

The IASIMUN OBSERVER



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WikiLeaks

Do you think that revealing secret information about Romania through WikiLeaks will affect the relation between USA and Romania?

YES 35%
 NO 65%

40 delegates answered the poll

page **12** **Calories burnt at the social event!**

Camera on, flash ready, smile big, delegate! CLICK!

written by
ELENA CREANGĂ

While you, the delegates, were using their persuasion skills at a maximum level, we, the Press Corps, were doing our best in writing articles in order to keep students up to date. While you had to cope with your emotions, we had to endure the pressure of time, to get inspired and to catch the best moments worthy to be published in the conference's newspaper. Moreover, we had to

run for the delegates and chairs, to keep an eye on their schedule, so that we could have a peek behind the curtains and see what was going on.

You might think nothing can compare to what you had to do, but this is not entirely true. You had to create a good resolution and to convince people to vote for it, in a tense atmosphere, which was hard. In the same time, though, we had to follow your speech, we had to wait for you in the coffee break and write the articles while the event was ongoing.

But you know what? We enjoyed every single second of it, and we are sure you sympathize with us

on that. Just as much as you are eager to become a better debater and to receive the official recognition of your outstanding performance, we, the Press Corps, love what we are doing, love the bittersweet taste of news. The more we work on it, the more we want, the more action we have, the more we are willing to do a perfect newspaper.

To sum it all up, keep in mind that work is not work anymore if you do it with fun! We are all anxious to see what is going to happen next, to see which resolutions will pass and which one of you will receive the "Outstanding performance" diplomas.

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Tough times in the ECOSOC Committee

“Donations represent a chance to improve something”

written by

MADALINA ASTEFANEI
ALEXANDRA STELEA

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The second day of the IASIMUN Conference at the ECOSOC committee started with a short presentation of the rules and procedures about the way you have to present and discuss a resolution. Liviu Damian and Victor Livadaru, the chairs of this committee announced the delegates that they will have two hours for each resolution.

After this, they started to discuss the first topic: *“Question of fair trade-a solution for Sub-Saharan Countries?”*. The first resolution was Russia's. The delegate was a girl who presented some solutions for this problem such as : use the existing resources and monetary power; rather than to concentrate only on stimulating donations; encourage equality between countries concerning taxes and transportation; give profitable loans to people who have business plans regarding the development of the local communities; promote ecotourism; encourage cultural exchanges.

Then, the fight was between ten



Delegate speaking in Eco-Soc Committee

PHOTO: Alexandra Stelea

for-speeches and nine against. They discussed a lot about the difference between the meanings of the words: donation and investment. The delegate of Russia wasn't very clear about what she was trying to say and

in the against speech the representative of Indonesia said *“How should we invest? Where should we invest? Maybe if those things were presented the resolution would have been better”*. As a reply at this speech the delegate of Brazil

said: *“Donations, at any time given, represent a chance to improve something in Sub-Saharan countries at a certain level. Here, the debate point was not whether these donations are bad or not, but if they are sufficient.”*

All the for-speeches tried to support the idea of involving people in agriculture, the traditional handcraft, the idea of improving the ecotourism and the development of private sectors. It was also an amendment but it didn't pass.

In this two hours the chairs gave a lot of warnings for being late, for not respecting the formal language or because it was a lot of noise in the house. After two hours a delegate asked a motion for passing to voting procedure. All the delegates were asked whether they are for or against this resolution. In the end Russia won.

In the ECOSOC committee will be discussed two more topics: *“A key point in understanding the economy of the world-BANKS”* and *“Food crisis in the Third World Countries”*.

The first debating session ended with applause and with a five minutes coffee break.

PHOTO: Alexandra Stelea



Delegates of the Eco-Soc Committee voting

The delegates scream: “What is normality?”

“An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind.” Mahatma Gandhi

written by
BOGDAN CONEA

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As stated in the article 2 from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, “Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction on any kind such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status”.

In the second session of the IASIMUN Human Rights Committee, the delegates have already started debating on their resolutions on the three topics in discussion: Discrimination on same-sex relationship, Situation of child marriage and Anti-Governmental Protests and how can The UN intervene in this matter.

As many delegates raised it, the main question for today’s debate was “What is normality?”

Although opposing with the Declaration of Human Rights, problems such as bullying and physical and mental punishment are raising.

On the first topic, the debate was focused on the field of education on which two male parents cannot be the equivalent for a hetero-sexual couple. Also, as a form of unification and support, to the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) community has been proposed the idea of creating NGOs (Non-Governmental Organization), in order to come in contact with people of their kind and even in getting more support from people like them, people with a greater status, such as celebrities.

On the second topic, resolutions had their main basis on aspects such as religion, forms of budget, or community customs which cannot or must not be changed.

As the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states, “Men and women of full age are entitled to equal rights as to marriage, during marriage and at its dissolution. Marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending parties”. But still, as in Egypt’s case, child marriages cannot be forbidden, due the fact that every year it provides the country’s budget almost 8 billion dollars.



Delegates of the Human Right committee voting

On the topic over the Anti-Governmental Protests, as article 21 of the United Nations states:

“1. Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.

2. Everyone has the right to equal access to public service in his country.

3. The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will, shall be expressed in periodic and

genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.”

In some countries rights are taken away from the people. Not only they are not allowed to sustain their opinion and their thoughts, but they are even punished because of this matter.

So after all, what do people need? We can clearly see that not

even the freedom of expression stated in the Declaration of Human Rights, isn’t anymore taken for granted. So what do that people need? How can they be integrated into social life? What do they need? Well, it can be simple - social acceptance.



GRAPHICS: Mihaela Ionete



Chairs of the Political Committee

PHOTO: Mihai Sirbu

Germany: "Why choosing our plan? Because it's the best one!"

"The more we sweat in peace, the less we bleed in war." V. Pandit

written by

RUXANDRA POPESCU

...

Yesterday in the Political committee the three major topics have been discussed under the strict observation of the distinguished chairs, George Oprea, Anca Apostol and Anda Orasanu. The Conflict in the Nile Basin, The war between North Korea and South Korea and the Cybercrime determinate all delegates to stand up for their countries believes.

During the Formal Debates all countries tried to sustain and convince other delegates that those problems can be solved if we will all reach a common conclusion. Therefore, during the debate based on the Conflict in the Nile Basin the delegate of Sudan, sustained by his co-submitters, tried to convince the United Nation that this problem has to be solved now. Although the matter have been debated a long while, the resolution did not passed. The problem did not reach a solution yet.

The second major problem discussed in the Political Committee is the war between North and South Korea. The main submitter, North Korea, sustained by his co-submitters China, Russia, Iran and France tried to convince the United Nation that it has no further intention in continuing the war if certain demands will be met. For strengthen his word, North Korea quoted from our previous edition saying that: "A lot of you, honorable delegates, quoted yesterday from Albert Einstein. Today, I will quote from even a more outstanding person: «Diplomacy reaffirms our humanity» as Mr. Pi said". As a result of the debate the honorable delegate of North Korea stated that in this conference his country had a pacifist position due to the lack of resources of his country. Also, he stated that the

IASIMUN conference 2010 evolved a lot since last year and he truly believes that all of the delegates that were present will make a big change in history.

About the Cybercrime, the third but not the least major topic, delegates of the Political Committee tried to find a fast solution for preventing hacking, spam, virus dissemination, software piracy and credit card fraud. The delegate of the Netherlands voted against the resolution because he sustained that "Children that do that because of their hormones and too much free time should not be punished and put in jail".

After the voting, the resolution did not pass.

The USA delegate, Lavinia Bejenariu told us that the country she represents was there for "offering solutions to conflicts on the agenda and not to solve its own past or present affairs". Also she declared she will always be pleased when she will see people getting involved and trying to find solutions to the worlds problem: "It gives me a warm feeling that the future will be brighter from the perspective of the new generation".



PHOTO: Mihai Sirbu

Lavinia Bejenariu,
Delegate of the Political Committee



PHOTO: Mihai Sirbu

Delegates of the Political Committee voting

We must lend a helping hand in order to live

"I am the Earth. You are the Earth. The Earth is dying. You and I are murderers." Y. Delecto

written by
TATIANA BALTAG

...

The second day of IASIMUN the Environment Committee has begun. Catalin Toma, the Chairperson, kick started the formal debate: "Ready to begin!" The first issue faced the problem of excessive fishing (as overfishing is a global environmental problem, threat and disaster) and illegal fishing. These came as a result caused by the fact that fishing means food -> food means money -> money means economy (quoted the delegate of Nigeria). This topic was sustained also by the co-submitters Germany, North Korea, U.S.A., Hungary, Romania, China, Turkey, Kenya, Israel and Saudi Arabia. They finally have agreed that each country should receive a "ticket" which limits the amount of fish that should be caught from the international waters. If the limit is exceeded, the country should firstly receive a fine and an embargo. (they recommend that each of 192 countries of the UN get a ticket with an equal

amount of fish per year out of 20% of total population of fish; they propose that countries should get the chance to sell or buy tickets from the countries so that the same amount of fish per year is depleted, so the large fisheries will not collapse economically). The second resolution of the same topic (overfishing) was represented by the delegate of Bolivia with the co-submitters Mexico, Uganda, Argentina, India, Haiti, Iran, Ghana, Columbia and Cuba. The difference between them consists in the result: the countries directly connected to sea won't suffer because they will have a limited number of tickets (2).

The others issues have been discussed by the second part of their meeting. One major problem that has been debated was the one with genetically modified crops. They agreed that the use of GMO (genetically modified organism) for twenty years would be useful in order to see if there would be a negative impact so they will know what to correct. The third and last issue was the Natural Disaster Management. One salvation discussed and checked was that it should be founded an information campaign so as people to



observe the risks they are exposed to.

Ultimately the only thing we must take into consideration is that "there are no passengers on Space-ship Earth. We are all crew", Marshall

McLuhan. One more important thing is that we destroy the world around us! (Catalin Toma).

After all is said and done, the solutions were said. The action must be taken!



PHOTO: Mihai Sirbu

Teaching Diplomacy

You may be hearing about a man who started the tradition of organizing a great, unexampled conference, a man who is devoted to the work he does, who loves his students and respects his colleagues. We are talking about David Pi, one of the most loved teachers from the “Emil Racovita” National College.

written by
ANDREEA OLTEAN

...

At the grand opening of IASIMUN 2010, the organizers made everybody a big surprise by broadcasting a short video in which Mr. Pi said “Hello” to all the participants, as well as to promoters and teachers. All the way from Chicago, David told us he was honored to salute us, sending words of encouragement. Being “absolutely impressed and blown away”, he emphasized the idea of diplomacy, in which he believes strongly. Being involved as a teenager in all kind of extracurricular activities more than you can

imagine, he was raised with a fine common sense and developed passions for arts such as literature, playing the piano and the trumpet. Becoming also a teacher of karate and of English, made him discover the balance between social and personal life. David is dedicated to his country, but in the same time, he is realistic, as he proved this in the short video shown at the opening of the conference, by telling us he is disappointed

about the actions North Korea made, namely bombing one of their neighbors’ island a few days ago. “This is a model of failed diplomacy”, he said; even if they were fighting for peace for more than half a century, the war continues with such unfor-

t u -

nate events: two civilians and two marines were killed, and this is not acceptable nowadays.

On the other hand, David told us about the unpleasant event of re-

“
Diplomacy is one of the
finest activities.”

David Pi

vealing some classified documents from the popular website WikiLeaks. WikiLeaks is an international non-profit media organization that publishes submissions of otherwise unavailable documents from anonymous news sources and leaks. The school’s former teacher explained us how these documents can do no damage to some people, but can harm others, as this flow of information has shown the ugly side of diplomacy, becoming embarrassing for a large number of officials. They gave a bad example to the worldwide nations of saying one thing in the front and acting totally different.

Therefore, David gave everybody an impulse of boldness, by encouraging students to embrace diplomacy in order to

improve the conditions of their life. He also considers that diplomacy is an intrinsic value, which must be developed as a youngster. “It is one of the finest activities”, he stated. The teacher also added that it is very important to communicate what we think, to understand the others, but more important is to feel what others feel.

In the end, David Pi shared that during these three days of IASIMUN, students will be taking part in the practice of diplomacy, wishing all the best to the delegates and added one more time that he misses the people he had been working with for two amazing years. “Humans are special”, he ended.



Mr. David Pi introducing Stefana Covalciuc to Mr. Mark Gitestein, at the Opening Ceremony, IASIMUN 2009

Amada El-Sabeh: "IASIMUN is everything I expected to be"

written by
CRISTINA ROIBU

...

An unofficial space, after lunch, on a small break, the Chairperson and his Deputy Chairperson were hurrying to answer to some questions about what means IASIMUN to them. Bogdan Nazare and Amada El-Sabeh took immediately a formal, proficiency air, and all was

suddenly very serious.

Bogdan participated last year at MUN, as a delegate, and he was very enchanted about all. "I had a very good time last year being a delegate. At first, I didn't know what this was about; I didn't know what it did. MUN helped me by bringing the views of the problems we made in this world. I wasn't concerned about the world. Everybody sees documentaries on Discovery, as I did, but I wasn't aware of problems." For each of us, MUN was not only

a free-time activity, it was something very important. Most of the delegates believed what they were speaking about. They learned a bunch of information, and they faced the challenge to speak in front of the others. "I think this experience will help me to my professional career because it doesn't only teach me to be diplomatic and to sustain my opinions, but also to improve my ability of speaking. It doesn't teach me to be a diplomat and a lawyer, as I really want to be a doctor. It makes you more open-minded (...) Through MUN I discovered very different social context from school. I didn't know I was good at debating, I was very shy, MUN helped me to discover this." Asked what he likes doing the most, he answers sincerely: "I like to help this generation. MUN became

a tradition already in National College «Emil Racovita» and it helped many delegates, as it helped me. You have a great satisfaction in helping them, a lot of sense of achievement. If they are shy, if they are disoriented we help them to pass this by giving them instructions." He also sustained that maybe the solutions will not improve the quality of living but it will surely help their vision, maybe they will apply something in the future.

Amada was also very pleased that she participates again, not as a delegate as last year, but now as a Deputy Chairperson. "Through IASIMUN I gained a lot of experience. I'm not an organized person so it thought me how to manage situations. It helped me to focus on what I do." Amada tells us that she now loves debating and that she can communicate more easily, she now likes debating and treating social problems. The both of them, as the delegates, learned a lot about the social issues that affects everyone. It seemed difficult to organize all without the help of David Pi, who, last year, was facing all that they faced now. With regret, they said that the absence of David Pi who was a role-model is the fact that they regret the most.



Amada El-Sabeh, Deputy Chair of Human Rights Committee



Bogdan Nazare, Chair of Human Rights Committee



PHOTO: Otlia Dobos

Catalin Toma, Chairperson for Environmental Committee

New year, better people

written by
MADALINA ASTEFANIEI

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Although the 2009 IASIMUN Conference was a totally success, this year is even better. Everyone had big expectations from it, especially the chairs, who were really impressed after they heard the opening speeches. *"It's absolutely amazing! The people are much better prepared than last year and I believe that it would be a hell of a conference, meaning people are very involved, they know their topics...or they seem to know them, they are very interested in actually creating something that is very good, they are collaborating very much and the level of this conference I think it's just great."* like Catalin Toma, the chair from the Environment

"The people are much better prepared than last year"

Catalin Toma

Committee, said when he expressed his opinion about the first day at this committee.

Last year it was the first IASIMUN Conference and of course the delegates were a little bit confused about what they should do. This year the situation is different, although it is harder because there are bigger expectations. It's incredible in what way this conference helped the people who took part in it to improve their debating skills and their level of English. *"It seems to be harder now. Last year it was the beginning, this year is the continuity and it shows that people are improving, which makes me very happy."*

Unlike the first conference, when the delegates were pretty shy and it was very hard for them to express their opinions, this year they had a big impact with the speeches. *"The delegates are also amazing. I love some delegates' ideas and the way they structured their speeches."*, said Catalin.

Although for some delegates it was the first IASIMUN Conference they had great experiences until now, and they were very glad that they could express their opinions and someone really cared about it. *"It was an interesting experience because we had the possibility to present our ideas and discuss about each topic. We managed to find great solutions for this issues. I was completely surprised about how we worked together"*, said the delegate Ionescu Maria Andreea.

Furthermore even if the chairs look very sober, the delegates felt very comfortable with them. *"The chairs were very nice and they encouraged us. The way they speak to us make us feel very comfortable even if I am for another city"*, said Andreea.

All in all, I believe that taking part in a committee it's an amazing experience which will help you a lot in a debate, you will improve your English and you will be more confident.



PHOTO: Otlia Dobos

Interviewed people in the Environmental Committee

WikiLeaks involving Romania

written by

OTILIA DOBOS

...

Politicians all over the world find out what USA thinks about them. Dispatches sent by the US Embassy started being published.

There were sent over a thousand dispatches that mention Romania, 830 of which were sent by the US Embassy in Bucharest to Washington.

Mark Gitenstein, the US Ambassador in Romania, stated that he has communicated with President Traian Basescu about the WikiLeaks documents and proclaimed that they will not effect the relations between the two countries, Romania and USA as quoted by Agerpres.

"We are like a family here, the President and I had a conversation

about this and neither of us is worried. We have a very profound and personal relationship, not only I and the President but also the USA and Romania, that will not be affected by some Embassy stuff." Said Gitenstein, who is now with Traian Basescu in Afghanistan, visiting the Romanian military troops.

O telegram sent on 16 June 2009 by the State Department, obtained by WikiLeaks, reveals that the American Diplomats in Bucharest received an order from Hillary Clinton to gather biometrical information and information about the vulnerabilities of Romanian politicians. The US Embassy in Romania was ran at that time by Jeri Guthrie-Corn, still second in command in the present. The dispatch was sent 5 days after President Barack Obama nominated Mark Gitensten as ambassador in Romania.

Another dispatch, sent on 5

April 2006, talks about the touch and go welfare of Romanian kids given for adoption: "The completely not transparent process of the Working Group and the opacity of the account suggests that some of the kids could remain in temporary care, in which their welfare is not taken care of. We believe that we must keep exerting pressure over the Romanian Adoption Office in order to make a transparent international analysis and to settle a legal frame which will permit international adoptions for the adequate ongoing cases."

The USA Embassy in Bucharest also received order to send information about the "personal relationships between the Romanian leaders and officials and the Russian businessmen". The United States wants to know what the Romanian clans are, details about the people from the underworld and if they have any link with the Govern-

ment and foreign entities.

"The USA Government drafts and sends dispatches, this being an efficient way of global communication. By their nature, the pieces of information sent to Washington from other countries are conceived in a direct style and contain information in a brute way. The dispatches contain preliminary and often incomplete information," explains the Embassy quoted by Mediafax.



The Junior IASIMUN

written by

ELENA CREANGA

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You all know, even briefly, what happened in every committee, but we wanted to get a peek behind the curtains of IASIMUN. In our search for different perspectives, we thought of getting an interview of the Junior Administrative Staff. Maria Muha, who also participated last year, confessed us that she was afraid that the conference was not going to be as catchy as the 1st edition. Later on, she realized that the entire activity is even more exciting, as now she has previous experience in the field. On the other hand, new participants, like Andrei Casuneanu or Ioana Cantemir depicted the conference as being exhausting, but in

the same time "nice, well organized and interesting".

For some of the youngsters, aged between twelve and fourteen, the idea of being a delegate attracts them more and more.

By and large, IASIMUN turns out to be an enchanting experience for everyone involved.



IASIMUN

microphone

by ANDREEA OLTEAN

What is your opinion about IASIMUN so far? How do you feel about the problems you are debating?
This is your moment!

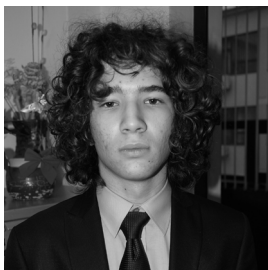


“IASIMUN: exciting and energetic.

Alexandru Florin Petriuc,
Delegate of Israel, ECOSOC

“IASIMUN helped me meet various people with various conceptions, and also helped me develop communication skills.

Ana Hutu,
Delegate of Brasil, Human Rights



“IASIMUN was probably the biggest social event organised by the students from «Emil Racovita» National College.

Alexandru Samoil,
Delegate of South Africa, Environment

“I believe IASIMUN is an opportunity for young people to express their feelings towards global problems that directly affects us and to show their abilities to solve them, even though we are not considering it mature enough to do this in a real UN conference.”

Emilia Chiroiu,
Delegate of India, Human Rights



“I've been always interested into economic problems and I think this is a great opportunity to show their abilities.

Alina Ecaterina Secrieru,
Delegate of Portugal, ECOSOC

“IASIMUN is a great opportunity for teenagers through the country to unite and share their opinion about world's important topics.

Gianina Cristian,
Delegate of Thailand – Environment





Calories burnt at the social event!

written by
CRISTINA ROIBU

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The social event held at the restaurant “Medieval Knight” was a moment of relaxation for all the students who worked hard on Friday. They all felt they deserved the treatment that brought them into the world of princesses and knights. Students dressed in fancy dresses

or evening suits were very beautiful and pleased of the atmosphere that brought them together. The laugh, the discussions on different topics, the dance until 00:30 made them feel close to each other. Genders like disco, hip-hop, pop or maybe special requests to the DJ burned the floor and soon, the rhythm was in their veins. Almost all of them were up, dancing uncontrollably. They all regretted that all finished soon. After all, all were tired and all had to

rest for the next day.

The food was also delicious, especially the pickles, and all the students agree with this. Champaign, roasted grills and skewers... We are grateful that ancient people used to eat great food. “It was a perfect opportunity for the delegates to get along with each other. The music was great, the food was delicious. All in all, I had a great time and I have made a lot of friends”, said Ioana Onofrei, the delegate of Canada, Environment. All the people were friendly, each of them making photos with everyone, known or unknown. The staff was also friendly, and the watchmen introduced us from the beginning in that old atmosphere. “It was awesome! The music was great, the food was good, drink was perfect for this occasion. The cake and the ice-cream were the “cream of the party”, tells us Iulia Stan, the delegate of the Environment from Romania.



Catalin Toma and George Oprea having fun at the social event



Delegates having fun at Cavalerul Medieval