisis, violating human rights or the war in Korea.

"You are different, you care, and carrying is important" said Maria Mateescu, the Deputy Secretary General and the chair of the Environment Committee. She incited delegates to learn, research, speak up their countries' idea and improve themselves.

Going on with the Human Rights Committee, Bogdan Nazare, the chair of this committee spoke about the potential of the world we live in, about forming young minds, and about MUN as being a method from which we can extract common global issues and solutions to them. "This generation holds the answers" he said and yielded the floor to her colleague, Amanda El-Sabeh, who motivated students to be better than them, to never stop rising questions and to express themselves freely.

Next, the Political Committee took the floor, and one of the co-chairs of this committee, George Oprea embraced the idea that an international career is an interesting field in which young can develop easily and can find their passion. "Be active, be inspiring!" said George, giving the floor to the committee's co-chair, Andra Orășanu, she mentioned serious problems in Africa and Ethiopia, such as prohibiting to use the Nile by their neighbors. She, as her co-worker, Anca Apostol, wished their delegates to enjoy debating and to present solutions professionally, explore, dream and discover.

Coming up with the Environment Committee, Catalin Toma raised the awareness among students that the world is going to its ends. "We are here to make a difference!" he said, and also stressed the idea that we started to play God with the environment and we must vanish disease and poverty. Ciprian

Cristea, his colleague, had a great faith in his delegates and believes that they are the answers to prevent natural disasters, change the future. "Good luck and have fun" said Ciprian in the end.

Last but not least, the ECO-SOC Committee began their opening speech with Liviu Damian thinking of a better tomorrow and saw the money spilt around the world. He also believes that the youth nowadays must have the will and power to make the difference. Victor Livadaru, the co-chair of this committee, wanted to share his experience with others and to rise awareness about the actions people have to take in order to improve the quality of their life, therefore, his motto is "Act collective!"



Cătălin Toma and Anca Apostol



Victoria Sechelea at the Opening Ceremony

PHOTO: Otilia Dobos



*"Our time is now, and fail is not an option!"* sustained the Israel delegate

# ECO-SOC brings solutions to world problems



PHOTO: Mihai Sirbu

Delegate paying attention in Eco-Soc Committee

written by  
CRISTINA ROIBU

• • •

The delegates started to talk yesterday about economical and social problems. They enumerated all types of problems that nowadays affect the people from all over the world like what was the main reason that brought all countries in this world major crisis. They believed they could solve aspects as poverty, hunger, the poor Africa's countries, instability of the economical system and the lack of money that brought to a world financial crisis.

The meeting began with an attendance list that revealed almost all the delegates were present at the discussion. Each of the delegates had to speak about their vision, the country they represented stayed in front of all and presented the situation and how they believe they can

change something, how they can make a difference.

"It is alarming that 1,2 billion people are starving of hunger and the same number of people are suffering of obesity". "It is unfair that children have to care of themselves with a gun, or to marry while they are very young". "Why do the poor have always to give?". "Every human being has to right to normalcy". This were few of the phrases that they cried in front of the audience.

The delegate of Greece, Andra Bejenariu, who had one of the most impressing speeches said that economy and social debating is very important, and also the fact that solutions were found are very important. "A lot of people are starving. There is not only hunger and other social and economical problems who bother us, but also diseases. Once you are poor, you can suffer of malnutrition or AIDS. You can get to death."

Young people started to worry about slavery, about the history

that repeats, even though we believed that we have already passed those problems. "But there they come again because no-one really solved them." said a teenager." The superficial attitude with which all was regarded was claimed by the teenagers." They all concluded that only one person doesn't make a difference. "Together we can do everything."

Teens can change the world by simply talking and proposing solutions, that even though all of them have been discussed by officials, all was in vain. "They never have time for us!"

# Fellow delegate, you may begin your speech!

written by  
BOGDAN CONEA

...

The first MUN 2010 session has begun. Focused on their three topics: anti-governmental protests, child marriage and discrimination on same-sex marriage, the Human Rights committee gathered in the Festivity Hall of the “Emil Racovița” National College for a row of speeches and opinions.

Although the committee has been given three topics for debate, only two of them were heavily approached.

The Anti-governmental protests were literally, almost not taken into consideration. The delegates presented their opinions and speeches on the remaining topics, as in banning the same-sex marriage and discrimination on this issue. →



PHOTO: Bogdan Conea

Opening Speeches at Human Rights committee



PHOTO: Bogdan Conea

→ For once, in the matter of child marriage, as the delegate of Bangladesh presented, in his country there is absolute tolerance on this matter, parents forcing their children to marry between the age of 15 and 18.

The delegate of Congo presented, “women get pregnant too soon and keep having babies for too long”. On the other hand, in Egypt, child marriage is a tradition and people consider that it should not be banned. Every year, these marriages collaborate to Egypt’s budget with almost 8 billion dollars.

As the delegate of Indonesia stated, children are allowed to get married, but not also to live with their husbands/wives till they are 21.

Moving on to the second point of debate, the same-sex marriage has also been a strong discussed point.

An avoided topic, even if it is legal, it is still not being recognized as present in countries such as Congo. More open-minded, the East Timor

recognizes as having no problem to same-sex people getting married on their country’s soils.

Continuing the great round of speeches, Ethiopia and Georgia get in contrary on different ideas. While Ethiopia adopts the same-sex couple as part of their community and provides them with the same rights as in the hetero-sexual couples, Georgia has strictly banned the marriage and adoption of children by the same-sex couples.

As the Nicaragua and Nigeria delegates both concluded, “you must be the change you want to be in the world, and you should marry only when you feel right and also to whom you feel right, no matter the religion, skin-color, sex or beliefs.”

Further more we will hear today, in the Human Rights session, when we will also find out more on those two topics the delegates considered as being as the most important.

# Remember Iasi forever

Create your own world within ours. If you walk for the first time on the magical paths of Iasi the impact might be overwhelming - especially because our city started to dress up for Christmas, crowning in this way its beauty. People greeted the first snow with enthusiasm, children have the time of their life, couples give a perfume of romance and friends gather for a laugh.

written by

RUXANDRA POPESCU

## Create your free time a memorable one

After a long and hard day of work the only thing you might need is just a place to relax, to drink a cup of coffee with your friends, laughing and just enjoying your spare time. For that to happen, you need to know a few key points where you could go in order to relax yourself and let go to all the problems that

you had to face with.

So where could you go? Iasi can provide you a large range of locations - from crowded spaces to small and quiet ones. If you like restaurants, shops and movies all in one, you should go to the malls, Iulius Mall, which you can find on Tudor Vladimirescu street or Moldova which is in the center of the city, in front of the Palace of Culture. If this is not your style, antiques shops can be found on the Lapuseanu street, the oldest one in Iasi.

## Special Events in Iasi this week-end

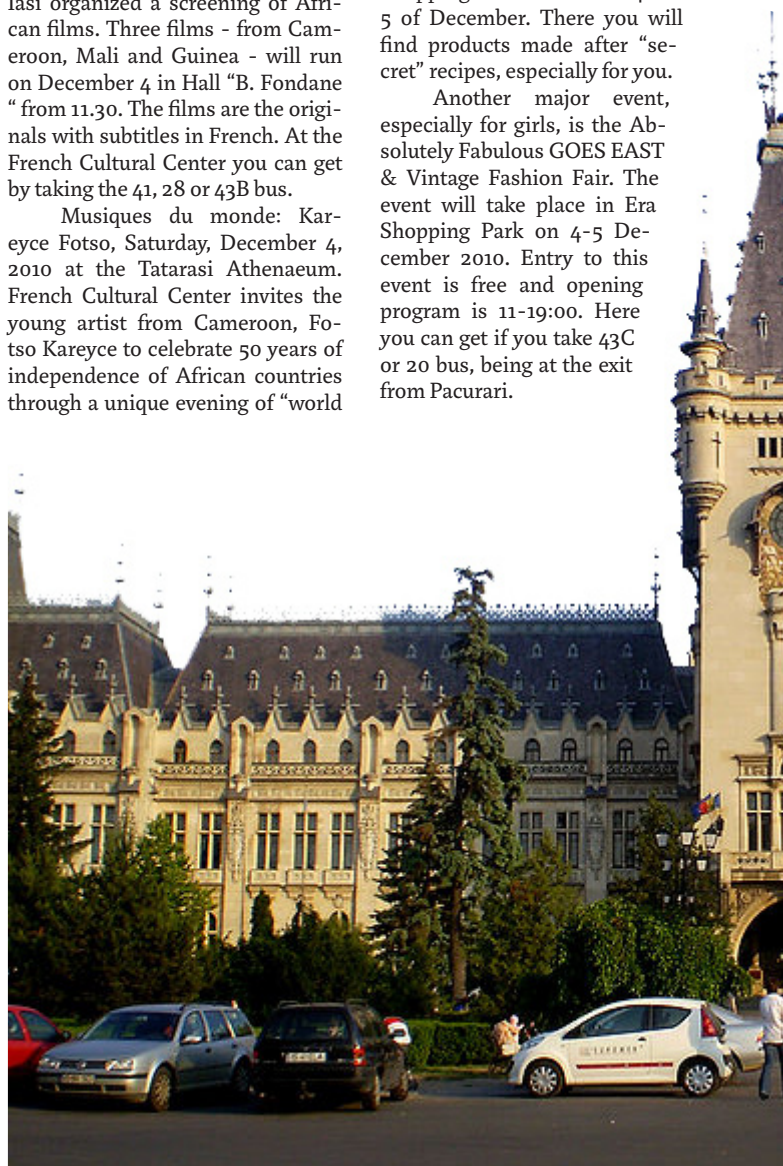
Also, Iasi Romanian Literature Museum invites you between 3 to 4 December 2010 in the Galleries "Pod - Pogor" at the the Alternative Book Fair organized by the Science Writers' Union of Romania. In the event "50 years after independence Africa", French Cultural Centre in Iasi organized a screening of African films. Three films - from Cameroon, Mali and Guinea - will run on December 4 in Hall "B. Fondane" from 11.30. The films are the originals with subtitles in French. At the French Cultural Center you can get by taking the 41, 28 or 43B bus.

Musiques du monde: Kareyce Fotso, Saturday, December 4, 2010 at the Tatarasi Athenaeum. French Cultural Center invites the young artist from Cameroon, Fotso Kareyce to celebrate 50 years of independence of African countries through a unique evening of "world

music". Also, until 13 of December at the Grand Hotel Traian art gallery you can discover the beauty of art, displayed through an exposition of painting done on glass. The Grand Hotel Traian it's in the center of the city, in Piata Unirii.

For those who what to become "sweeter" than they already are, should definitely attend the "Sweet Festival" that will be held at Era Shopping Center between 4 and 5 of December. There you will find products made after "secret" recipes, especially for you.

Another major event, especially for girls, is the Absolutely Fabulous GOES EAST & Vintage Fashion Fair. The event will take place in Era Shopping Park on 4-5 December 2010. Entry to this event is free and opening program is 11-19:00. Here you can get if you take 43C or 20 bus, being at the exit from Pacurari.



If you haven't prepared your gifts for Saint Nicholas, between 3 and 5 of December 2010 at Moldova mall you can attend the Gift Fair, where you can find handmade accessories made by local artist. If you want to give something unique to the ones you love, or even yourself, you should definitely go and check it out. Moldova Mall is near Stefan cel Mare street, opposite the Palace of Culture. You can get there by taking 41 or 28 bus.

### ***Drinks, friends and memories***

Also we will recommend you some pubs where you can listen to good music, be surrounded by great and funny people and where a drink can bring you friends, laughs and memories. For this, enter in "Gop-po" ( Arcu street, no. 2), where art is inserted in our life through special cocktails. "La Baza" ("In the Base"), which you can find it in the center under the Cube, you enter in a green world where the mixture of music brings people from all over the city willing to have a white night. On the other hand, "Sage" is a great café with lots of specialties in what concerns coffee, tea or hot chocolate. Taste one of the specialties there and I promise you that you won't regret it. You find the café in the "Mihai Eminescu" national

library. You can get there by taking the 41, 28, 46 or 43 bus.

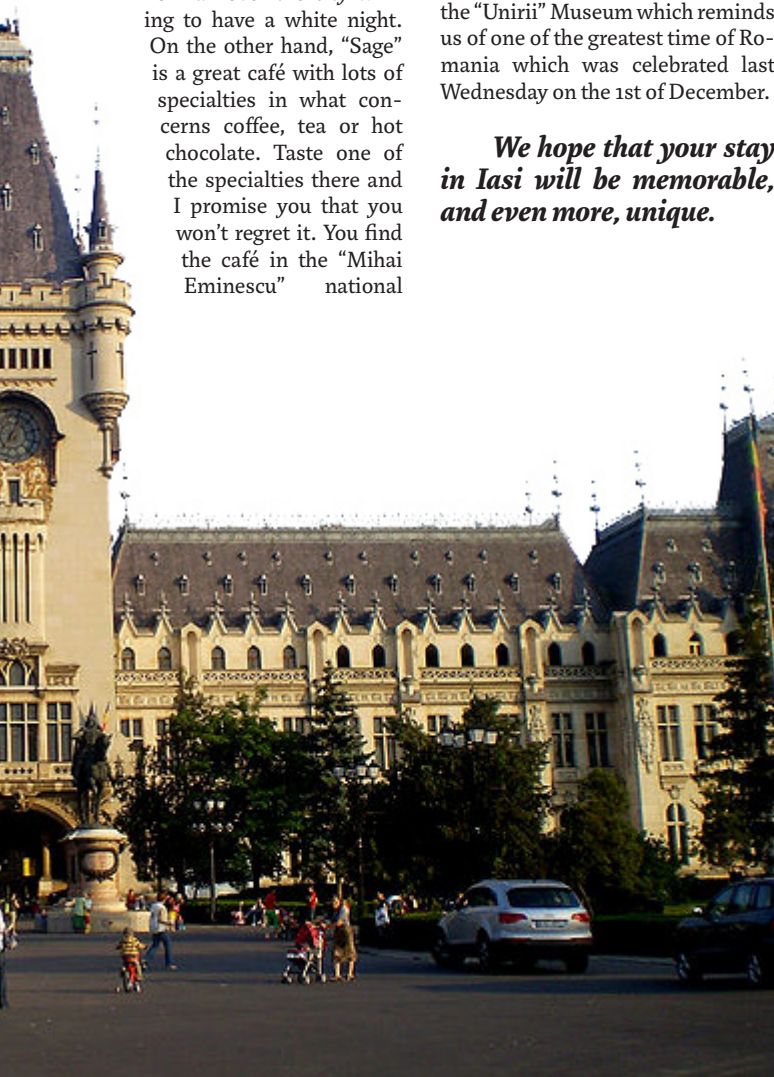
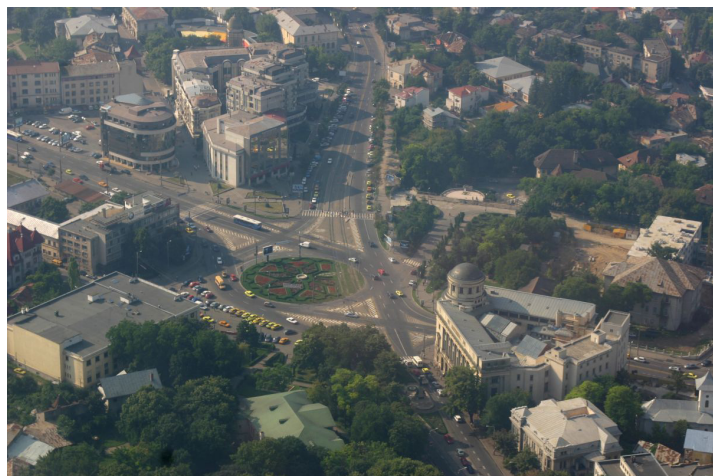
If you want to enjoy a beautiful western dinner you should definitely go to "Little Texas" restaurant, near the airport, where the ambient brings you back in time and the apple pie will literally excite you senses.

### ***Unforgettable places***

Iasi has lots of beautiful places that can be seen: let's take for example the Copou park, where you can step on Iasi's history because here the most important poets of Romania gathered, composed and written their immortal creations. Here you can get by taking the 41, 28, or 43B bus. Also, the Botanic Garden it's perfect for a walk in the nature. There you can see many species of flowers, trees and you can rest on the edge of the lake that you can find there.

A walk on Lapusneanu can bring you back in time, this street being the oldest in Iasi. The magic of the location reminds you about the interbelic period, accentuated of the "Unirii" Museum which reminds us of one of the greatest time of Romania which was celebrated last Wednesday on the 1st of December.

***We hope that your stay in Iasi will be memorable, and even more, unique.***



# Raise you placards for peace and liberty!

*"Diplomacy reaffirms our humanity"* said David Pi

*written by*

RUXANDRA POPESCU  
TATIANA BALTAG

...

The opening ceremony urged to each and every one of the delegates to affirm their concern and solutions to the major problems. Those issues have been put under discussion at this year's International Conference IASIMUN 2010.

After the speeches held by our colleagues that invited us to stand up and "Be the change they want to see in the world" quoted Maria Cotofan, our Secretary General. The delegates entered under the skin of their countries and, as a result, the International Conference began.

"Be inspiring!" sustained in his opening speech George Oprea, the chair of the Political committee, advice that made the delegates try to reach his expectations.

This year in the Political Committee at IASIMUN 2010 the delegates will debate on three major world wide problems: The war between North Korea and South Korea, The increasing problems caused by cybercrime worldwide and the Conflict in the Nile Basin.

Starting with how honored they are being here and ending with a warm "Thank you!" to the chairs and the others that were present in the class, the delegates made their speeches very conclusive and right to the spot. They presented the actual situation in the world, the danger we are exposed by living in war and madness (as the delegate of South Korea said "In peace sons bury their fathers, while in war fathers bury their sons"). The IASIMUN purpose is to learn from each other, try to make the world better, as we have a lot to share, explore and discover.

The action must be taken; safe solutions must be made!

These topics were developed yesterday during the Formal Debate,



Opening Speeches at Political Committee

where solutions have been proposed and it was the duty of the United Nations to choose the best one. In order to maintain a balance between all the countries that were present yesterday we need to create a bound, a powerful one, which will make not only political relationships stronger,

but our human relationships also.

To conclude, this conference reminds us of our humanity, makes us realize the power is in our hands, as the director of the National College "Emil Racovita", Seryl Talpalaru, said: "I am sure you can change the world! Change It!"



# Environment Committee: “Start a revolution in the way we think!”

written by

MADALINA ASTEFANEI  
ALEXANDRA STELEA

...



PHOTO: Andra Stelea

Delegates sustaining Opening Speech at Environment Committee

The opening speeches at the Environment Committee started with the presentation of the attendance list and of the general rules and procedures in conduct.

“Sometimes the changes are helpful but sometimes the world it's not ready to accept them”. If we do it together, “We can change the world and make it a better place.” - said the delegates of Norway and Ghana.

The chairs and the delegates immediately adapted to the formal atmosphere. Everyone was speaking English and the politeness was one of the most important features. The representative of each country had a maximum three resolutions per topic and they were allowed to vote three times, one vote for each topic.

The delegates were very stressed and nervous, but the chairs of the committee - Catalin Toma and Ciprian Cristea - encouraged them by saying: “We are here to help you. We are not ‘boogie’ “.

In the opening speeches the delegates presented their country's position about the three discussed topics: excessive fishing, disaster management and genetically modified crops.

While some of the teenagers were very confident, positive and focused on solving the global issues, others were pretty shy and they were shacking when they presented their speeches.

Surprisingly, the youngest delegates were in the 8th grade (14 years), unlike the last year, when the

minimum age was 15. Despite the fact this was their first IASIMUN Conference, they did an excellent job and they showed that it does not matter how old you are, but how to express and make yourself respected.

Everyone discovered that a good and well positioned sentence, a positive attitude and a lot of confidence are the ingredients for an amazing speech.

The greatest surprise came

*“Start a revolution in the way we think”*

*Oana Gurau, delegate of France*



PHOTO: Andra Stelea

from the youngest delegates and from countries like France, who said that we should “start a revolution in the way we think”, and Mexico, who believes that “it is time for us to make a change”.

All in all, the delegates from the Environment Committee were trying to do their best and they did. They managed to make a view of how the conference will develop in the next two days.



PHOTO: Andra Stelea

# Fine attitude, patience and great passion, the keywords for a perfect SG

*"I'm impressed of how all the delegates prepared, having done consistent research. They all look extremely promising!"*

written by  
ELENA CREANGĂ  
...

This is how the Secretary General of the second IASIMUN edition, Maria Coțofan, describes the first day of the conference. Having a lot of hard work in background and a good level of communication be-

tween the organizing team and the participants, she strongly believes that this conference will be a complete success, and everyone will be satisfied with his work.

The Secretary General confessed us that her first contact with MUN was because of David Pi, who encouraged and motivated her to get involved in the first edition of IASIMUN as a Chairperson of the Political Committee. It was due to him she discovered that it is more important to organize things and to see the delegates applying those, rather than doing them herself. "I enjoy seeing these teenagers transforming since the first day of the conference, until the last day," she stated in her usual formal manner.

Maria's way of doing and managing activities gained the appraisal of her team. "She is a perfect synergy between passion and commitment," said George Oprea, the Chairperson of the Political Committee. Though, the team was not the only one who remarked her devotion and passion to accomplish tasks at their best. Denisa Stoean, a member of the Human Rights committee, representing the Netherlands, affirmed that Maria has demonstrated great passion, as well as patience during the first day of the Conference: "She was always there for us, ready to give any necessary explanations. With fine attitude and devotion for her work, I think she embodies the perfect features of a Chairperson: she is proactive and a good organizer."

As a Chairperson of the Human Rights committee, she was surprised to discover that everyone was so well prepared, not only the dele-

gates representing the big countries as United Kingdom or United States of America. "It makes me very proud to see that even smaller countries, like Georgia or Yemen had very interesting speeches," Maria added with a broad smile.

All in all, she genuinely believes that by the end of the conference the delegates will have raised their self-confidence. "If this will happen even a bit, we can say that this conference has reached its purpose," she ended.



PHOTO: Otilia Dobos

# IASIMUN

## *microphone*

by OTILIA DOBOȘ

Why did you choose your committee? What do you think of the conference so far? Let's find out what you answered!



I believe that Environment is the domain to which I can contribute to change the world. At first I was a little bit nervous but so far it is a very organized event with open minded students which I am glad to attend.

**Oana Gurau**, Slatina  
*Delegate of France - Environment*

“

The problems of our environment are increasing and our country really needs some improvement to solve them. I was tensed at first but then I realized that people around me have the same purpose, to solve environment's problems.

**Iulia Stan**, Constanta  
*Delegate of Romania - Environment*



I chose the Ecosoc committee because I think it is interesting to combine economy and sociology and to be able to do research on that. The conference is well organized except for the schedule that was changed.

**Raluca Andrei**, Bacau  
*Delegate of Russia - ECOSOC*

“

I believe economy is very important nowadays because of all the conflicts and issues that concern many countries. I have been to this kind of competitions before but IASIMUN is very nice until now.

**Madalina Scirlat**, Bacau  
*Delegate of Netherlands - ECOSOC*



Last time I was at the environment committee and I wanted to switch to see a difference. I miss the Peace Corps Volunteers.

**Alexandra-Evelina Ciuta**, Bacau  
*Delegate of Thailand - Political*

“

I believe that the Political committee solves problems which can be more precisely debated and the research is not so vast. The conference is great and the students are outstanding.

**Lavinia Iftene**, Bacau  
*Delegate of Australia - Political*





# And there shall be fun!

*written by*

BOGDAN CONEA

...

**T**hat's for sure! There shall be fun! Rock on for 5 days. Between the first and the fifth of December, the fourth Winter Edition of Rock'n'Iasi will take place.

At the public's request, the fourth edition of Rock'n'Iasi has already started with a Jam session and a workshop at M&C Musical, where all the bands had a pre-show rehearsal. Most of the bands participating in the festival and some huge fans of good music, gathered under one roof for loud good music, and great singers or just for the vibrating feeling of taking part in something big. Some may call this "awesome", some may call it "just fun", but everybody knows what it means (, no matter if they are involved in the festival or not). What a show like this can bring to people, what can it do to them? It can make them more thoughtful and get them closer to

each other.

Organized by the Students' House of Culture (CCS) in partnership with Gaman, this event promises an incredible show. Bands like "Alternosfera", "Coma", "Dance Trauma" or "Les Elephants Bizarres" have signed in to attend this blast of music. And the greatest thing is that this festival is not taking place only to advertise the big bands. Small teen-age rock bands such as "Hungover", "Heal", "Zenith", "Rawa" or "Rowan" are also attending, providing all together, one thing people have always searched for: good music, in the company of people of the same kind: the one that appreciates this kind of gatherings, music, events...

Also, in this festival, people can listen to two bands from the "Emil Racovita National College". We will be represented by "Hungover" and "Zenith", two teen-age bands, that will be singing on the closing day of the event, on Sunday.

For the ones searching for really good music, for the ones searching for the greatest feeling of all, the one of being surrounded by people, for

the ones who know what good music is and how to enjoy it, this is the right place. This is the right place for friends with some free time till the fifth of December.

And now, without any further ado, in case this was enough to convince you or just to raise your interest, here is the place where you can find more info: [www.rockiniasi.ro](http://www.rockiniasi.ro).

